

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 79 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY OWLETT, STRUZZI AND HAMM, MARCH 7, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MARCH 7, 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 the State System of Higher
 6 Education, further providing for definitions and for powers
 7 and duties of councils of trustees.

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

10 Section 1. Sections 2001-A(20) and 2009-A(13) of the act of
 11 March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code
 12 of 1949, are amended to read:

13 Section 2001-A. Definitions.--The following words and
 14 phrases when used in this article shall, for the purpose of this
 15 article, have the following meanings, respectively, except in
 16 those instances where the context clearly indicates a different
 17 meaning:

18 * * *

19 (20) "Campus police" shall mean all law enforcement
 20 personnel employed by the system who [have successfully
 21 completed a campus police course of training approved] are

1 certified as police officers under 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 21 Subch. D
2 (relating to municipal police education and training).

3 * * *

4 Section 2009-A. Powers and Duties of Councils of Trustees.--

5 (a) In accordance with policies, procedures and standards
6 adopted by the board, the council of each institution shall have
7 the power and its duty shall be:

8 * * *

9 [(13) By resolution adopted by the council to authorize
10 campus police who have completed firearms training in accordance
11 with 53 Pa.C.S. § 2167(a) (relating to police training) to carry
12 firearms in the course of duty for any institution whose campus
13 police are authorized to carry firearms on the effective date of
14 this paragraph, the authority to carry firearms shall remain in
15 effect unless the council by resolution dissolves such
16 authority.]

17 Section 2. A resolution adopted by a council of trustees of
18 an institution within the State System of Higher Education
19 pursuant to section 2009-A(13) of the act that authorizes campus
20 police to carry firearms shall be void and of no effect as of
21 the effective date of this section.

22 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.