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

212

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

(PREFILED)

January 7, 2009

Introduced by Sen. KRUGER -- 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 maintaining school libraries

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

Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 815 to read as follows:

S 815. SCHOOL LIBRARIES. 1. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW TO THE CONTRARY AND SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SUBDIVISION TWO OF THIS SECTION, EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL MAINTAIN A SCHOOL LIBRARY IN EACH ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL IN THE DISTRICT. SCHOOL DISTRICTS OUTSIDE A CITY HAVING A POPULATION OF ONE MILLION OR MORE SHALL EMPLOY CERTIFIED SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALISTS FOR EACH SUCH SCHOOL LIBRARY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMMISSIONER. SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN A CITY HAVING A POPULATION OF ONE MILLION OR MORE SHALL EMPLOY CERTIFIED SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALISTS FOR EACH SUCH SCHOOL LIBRARY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMMISSIONER.

2. THE COMMISSIONER MAY, UPON APPLICATION BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT, WAIVE THE APPLICABILITY OF THE PROVISIONS OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION TO SUCH SCHOOL DISTRICT UPON A DETERMINATION BY THE COMMISSIONER THAT SUCH PROVISIONS WOULD PLACE AN EXTREME FINANCIAL BURDEN ON SUCH SCHOOL DISTRICT OR THAT SUCH SCHOOL DISTRICT'S NEEDS ARE ADEQUATELY MET THROUGH A SHARING ARRANGEMENT WITH A PUBLIC LIBRARY AND SUCH ARRANGEMENT PROVIDES FOR ADEQUATE LIBRARY ACCESS.

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

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

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