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

1374

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

(PREFILED)

January 9, 2013

Introduced by Sens. MONTGOMERY, ADDABBO, AVELLA, HASSELL-THOMPSON, 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:

Section 1. Section 305 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 43 to read as follows:

43. A. THE COMMISSIONER, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMISSIONER OR THE COMMISSIONER'S DESIGNEE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, THE OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES AND THE OFFICE OF TEMPORARY AND DISABILITY ASSISTANCE AND THE CHAIR OR THE CHAIR'S DESIGNEE OF THE EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL OR ITS EQUIVALENT AS APPOINTED PURSUANT TO THE FEDERAL HEAD START REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF TWO THOUSAND SEVEN, SHALL EXAMINE, EVALUATE, AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN FROM BIRTH THROUGH FIVE YEARS OF AGE. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL IDENTIFY, REVIEW, ANALYZE AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS, PROGRAMS AND SERVICES INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING: REQUIREMENTS FOR THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN FROM BIRTH THROUGH FIVE YEARS OF AGE AT ALL SETTINGS WHICH CARE FOR SUCH CHILDREN INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO PUBLIC AND NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS, PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS, DAY CARE CENTERS AND FAMILY DAY CARE, EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS, SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND OTHER RELEVANT SETTINGS; REQUIREMENTS FOR DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES NECESSARY TO THE EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN FROM BIRTH THROUGH FIVE YEARS OF AGE AT SUCH SETTINGS; THE HEALTH, FAMILY SUPPORT AND OTHER SERVICES NECESSARY FOR THE EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN FROM BIRTH THROUGH FIVE YEARS OF AGE; REQUIREMENTS FOR THE EDUCATION, CERTIFICATION AND TRAINING OF PERSONNEL IN SUCH SETTINGS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR

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

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EDUCATION, DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES AND SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN FROM BIRTH THROUGH FIVE YEARS OF AGE INCLUDING TEACHERS, TEACHER ASSISTANTS AND DAY CARE PROVIDERS, DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES; AND THE FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL FUNDING STREAMS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AT PUBLIC AND NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS, PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS, DAY CARE CENTERS AND FAMILY DAY CARE AND OTHER RELEVANT SETTINGS.

B. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT ITS FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WITHIN EIGHT MONTHS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBDIVISION TO THE GOVERNOR, THE TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY, THE CHAIRS OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION, THE CHAIRS OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, THE CHAIRS OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES ON SOCIAL SERVICES AND THE CHAIRS OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES ON HEALTH. THE REPORT SHALL INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STRENGTHENING ACCESS TO AND THE QUALITY OF EDUCATIONAL, DEVELOPMENTAL AND FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AT ALL SETTINGS WHERE SUCH PROGRAMS AND SERVICES ARE PROVIDED TO CHILDREN FROM BIRTH THROUGH FIVE YEARS OF AGE AND THE CONSOLIDATION OF FUNDING, OVERSIGHT AND ENFORCEMENT FOR SUCH PROGRAMS AND SERVICES.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.