

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 550**      Session of  
2005

INTRODUCED BY GREENLEAF AND KITCHEN, MARCH 31, 2005

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, MARCH 31, 2005

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," further providing for kindergartens.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Section 503 of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30,  
9 No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, amended  
10 September 21, 1959 (P.L.925, No.373) and October 21, 1965  
11 (P.L.601, No.312), is amended to read:

12 Section 503. Kindergartens.--(a) The board of school  
13 directors in any school district may establish and maintain  
14 kindergartens for children between the ages of [four] three and  
15 six years. When established, the kindergartens shall be an  
16 integral part of the elementary school system of the district,  
17 and be kept open for not less than two and one-half hours each  
18 day for the full school term as provided in section 1501.

19 (b) The number of kindergartens in any one district shall be

1 fixed by the board of school directors, and shall be open during  
2 the school year. When established, kindergartens shall be  
3 available to all children residing in the school district who  
4 are of the age fixed under subsection (a) of this section.

5 [If the average attendance in any one kindergarten in any  
6 district is ten or less for the school year, the school  
7 directors shall, at the close of the school year, discontinue  
8 the same.]

9 (c) The board of school directors shall appoint and assign a  
10 sufficient number of teachers to such kindergartens, who shall  
11 be certified in accordance with the rules and regulations  
12 prescribed by the [Council of Basic Education] State Board of  
13 Education.

14 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006, or  
15 immediately, whichever is later.