

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 148 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY ORTITAY, CIRESI, ROZZI AND ARMANINI, MARCH 8, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MARCH 8, 2023

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 health services, providing  
6 for parent educational information regarding eating  
7 disorders.

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

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

13 Section 1426. Parent Educational Information Regarding  
14 Eating Disorders.--(a) Each school entity shall annually  
15 provide parent educational information regarding eating  
16 disorders for pupils in grades six through twelve. The  
17 information shall be consistent with guidelines established  
18 under this section.

19 (b) Each school entity shall provide the annual parent  
20 educational information to all parents and guardians via email,  
21 first class mail or on the school entity's publicly accessible

1 Internet website.

2 (c) The following shall apply:

3 (1) The Department of Education, in conjunction with the  
4 Department of Health, shall develop an Eating Disorders Task  
5 Force that shall develop and implement guidelines for providing  
6 parent educational information regarding eating disorders. The  
7 guidelines shall be developed with input from specialized  
8 organizations and entities, including boards of school  
9 directors, school superintendents, the National Alliance for  
10 Eating Disorders, the Pennsylvania Association of School Nurses  
11 and Practitioners, the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American  
12 Academy of Pediatrics, the Pennsylvania Academy of Family  
13 Physicians, the International Association of Eating Disorders  
14 Professionals Foundation and the Academy for Eating Disorders.

15 (2) The Eating Disorders Task Force shall meet at least two  
16 times per school year to reassess the information provided to  
17 schools and to parents. The task force shall meet at least once  
18 prior to the school year beginning and shall meet at least once  
19 in the beginning of the calendar year.

20 (d) The Department of Education, the Department of Health  
21 and the Eating Disorders Task Force shall identify and develop  
22 appropriate additions or revisions to this Commonwealth's school  
23 health regulations and materials related to the development of  
24 parent educational information, including guidance regarding the  
25 clear delineation of health information from other  
26 administrative documentation.

27 (e) The guidelines developed under this section shall  
28 include the following:

29 (1) The development of a letter for key school personnel,  
30 including school principals, vice principals and school

counselors and psychologists, on the importance of eating  
disorder prevention education and resources for schools.

(2) The development of a letter to parents and guardians  
that includes warning signs, risk factors, resources and other  
information about eating disorders.

(f) As used in this section, the term "school entity" means  
an area career and technical school, a charter school, a cyber  
charter school, an intermediate unit, a nonpublic school or a  
school district.

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