THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1002 Session of 2025

INTRODUCED BY HANBIDGE, GIRAL, HILL-EVANS, PIELLI, McNEILL, OTTEN, GREINER, SANCHEZ, DONAHUE, SCHLOSSBERG, HOWARD, STEELE, CERRATO, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ AND CONKLIN, MARCH 24, 2025

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MARCH 24, 2025

AN ACT

- Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An 1 act relating to the public school system, including certain 2 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial 3 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto," in student supports, providing for 5 parental notification of certain incidents required. 6 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 as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by adding a 10 11 section to read: 12 Section 1314-A. Parental Notification of Certain Incidents 13 Required. -- (a) Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, each school entity shall adopt a policy on how to notify the parents 14 15 or legal quardians of each student who threatens suicide or is 16 involved in an incident of bullying, as defined in section
- 19 the policy and post the policy on the school entity's publicly

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1303.1-A, inform each school entity employe and the parent or

legal quardian of each student enrolled in the school entity of

- 1 accessible Internet website. The policy adopted by a school
- 2 <u>entity under this subsection may be based upon the model policy</u>
- 3 <u>developed by the department under subsection (c). If a school</u>
- 4 entity notifies a parent or legal guardian of an incident or
- 5 threat required to be reported, the school entity shall:
- 6 (1) Produce and maintain a record verifying that the parent
- 7 or legal quardian was notified of the incident or threat.
- 8 Records under this paragraph shall be exempt from access under
- 9 the act of February 14, 2008 (P.L.6, No.3), known as the Right-
- 10 to-Know Law.
- 11 (2) Provide the parent or legal quardian with suicide
- 12 prevention materials and information, which shall include
- 13 <u>information on ways to limit the student's access to fatal</u>
- 14 means, including a firearm or medication.
- 15 (b) A school entity shall:
- 16 (1) Provide a student with a copy of a record maintained
- 17 under subsection (a) that relates to the student if the student
- 18 requests a copy of the record.
- 19 (2) Expunge a school record maintained under subsection (a)
- 20 that relates to the student if the student has graduated from
- 21 high school and requests that the record be expunded.
- 22 (c) The department shall:
- 23 (1) Develop a model policy on how to notify the parents or
- 24 legal quardians of a student that the student has threatened
- 25 suicide or been involved in an incident of bullying and make the
- 26 policy available to all school entities and, upon request, to
- 27 <u>nonpublic schools. The department may develop the model policy</u>
- 28 in consultation with a youth suicide prevention organization
- 29 operating in this Commonwealth.
- 30 (2) Compile, develop and post on the department's publicly

- 1 <u>accessible Internet website resources and age-appropriate</u>
- 2 <u>educational materials on youth suicide awareness and prevention</u>,
- 3 <u>including ways to limit a student's access to fatal means,</u>
- 4 including firearms and medication. The department shall make the
- 5 <u>resources and education materials available to all school</u>
- 6 <u>entities and, upon request, to nonpublic schools.</u>
- 7 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.