

1272

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

January 6, 2011

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Introduced by Sen. ADDABBO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Finance

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to teacher training in programs for gifted students; to repeal certain provisions of such law relating thereto; and making an appropriation therefor

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

1     Section 1. Section 3004 of the education law is amended by adding a  
2     new subdivision 7 to read as follows:  
3     7. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL PRESCRIBE REGULATIONS REQUIRING THAT ALL  
4     PERSONS APPLYING ON OR AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBDIVISION FOR  
5     A CERTIFICATE OR LICENSE VALID FOR SERVICE AS A CLASSROOM TEACHER, PUPIL  
6     PERSONNEL SERVICE PROFESSIONAL, SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR OR SUPERVISOR OR  
7     SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, SHALL, IN ADDITION TO ALL THE OTHER CERTIF-  
8     ICATION OR LICENSING REQUIREMENTS, HAVE COMPLETED THREE CREDITS OR MORE  
9     OF COURSE WORK OR TRAINING IN THE IDENTIFICATION AND EDUCATION OF GIFTED  
10    AND TALENTED PUPILS INCLUDING TWICE-EXCEPTIONAL PUPILS. "TWICE-EXCEP-  
11    TIONAL" SHALL MEAN THOSE PUPILS WHO GIVE EVIDENCE OF THE POTENTIAL FOR  
12    HIGH COGNITIVE PROCESSING CAPABILITIES COMMENSURATE WITH OR CONTRARY TO  
13    COGNITIVE PROCESSING TAKEN AS NORMS OF REGULAR EDUCATION IN AREAS SUCH  
14    AS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO: SPECIFIC ACADEMICS, GENERAL INTELLECTUAL ABILI-  
15    TY, CREATIVITY, LEADERSHIP, AND/OR VISUAL, SPATIAL OR PERFORMING ARTS;  
16    AND ALSO GIVE EVIDENCE OF ONE OR MORE DISABILITIES AS DEFINED BY FEDERAL  
17    OR STATE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA SUCH AS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, SPECIFIC  
18    LEARNING DISABILITIES, SPEECH AND LANGUAGE DISORDERS,  
19    EMOTIONAL/BEHAVIORAL DISORDERS, PHYSICAL DISABILITIES, AUTISM SPECTRUM,  
20    OR OTHER HEALTH IMPAIRMENTS, SUCH AS ADHD. SUCH TERM SHALL INCLUDE THOSE  
21    PUPILS WHO REQUIRE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS OR SERVICES BEYOND THOSE NORMAL-  
22    LY PROVIDED BY THE REGULAR SCHOOL PROGRAM IN ORDER TO REALIZE THEIR FULL  
23    POTENTIAL.     SUCH CREDIT WORK OR TRAINING SHALL BE OBTAINED FROM AN  
24    INSTITUTION OR PROVIDER WHICH HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO

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

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1 PROVIDE SUCH COURSE WORK OR TRAINING. SUCH REGULATIONS SHALL ALSO  
2 REQUIRE THAT SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND BOARDS OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL  
3 SERVICES INCLUDE TRAINING FOR TEACHERS AND OTHER CERTIFIED OR LICENSED  
4 EMPLOYEES IN IDENTIFYING GIFTED AND TALENTED, INCLUDING TWICE EXCEP-  
5 TIONAL, STUDENTS IN THEIR REQUIRED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS.

6 S 2. Subdivision 2-b of section 3204 of the education law is REPEALED  
7 and a new subdivision 2-b is added to read as follows:

8 2-B. INSTRUCTION OF POSSIBLY GIFTED PUPILS. A. THE GOVERNING BOARD OF  
9 ANY SCHOOL DISTRICT AND ANY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT IS HEREBY DIRECTED  
10 TO PROVIDE EVERY PUPIL WHO IS DIAGNOSED AS "POSSIBLY GIFTED" WITH  
11 INSTRUCTION FROM A TEACHER WHO HAS HAD APPROPRIATE TRAINING IN EDUCATING  
12 GIFTED PUPILS.

13 B. ALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS SHALL PROVIDE ACCELERATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
14 PUPILS IN GRADES ONE, THREE, FIVE AND EIGHT FOR PLACEMENT IN ACCELERATED  
15 COURSES IN THE BASIC BRANCHES OF STUDY.

16 S 3. Paragraph d of subdivision 5 of section 3208 of the education law  
17 is REPEALED and a new paragraph d is added to read as follows:

18 D. IF SUCH SCREENING INDICATES A POSSIBLY GIFTED CHILD, THE NAME AND  
19 FINDING SHALL BE REPORTED TO THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS OF SUCH  
20 DISTRICT AND TO THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF SUCH CHILD. SUCH NOTIFICATION  
21 SHALL ENTITLE THE CHILD TO INSTRUCTION FROM A TEACHER WHO HAS HAD APPRO-  
22 PRIATE TRAINING IN EDUCATING GIFTED PUPILS, OR ALTERNATIVE SERVICES  
23 MUTUALLY AGREEABLE TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF SUCH  
24 CHILD.

25 S 4. The sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000), or so much thereof  
26 as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to the department of educa-  
27 tion out of any moneys in the state treasury in the general fund to the  
28 credit of the state purposes fund, not otherwise appropriated, and made  
29 immediately available, for the sole purpose of providing training for  
30 teachers in providing education to possibly gifted, including twice-ex-  
31 ceptional pupils in the public elementary schools. Such moneys shall be  
32 payable on the audit and warrant of the comptroller on vouchers certi-  
33 fied or approved by the commissioner of education in the manner  
34 prescribed by law.

35 S 5. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day next  
36 succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law; provided, that  
37 effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule  
38 or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effec-  
39 tive date are authorized and directed to be made and completed on or  
40 before such effective date provided, however, that the amendments to  
41 section 3208 of the education law made by section three of this act  
42 shall not affect the expiration of such section and shall be deemed to  
43 expire therewith.