S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

1577

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

January 10, 2011

Introduced by Sens. OPPENHEIMER, PARKER, SERRANO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to health education instruction on organ donation awareness

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

Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 804-e to read as follows:

S 804-E. HEALTH EDUCATION REGARDING ORGAN DONATION AWARENESS. 1. ANY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL IN THE STATE MAY PROVIDE, AS PART OF HEALTH EDUCATION, INSTRUCTION DESIGNED TO PROMOTE AWARENESS AND TO INFORM AND DISPEL THE MYTHS AND MISCONCEPTIONS RELATED TO ORGAN DONATION.

2. INSTRUCTION REGARDING ORGAN DONATION AWARENESS MAY BE PART OF A HEALTH EDUCATION COURSE IN THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS CURRICULUM. STUDENTS MAY BE REQUIRED TO DEMONSTRATE KNOWLEDGE IN THE SUBJECT THROUGH THE USE OF A TEST, GRADED PROJECT OR REPORT, OR ANY OTHER MEANS PRESCRIBED BY THE SCHOOL AUTHORITIES REGARDING ORGAN DONATION. ANY SUCH COURSE SHALL BE TAUGHT BY TEACHERS HOLDING A CERTIFICATE TO TEACH HEALTH. RELATED COURSES IN THE SECONDARY SCHOOL CURRICULUM SHALL BE TAUGHT IN A MANNER SUPPORTIVE OF HEALTH EDUCATION REGARDING ORGAN DONATION AWARENESS.

3. THE COMMISSIONER MAY PRESCRIBE IN RULES AND REGULATIONS SUCH HEALTH EDUCATION COURSES WHICH INCLUDE INSTRUCTION REGARDING ORGAN DONATION AWARENESS AS THE COMMISSIONER MAY DEEM NECESSARY AND DESIRABLE FOR THE WELFARE OF PUPILS AND THE COMMUNITY. THE CONTENTS MAY BE VARIED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF A PARTICULAR SCHOOL DISTRICT, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND NEED NOT BE UNIFORM THROUGHOUT THE STATE, PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT ANY SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE STATE PROVIDING INSTRUCTION ON ORGAN DONATION AWARENESS SHALL UTILIZE EITHER THE CURRICULUM FOR HEALTH EDUCATION INSTRUCTION REGARDING ORGAN DONATION AWARENESS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMMISSIONER OR A

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

LBD05295-01-1

COURSE APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER IN ACCORDANCE WITH CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSIONER.

4. SCHOOL AUTHORITIES SHALL PROVIDE THE NEEDED FACILITIES, TIME, AND PLACE FOR THE INSTRUCTION SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION AND SHALL PROVIDE LEARNING AIDS AND CURRICULUM RESOURCE MATERIALS WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO EFFECTIVE TEACHING METHODS AND LEARNING IN HEALTH EDUCATION REGARDING ORGAN DONATION AWARENESS.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.