

2502

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

January 18, 2013

Introduced by Sens. RANZENHOFER, DeFRANCISCO -- 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 making internal audit functions optional by school districts unless an audit by the comptroller reveals deficiencies

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

1 Section 1. Subdivisions 1, 2 and 7 of section 2116-b of the education
2 law, as added by chapter 263 of the laws of 2005, are amended and a new
3 subdivision 8 is added to read as follows:
4 1. No later than July first, two thousand six, each school district
5 shall establish an internal audit function to be in operation no later
6 than the following December thirty-first. Such function shall include:
7 (a) development of a risk assessment of district operations, including
8 but not limited to, a review of financial policies and procedures and
9 the testing and evaluation of district internal controls; (b) [an annu-
10 al] A review and update of such risk assessment; and (c) preparation of
11 reports[, at least annually or more frequently as the trustees or board
12 of education may direct,] which analyze significant risk assessment
13 findings, recommend changes for strengthening controls and reducing
14 identified risks, and specify timeframes for implementation of such
15 recommendations.
16 2. School districts of less than eight teachers, school districts with
17 actual general fund expenditures totaling less than five million dollars
18 in the previous school year, or school districts with actual enrollment
19 of less than three hundred students in the previous school year shall be
20 exempt from this requirement. Any school district claiming such
21 exemption shall [annually] certify to the commissioner that such school
22 district meets the requirements set forth in this subdivision.

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

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1 7. Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring a school
2 district in any city with a population of one hundred twenty-five thou-
3 sand or more to replace or modify an existing internal audit function
4 where such function already exists by special or local law, so long as
5 the superintendent of the district [annually] certifies to the commis-
6 sioner that the existing internal audit function meets or exceeds the
7 requirements of this section.

8 8. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW TO THE CONTRARY, THE
9 INTERNAL AUDIT FUNCTION ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL BE
10 OPTIONAL BY ALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS UNLESS THE COMPTROLLER FINDS DEFICIEN-
11 CIES IN THE AUDIT PERFORMED PURSUANT TO SECTION THIRTY-THREE OF THE
12 GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW. IF DEFICIENCIES ARE FOUND BY THE COMPTROLLER,
13 SCHOOL DISTRICTS SHALL PERFORM BI-ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDITS UNTIL THE COMP-
14 TROLLER CONDUCTS ANOTHER AUDIT OF SUCH SCHOOL DISTRICT.

15 S 2. This act shall take effect on the first of July next succeeding
16 the date on which it shall have become a law.