

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

(PREFILED)

January 5, 2011

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Introduced by Sens. MONTGOMERY, DUANE, HASSELL-THOMPSON, OPPENHEIMER, PARKER, SAVINO, 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 OR THE  
4     COMMISSIONER'S DESIGNEE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, THE OFFICE OF CHILDREN  
5     AND FAMILY SERVICES AND THE OFFICE OF TEMPORARY AND DISABILITY  
6     ASSISTANCE AND THE CHAIR OR THE CHAIR'S DESIGNEE OF THE EARLY CHILDHOOD  
7     ADVISORY COUNCIL OR ITS EQUIVALENT AS APPOINTED PURSUANT TO THE FEDERAL  
8     HEAD START REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF TWO THOUSAND SEVEN, SHALL EXAMINE,  
9     EVALUATE, AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
10    OF CHILDREN FROM BIRTH THROUGH FIVE YEARS OF AGE. THE COMMISSIONER  
11    SHALL IDENTIFY, REVIEW, ANALYZE AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT STATE  
12    LAWS AND REGULATIONS, PROGRAMS AND SERVICES INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO  
13    THE FOLLOWING: REQUIREMENTS FOR THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN FROM BIRTH  
14    THROUGH FIVE YEARS OF AGE AT ALL SETTINGS WHICH CARE FOR SUCH CHILDREN  
15    INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO PUBLIC AND NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS, PRE-KINDERGARTEN  
16    PROGRAMS, DAY CARE CENTERS AND FAMILY DAY CARE, EARLY INTERVENTION  
17    PROGRAMS, SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND OTHER RELEVANT  
18    SETTINGS; REQUIREMENTS FOR DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES NECESSARY TO THE  
19    EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN FROM BIRTH THROUGH FIVE YEARS OF  
20    AGE AT SUCH SETTINGS; THE HEALTH, FAMILY SUPPORT AND OTHER SERVICES  
21    NECESSARY FOR THE EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN FROM BIRTH  
22    THROUGH FIVE YEARS OF AGE; REQUIREMENTS FOR THE EDUCATION, CERTIFICATION

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

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1 AND TRAINING OF PERSONNEL IN SUCH SETTINGS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR  
2 EDUCATION, DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES AND SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN FROM BIRTH  
3 THROUGH FIVE YEARS OF AGE INCLUDING TEACHERS, TEACHER ASSISTANTS AND DAY  
4 CARE PROVIDERS, DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES; AND THE FEDERAL, STATE, AND  
5 LOCAL FUNDING STREAMS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AT PUBLIC AND  
6 NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS, PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS, DAY CARE CENTERS AND  
7 FAMILY DAY CARE AND OTHER RELEVANT SETTINGS.

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

21 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.