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

5245--A

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

February 11, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. COLTON, DINOWITZ, BENEDETTO, ENGLEBRIGHT, CASTRO, ALFANO -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. DUPREY, ESPAILLAT, TOWNS, WEISENBERG -- read once and referred to the Committee on Higher Education -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to requiring students enrolled in the undergraduate psychology program within the SUNY and CUNY systems to complete 12 hours of documented volunteer service with certain places or programs

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

Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as "Vicki's law".

S 2. The education law is amended by adding a new section 355-d to read as follows:

S 355-D. REQUIRED VOLUNTEER SERVICE FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE UNDERGRADUATE PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM. 1. EVERY STUDENT ENROLLED IN THE UNDERGRADUATE PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM WITHIN THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK SYSTEM SHALL COMPLETE, IN ADDITION TO ESTABLISHED PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION, A MINIMUM OF TWELVE HOURS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE WITH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PLACES OR PROGRAMS:

A. A SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE AND/OR CENTER;

B. A DOMESTIC ABUSE PREVENTION HOTLINE AND/OR CENTER;

C. AN EATING DISORDER HOTLINE AND/OR COUNSELING CENTER;

D. AN EXPRESSIVE THERAPY COUNSELING CENTER;

E. OR ANY CALL CENTERS OR COUNSELING CENTERS WITH PROGRAMS THAT SPECIFICALLY PERTAIN TO ISSUES SUCH AS ABUSE, DEPRESSION, ANXIETY AND STRESS, OR SELF-ESTEEM AND WEIGHT DISORDERS.

2. EACH COLLEGE SHALL APPOINT A FACULTY MEMBER WITHIN THE UNDERGRADUATE PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM OR AN APPROPRIATE COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL TO TRACK AND DOCUMENT A STUDENT'S COMPLETED HOURS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE.

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

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SUCH FACULTY MEMBER OR COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THAT SUCH STUDENT MEETS PROGRAM STANDARDS AND FULFILLS THE REQUIREMENTS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION.

3. THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO PROMULGATE ANY RULES AND REGULATIONS NECESSARY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

S 3. The education law is amended by adding a new section 6235 to read as follows:

S 6235. REQUIRED VOLUNTEER SERVICE FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE UNDERGRADUATE PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM. 1. EVERY STUDENT ENROLLED IN THE UNDERGRADUATE PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM WITHIN THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK SYSTEM SHALL COMPLETE, IN ADDITION TO ESTABLISHED PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION, A MINIMUM OF TWELVE HOURS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE WITH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PLACES OR PROGRAMS:

A. A SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE AND/OR CENTER;

B. A DOMESTIC ABUSE PREVENTION HOTLINE AND/OR CENTER;

C. AN EATING DISORDER HOTLINE AND/OR COUNSELING CENTER;

D. AN EXPRESSIVE THERAPY COUNSELING CENTER;

E. OR ANY CALL CENTERS OR COUNSELING CENTERS WITH PROGRAMS THAT SPECIFICALLY PERTAIN TO ISSUES SUCH AS ABUSE, DEPRESSION, ANXIETY AND STRESS, OR SELF-ESTEEM AND WEIGHT DISORDERS.

2. EACH COLLEGE SHALL APPOINT A FACULTY MEMBER WITHIN THE UNDERGRADUATE PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM OR AN APPROPRIATE COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL TO TRACK AND DOCUMENT A STUDENT'S COMPLETED HOURS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE. SUCH FACULTY MEMBER OR COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THAT SUCH STUDENT MEETS PROGRAM STANDARDS AND FULFILLS THE REQUIREMENTS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION.

3. THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO PROMULGATE ANY RULES AND REGULATIONS NECESSARY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

S 4. This act shall take effect immediately.