

1578

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

January 10, 2011

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Introduced by Sen. OPPENHEIMER -- 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 required training for  
individuals applying for certification or licensure to be a teacher

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 2-a to read as follows:  
3     2-A. A. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL PRESCRIBE REGULATIONS REQUIRING ALL  
4     PERSONS APPLYING FOR CERTIFICATION OR A LICENSE TO BE A TEACHER, ON OR  
5     AFTER JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND TWELVE, TO HAVE COMPLETED A MINIMUM OF  
6     SIX HOURS OF COURSEWORK AND TRAINING IN HOW TO RECOGNIZE AND RESPOND TO  
7     INCIDENTS OF BULLYING, HARASSMENT AND INTIMIDATION. EACH APPLICANT SHALL  
8     PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT WITH DOCUMENTATION SHOWING THAT THE APPLICANT HAS  
9     SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE REQUIRED TRAINING. SUCH COURSEWORK OR TRAIN-  
10    ING SHALL BE IN ADDITION TO ALL OTHER CERTIFICATION OR LICENSURE  
11    REQUIREMENTS.  
12    B. COURSEWORK AND TRAINING REQUIRED BY THIS SUBDIVISION SHALL: (I) BE  
13    PROVIDED BY AN INSTITUTION OR PROVIDER WHICH HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE  
14    DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE SUCH COURSEWORK OR TRAINING; AND (II) SHALL  
15    INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, INFORMATION TO HELP TEACHERS IDENTIFY  
16    AND APPROPRIATELY RESPOND TO INCIDENTS OF BULLYING, HARASSMENT AND  
17    INTIMIDATION IN SCHOOLS, AND SHALL PROVIDE TEACHERS WITH SKILLS TO  
18    PROMOTE POSITIVE AND APPROPRIATE SOCIAL INTERACTIONS, TOLERANCE, RESPECT  
19    AND ACCEPTANCE OF DIVERSITY.  
20    C. FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION, BULLYING, HARASSMENT AND INTIM-  
21    IDATION ARE DEFINED AS ANY AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR INCLUDING VERBAL OR PHYS-  
22    ICAL CONDUCT, AND WRITTEN OR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION, THAT HAS OR WOULD  
23    HAVE THE EFFECT OF CREATING A HOSTILE EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT BY  
24    SUBSTANTIALLY INTERFERING WITH A STUDENT'S EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS, OPPOR-  
25    TUNITIES OR PERFORMANCE, OR WITH A STUDENT'S PHYSICAL OR PSYCHOLOGICAL

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

LBD05340-01-1

1 WELL-BEING, OR THAT REASONABLY CAUSES OR WOULD REASONABLY BE EXPECTED TO  
2 CAUSE A STUDENT TO FEAR FOR HIS OR HER PHYSICAL SAFETY.  
3 S 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after  
4 it shall have become a law.