

5929

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N   A S S E M B L Y

February 23, 2009

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Introduced by M. of A. TOWNS, KOLB, GREENE -- read once and referred to  
the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to the pledge of alle-  
giance

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

1     Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 802 of the education law, as  
2 amended by chapter 601 of the laws of 1996, is amended to read as  
3 follows:  
4     1. It shall be the duty of the commissioner to prepare, for the use of  
5 the public schools of the state, a program providing for a salute to the  
6 flag and a daily pledge of allegiance to the flag, and instruction in  
7 its correct use and display which shall include, as a minimum, specific  
8 instruction regarding respect for the flag of the United States of Amer-  
9 ica, its display and use as provided by federal statute and regulation  
10 and such other patriotic exercises as may be deemed by him to be expedi-  
11 ent, under such regulations and instructions as may best meet the varied  
12 requirements of the different grades in such schools. However, such  
13 instruction shall include, as a minimum, the provisions of sections one  
14 hundred seventy through one hundred seventy-seven of title thirty-six of  
15 the United States Code. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ALSO PREPARE, AS PART OF  
16 SUCH PROGRAM, WHICH MAY BE USED BY SCHOOL AUTHORITIES, AN ANNUAL COURSE  
17 OF STUDY OF THE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN FLAG THAT ENCOURAGES PARTIC-  
18 IPATION IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BY STUDENTS AND FACULTY AND THAT  
19 INDICATES THAT THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE IS TAKEN IN RECOGNITION OF THE  
20 SACRIFICES THAT HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE ARMED FORCES  
21 OF THE UNITED STATES IN DEFENSE OF OUR COUNTRY.  
22     S 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after  
23 it shall have become a law; provided that the commissioner of education  
24 is authorized to promulgate any rules necessary to implement this act on  
25 or before its effective date.

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

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