

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 479 Session of 2025

INTRODUCED BY HAYWOOD, FONTANA, TARTAGLIONE, COSTA, KANE, SAVAL AND SANTARSIERO, MARCH 21, 2025

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, MARCH 21, 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 terms and courses of study,
 6 providing for moment of silence on January 6 anniversary.

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 1556. Moment of Silence on January 6 Anniversary.--

13 (a) Each school entity shall conduct a moment of silence during
 14 instructional hours for students and faculty to observe the
 15 anniversary of January 6, 2021, as a remembrance of the
 16 individuals who lost their lives or were wounded by
 17 insurrectionist attacks on that date.

18 (b) The Department of Education shall establish a model
 19 curriculum for instruction in the events and significance of
 20 January 6, 2021, no later than twelve (12) months after the

1 effective date of this section. The model curriculum shall
2 include all of the following where appropriate:

3 (1) The historical context of the January 6 attacks.

4 (2) The insurrectionist attacks on the United States
5 Capitol.

6 (3) United States Government response to the attacks.

7 (4) Challenges and consequences in a post-January 6 world.

8 (c) The Department of Education shall make available on the
9 department's publicly accessible Internet website curriculum
10 materials and other available resources regarding the events and
11 significance of January 6, 2021, for voluntary use by school
12 entities.

13 (d) Nothing in subsections (b) and (c) shall be construed to
14 require a school entity or nonpublic school to implement, adopt
15 or use the curriculum, materials and other resources made
16 available by the Department of Education under this section.

17 (e) For purposes of this section, the term "school entity"
18 shall mean a school district, charter school, regional charter
19 school, cyber charter school, intermediate unit or area career
20 and technical school.

21 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.