

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

SENATE BILL

No. 1288 Session of  
2022

---

INTRODUCED BY MASTRIANO, HUTCHINSON, MENSCH, PHILLIPS-HILL,  
SCAVELLO AND PITTMAN, JULY 21, 2022

---

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, JULY 21, 2022

---

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An  
2 act relating to the public school system, including certain  
3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial  
4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the  
5 laws relating thereto," in school security, providing for  
6 school safety certification.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. The act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known  
10 as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by adding a  
11 section to read:

12 Section 1314.1-C. School safety certification.

13 (a) Certification.--A school district shall, in accordance  
14 with this section, issue school safety certifications to  
15 employees allowing an employee certified under subsection (c) to  
16 possess a firearm or other lawful weapon in the course of the  
17 employee's employment.

18 (b) Request for certification.--On a form prescribed by the  
19 department, an employee of a school entity may submit a request  
20 for a school safety certificate to the administration of the

1 school district in which the employee is employed.

2 (c) Approval of request.--Upon receipt of a request for a  
3 school safety certificate under subsection (b), the school  
4 district shall, within 45 days, grant a school safety  
5 certificate to the employee so long as the employee provides the  
6 following:

7 (1) Valid proof of employment by a school entity or  
8 nonpublic school within the school district.

9 (2) A current full-face photograph that measures two  
10 inches by two inches.

11 (3) Proof of a valid license to carry firearms issued  
12 within this Commonwealth.

13 (4) A signed statement by an instructor certified by the  
14 National Rifle Association in firearm instruction or by any  
15 other instructor otherwise deemed competent to provide such  
16 instruction by a judge of the court of common pleas in the  
17 jurisdiction in which the school resides showing completion  
18 of an in-person training and proficiency course for the type  
19 of firearm or other lawful weapon the employee intends to  
20 carry on school entity property. The statement shall be  
21 subject to 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn  
22 falsification to authorities) and must demonstrate that:

23 (i) the course provided training in:

24 (A) the protection of students;

25 (B) interaction of license holders with first  
26 responders;

27 (C) tactics for denying an intruder entry into a  
28 classroom or school facility;

29 (D) safe handling and storage of weapons; and

30 (E) operating defensive weapons under duress;

1 (ii) the course included not less than 15 hours, and  
2 not more than 30 hours, of instruction or as deemed  
3 proficient by the certified instructor; and

4 (iii) the employee was required to demonstrate  
5 hands-on safety and proficiency with the type of firearm  
6 or other lawful weapon the employee intends to carry on  
7 school property.

8 (d) Photograph required.--An employee who is issued a school  
9 safety certificate shall annually submit to the school district  
10 a current full-face photograph that measures two inches by two  
11 inches.

12 (e) List of certified individuals.--

13 (1) Upon request by the Pennsylvania State Police or a  
14 municipal police department, a school district shall provide  
15 a complete list of the names with corresponding photographs  
16 of all employees employed by school entities within the  
17 school district who have been issued a school safety  
18 certificate.

19 (2) A school district may not provide a list of  
20 employees of a school entity under paragraph (1) to a  
21 municipal police department that does not have jurisdiction  
22 over the school entity.

23 (3) Notwithstanding information provided by the school  
24 district to the Pennsylvania State Police or a municipal  
25 police department under this subsection, names, lists,  
26 pictures or other information identifying the name, existence  
27 or identity of a person certified under this chapter shall be  
28 confidential and not subject to public disclosure. A school  
29 district, person or State or local governmental agency or  
30 department that violates this chapter, resulting in the

1 dissemination of confidential material to the public, shall  
2 be liable for civil damages in the amount of \$1,000 per  
3 occurrence or three times the actual damages incurred as a  
4 result of the violation, whichever is greater, as well as  
5 reasonable attorney fees.

6 (f) Requirements not applicable.--The act of October 10,  
7 1974 (P.L.705, No.235), known as the Lethal Weapons Training  
8 Act, shall not apply to an employee issued a school safety  
9 certificate for activities within the scope of employment for  
10 the school entity.

11 (g) Definitions.--The following words and phrases when used  
12 in this section shall have the meanings given to them in this  
13 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

14 "Firearm." As defined under 42 Pa.C.S. § 9712(e) (relating  
15 to sentences for offenses committed with firearms).

16 "License to carry firearms." A license to carry a firearm  
17 issued under 18 Pa.C.S. § 6109 (relating to licenses).

18 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.