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I N S E N A T E

April 21, 2010

Introduced by Sens. MONTGOMERY, DUANE, HASSELL-THOMPSON, OPPENHEIMER, PARKER, SAVINO, SCHNEIDERMAN, SQUADRON, STEWART-COUSINS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to the duties of the commissioner of education with regard to early childhood education

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Section 305 of the education law is amended by adding a new
2 subdivision 42 to read as follows:
3 42. A. THE COMMISSIONER, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF THE
4 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, THE COMMISSIONER OF THE OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND
5 FAMILY SERVICES AND THE COMMISSIONER OF THE OFFICE OF TEMPORARY AND
6 DISABILITY ASSISTANCE, OR THEIR DESIGNEES, SHALL EXAMINE, EVALUATE, AND
7 MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHIL-
8 DREN FROM BIRTH THROUGH FIVE YEARS OF AGE. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL IDEN-
9 TIFY, REVIEW, ANALYZE AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT STATE LAWS AND
10 REGULATIONS, PROGRAMS AND SERVICES INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE
11 FOLLOWING: REQUIREMENTS FOR THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN FROM BIRTH THROUGH
12 FIVE YEARS OF AGE AT ALL SETTINGS WHICH CARE FOR SUCH CHILDREN INCLUDING
13 BUT NOT LIMITED TO PUBLIC AND NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS, PRE-KINDERGARTEN
14 PROGRAMS, DAY CARE CENTERS AND FAMILY DAY CARE, EARLY INTERVENTION
15 PROGRAMS, SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND OTHER RELEVANT SETTINGS;
16 REQUIREMENTS FOR DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES NECESSARY TO THE EDUCATION AND
17 DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN FROM BIRTH THROUGH FIVE YEARS OF AGE AT SUCH
18 SETTINGS; THE HEALTH, FAMILY SUPPORT AND OTHER SERVICES NECESSARY FOR
19 THE EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN FROM BIRTH THROUGH FIVE YEARS
20 OF AGE; REQUIREMENTS FOR THE EDUCATION, CERTIFICATION AND TRAINING OF
21 PERSONNEL IN SUCH SETTINGS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR EDUCATION, DEVELOP-
22 MENTAL SERVICES AND SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN FROM BIRTH THROUGH FIVE
23 YEARS OF AGE INCLUDING TEACHERS, TEACHER ASSISTANTS AND DAY CARE PROVID-
24 ERS, DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES; AND THE FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL FUNDING
25 STREAMS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AT PUBLIC AND NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS,

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

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1 PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS, DAY CARE CENTERS AND FAMILY DAY CARE AND
2 OTHER RELEVANT SETTINGS.

3 B. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT ITS FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMEN-
4 DATIONS WITHIN EIGHT MONTHS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBDIVISION TO
5 THE GOVERNOR, THE TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, THE SPEAKER OF THE
6 ASSEMBLY, THE CHAIRS OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION,
7 THE CHAIRS OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES ON CHILDREN AND FAMI-
8 LIES, THE CHAIRS OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES ON SOCIAL
9 SERVICES AND THE CHAIRS OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES ON HEALTH.
10 THE REPORT SHALL INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STRENGTHENING ACCESS TO AND
11 THE QUALITY OF EDUCATIONAL, DEVELOPMENTAL AND FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMS
12 AND SERVICES AT ALL SETTINGS WHERE SUCH PROGRAMS AND SERVICES ARE
13 PROVIDED TO CHILDREN FROM BIRTH THROUGH FIVE YEARS OF AGE AND THE
14 CONSOLIDATION OF FUNDING, OVERSIGHT AND ENFORCEMENT FOR SUCH PROGRAMS
15 AND SERVICES.

16 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.