

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2750 Session of 2018

INTRODUCED BY TALLMAN, OCTOBER 31, 2018

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, OCTOBER 31, 2018

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 duties and powers of boards of  
 6 school directors, providing for code of ethics and  
 7 professional responsibility for teachers.

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 529. Code of Ethics and Professional Responsibility  
 14 for Teachers.--(a) Each board of school directors shall  
 15 establish a code of ethics and professional responsibility for  
 16 teachers which provides that no public elementary or secondary  
 17 school teacher, regardless of continuing contract status, is  
 18 permitted during class time or while otherwise operating within  
 19 the scope of employment as a teacher to do the following:

20 (1) endorse, support or oppose any Federal, State or local  
 21 legislation or regulation, regardless of whether the legislation

1 or regulation is pending, proposed or enacted;

2 (2) endorse, support or oppose a Federal, State or local  
3 court case or judicial action, regardless of whether the court  
4 case or judicial action is pending, proposed or decided;

5 (3) endorse, support or oppose a pending, proposed or final  
6 executive action by a Federal, State or local executive branch  
7 agency;

8 (4) endorse, support or engage in activities that hamper or  
9 impede the lawful access of military recruiters to school  
10 property; or

11 (5) endorse, support or engage in activities that hamper or  
12 impede the actions of a Federal, State or local law enforcement  
13 agency.

14 (b) A code of ethics and professional responsibility for  
15 teachers established under subsection (a) shall contain  
16 provisions for enforcement and penalties for a violation of the  
17 prohibitions in the code of ethics and professional  
18 responsibility, up to and including termination of employment.

19 (c) Each board of school directors shall provide the  
20 following:

21 (1) Written notification of the code of ethics and  
22 professional responsibility for teachers that is established  
23 under subsection (a) to all public elementary and secondary  
24 school teachers and enrolled students and parents of enrolled  
25 students.

26 (2) At least one hour of annual continuing teacher education  
27 instruction regarding a teacher's responsibilities under a code  
28 of ethics and professional responsibility.

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