STATE OF NEW YORK

1316

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 9, 2025

Introduced by Sens. HOYLMAN-SIGAL, JACKSON -- 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 safe operation and maintenance of all elementary and secondary school science laboratories

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 19-a to read as follows:

19-a. The commissioner shall promulgate procedures and guidelines by which all elementary and secondary school science laboratories shall be operated and maintained to protect the safety of students, teachers and staff. Such procedures and guidelines shall include, at a minimum, classroom and laboratory inspection, maintenance, storage and usage of safety equipment, maintenance, storage and usage of science laboratory materials and equipment, safety and health training for school employees, and procedures to be followed in the event of an injury or accident, and shall be consistent with all other applicable federal or state safety regulations. The commissioner is authorized to direct any or all elementary and secondary schools to temporarily or indefinitely cease using materials or equipment or conducting science demonstrations or student laboratory exercises that the commissioner has determined pose an undue risk of harm to students, teachers or staff.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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