

STATE OF NEW YORK

7995 -- A

IN SENATE

March 6, 2020

Introduced by Sen. SKOUFIS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Education -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to creating a state-wide literacy education advocacy program and to study the viability of the Newburgh armory unity center literacy education advocacy partnership

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

1 Section 1. Section 305 of the education law is amended by adding a new
2 subdivision 57 to read as follows:

3 57. (a) The commissioner of education shall conduct a study on litera-
4 cy advocacy programs in the state, including the Newburgh Armory Unity
5 Center Literacy Education Advocacy Partnership (NAUC LEAP). The purpose
6 of such study shall be to determine the successes and effectiveness of
7 these programs in achieving their goals, with the intent of understand-
8 ing effective practices that support students being able to read at
9 grade level and score proficient on the grade three through eight
10 English language arts state assessment. The commissioner of education
11 shall then develop recommendations and best practices for replicating
12 literacy advocacy programs in areas throughout the state.

13 (b) The commissioner of education shall, within one year of the effec-
14 tive date of this subdivision, report the findings, conclusions and
15 recommendations of such study to the governor, temporary president of
16 the senate and speaker of the assembly.

17 (c) Within one year of the effective date of this subdivision, the
18 commissioner shall develop a literacy education advocacy program to
19 provide additional literacy instruction for grade three through eight
20 students. Such program shall:

21 (i) foster collaborative relationships among not-for-profit organiza-
22 tions that increase the capacity for programming aimed at urban chil-
23 dren, youth, and families;

24 (ii) make available a list of participating organizations to better
25 implement programs of value to the community;

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

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- 1 (iii) be optional for school districts across New York state; and
- 2 (iv) utilize the study performed by the commissioner pursuant to para-
- 3 graph (a) of this subdivision.
- 4 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.