

STATE OF NEW YORK

2641

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 13, 2017

Introduced by Sens. RANZENHOFER, DeFRANCISCO, FUNKE, GALLIVAN, SEWARD --
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 comp-
troller reveals deficiencies

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assem-
bly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Subdivisions 1, 2 and 7 of section 2116-b of the education
law, subdivisions 1 and 7 as added by chapter 263 of the laws of 2005,
and subdivision 2 as amended by section 4 of part A of chapter 57 of the
laws of 2013, are amended and a new subdivision 8 is added to read as
follows:

1. No later than July first, two thousand six, each school district
shall establish an internal audit function to be in operation no later
than the following December thirty-first. Such function shall include:
(a) development of a risk assessment of district operations, including
but not limited to, a review of financial policies and procedures and
the testing and evaluation of district internal controls; (b) ~~[an annu-
al]~~ a review and update of such risk assessment; and (c) preparation of
reports~~[, at least annually or more frequently as the trustees or board
of education may direct,]~~ which analyze significant risk assessment
findings, recommend changes for strengthening controls and reducing
identified risks, and specify timeframes for implementation of such
recommendations.

2. School districts of less than eight teachers, school districts with
actual general fund expenditures totaling less than five million dollars
in the previous school year, or school districts with actual enrollment
of less than one thousand five hundred students in the previous school
year shall be exempt from this requirement. Any school district claiming

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

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1 such exemption shall [~~annually~~] certify to the commissioner that such
2 school district meets the requirements set forth in this subdivision.

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

10 8. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the
11 internal audit function established pursuant to this section shall be
12 optional by all school districts unless the comptroller finds deficien-
13 cies in the audit performed pursuant to section thirty-three of the
14 general municipal law. If deficiencies are found by the comptroller,
15 school districts shall perform biennial internal audits until the comp-
16 troller conducts another audit of such school district.

17 § 2. This act shall take effect on the first of July next succeeding
18 the date on which it shall have become a law.