
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. **716** Session of
1961

INTRODUCED BY MESSRS. HAYS AND SEYLER,
MAY 31, 1961.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MAY 31, 1961.

AN ACT

Amending the act of March 10 1949 (P L 30) entitled "An act relating to the public school system including certain provisions applicable as well to private and parochial schools amending revising consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto" clarifying and changing provisions relating to social studies curriculum

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows

- 1 Section 1 Section 1515 act of March 10 1949 (P L 30) known
- 2 as the "Public School Code of 1949" is repealed absolutely

EXPLANATION—CAPITAL LETTERS indicate new matter added to bill. Matter stricken through is to be omitted from bill.
Underscoring indicates new matter added to existing law. [Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.

1 Section 2 Subsection (a) of section 1605 of the act amended April
2 12 1956 (P L 1459) is amended to read

3 Section 1605 Courses of Study (a) In all public private or parochial
4 schools there shall be integrated in the social studies curriculum courses
5 of study as provided in this act It shall be the duty of the superintend-
6 ent having supervision over any high school to prepare and recommend
7 to the board of school directors maintaining the same suitable courses
8 of study which shall be adopted by said board of school directors with
9 such changes as they may deem wise subject to the provisions of this
10 act During [the last four years of a complete high school program]
11 grades seven through twelve inclusive there shall be included at least
12 a [four] two semester or equivalent course of study in the history
13 and government of that portion of America which has become the United
14 States of America [and of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania] of
15 such nature kind or quality as to have for its purpose the developing
16 teaching and presentation of the principles and ideals of the American
17 Republican Representative form of government as portrayed and ex-
18 perience by the acts and policies of the framers of the Declaration of
19 Independence and framers of the Constitution of the United States and

1 the Bill of Rights The courses of study in the history of the United
2 States including the study of the Constitution of the United
3 States [and the Constitution of this Commonwealth] shall also be such
4 as will emphasize the good worthwhile and best features and points of
5 the social economic and cultural development the growth of the Ameri-
6 can family life high standard of living of the United States citizen the
7 privileges enjoyed by such citizens their heritage and its derivations
8 of and in our principles of government [and having for its purpose also
9 the instilling into every boy and girl coming out of our public schools
10 their solemn duty and obligation to exercise their voting privilege]
11 Such instruction shall have for its purpose also the instilling into every
12 boy and girl who comes out of our public private and parochial schools
13 their solemn duty and obligation to exercise intelligently their voting
14 privilege

15 There shall be also given during grades seven through twelve
16 inclusive a one semester or equivalent course in the History and
17 Government of Pennsylvania including the Constitution of the
18 State of Pennsylvania and studies of each important elective and ap-
19 pointive office of the borough city county and township form of local
20 government and of the State government Such instruction shall have

- 1 for its purpose also the instilling into every boy and girl who comes
- 2 out of our public private and parochial schools their solemn duty and
- 3 obligation to exercise intelligently their voting privilege Such instruc-
- 4 tion shall continue in courses in the State Colleges to an extent to be
- 5 determined by the Superintendent of Public Instruction
- 6 * * *

We certify that this bill has passed the Senate and the House of
 Representatives.

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 Chief Clerk, Senate

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 President pro tempore, Senate

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 Speaker, House of Representatives

Approved The day of A. D. 1961.

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 Governor