

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 246 Session of 2025

INTRODUCED BY COLEMAN, TARTAGLIONE, FONTANA, COSTA, STEFANO,
DUSH AND ARGALL, FEBRUARY 13, 2025

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 13, 2025

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 student supports, providing for
6 parental and employee notification of weapon incidents.

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 1303.2-A. Parental and Employee Notification of
13 Weapon Incidents.--(a) A school entity shall notify parents and
14 guardians and school employes of an incident involving the
15 possession of a weapon on any school property that constitutes a
16 violation of one of the following:

17 (1) Section 1317.2.

18 (2) 18 Pa.C.S. § 912 (relating to possession of weapon on
19 school property).

20 (3) Locally established policies of a school entity's

1 governing body relating to weapons.

2 (b) The following shall apply:

3 (1) Unless the circumstances of the incident necessitate
4 otherwise, the notification shall be made in accordance with the
5 following:

6 (i) The notification required under subsection (a) shall be
7 made within twenty-four (24) hours of the incident.

8 (ii) The notification shall be made using a method of
9 communication likely to reach parents and guardians and school
10 employees.

11 (2) Except as provided in paragraph (3), if an incident
12 involving the possession of a weapon occurs at a school
13 building, the school entity may limit notification to parents
14 and guardians of students enrolled in or attending, or school
15 employees assigned to, the school building where the incident
16 occurred.

17 (3) If the school building at which the incident occurs
18 shares a campus with other school buildings, the school entity
19 shall make notification to parents and guardians of students
20 enrolled in or attending, or school employees assigned to, any
21 building situated on the shared campus.

22 (4) If an incident involving the possession of a weapon
23 occurs at a school-sponsored activity or on a public conveyance
24 providing transportation to or from a school or school-sponsored
25 activity, the following shall apply:

26 (i) The school entity shall ensure that the notification
27 required under this section reaches the appropriate population
28 of parents and guardians and school employees.

29 (ii) A notification is not required if the incident is not
30 directly related to the school-sponsored activity or the

1 students or staff involved in the activity.

2 (5) Subject to 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (relating to family
3 educational and privacy rights), a school employe to whom a
4 student in possession of a weapon under subsection (a) is
5 assigned shall be deemed to be a school official with legitimate
6 educational interest in the student, and the school entity shall
7 notify the school employe of the student's identity and portion
8 of the student's records relating to the incident.

9 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to:

10 (1) Limit a school entity's responsibility to report
11 incidents to local law enforcement prior to providing parents
12 and guardians and school employes with the notification required
13 under subsection (a).

14 (2) In an emergency, supersede or limit a school entity's
15 responsibility to follow the procedure in its disaster response
16 and emergency preparedness plan developed under 35 Pa.C.S. §
17 7701(g) (relating to duties concerning disaster prevention).

18 (3) Supersede or preempt any provision of a collective
19 bargaining agreement between a school entity and an employe
20 organization.

21 (d) Except as required to notify the parent or guardian of a
22 student found in possession of a weapon, to provide notice to
23 school employes under subsection (b)(5) or as otherwise
24 permitted, the school entity's notification to parents or
25 guardians or school employes under this section shall not
26 contain personally identifiable information about a student in
27 compliance with 20 U.S.C. § 1232g.

28 (e) For the purposes of this section, the following words
29 and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
30 subsection:

1 "School entity." An area career and technical school,
2 charter school, cyber charter school, nonpublic school, private
3 school, regional charter school or school district.

4 "School property." Any of the following:

5 (1) Public school grounds.

6 (2) A location where a school-sponsored activity is
7 conducted.

8 (3) A conveyance providing transportation to a school entity
9 or school-sponsored activity.

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