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

2129

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

February 11, 2009

Introduced by Sen. GOLDEN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Cities

AN ACT to amend the New York city charter, in relation to notification upon the projected opening, closing or consolidation of any public school in New York city

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

Section 1. The legislature hereby finds that the issue of school closings and/or consolidation is one which elicits great passions in a community and among its elected state and local public officials.

The legislature further finds that the New York city department of education has sometimes failed to notify elected state and local public officials of planned school closings and/or consolidations within the respective communities of such elected public officials, and that this omission frustrates the duty of such public officials to be responsive to the important issues raised by its constituencies and other locally elected public officials.

The legislature therefore finds and declares that there is a necessity for the implementation of this act, which creates a specific statutory requirement and schedule for public and public official notification of New York city department of education school closings and/or consolidations.

S 2. Chapter 20 of the New York city charter is amended by adding a new section 530 to read as follows:

S 530. NOTIFICATION. AT LEAST TWELVE MONTHS PRIOR TO ANY PROJECTED SCHOOL OPENING, CLOSING AND/OR CONSOLIDATION, THE NEW YORK CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL NOTIFY ELECTED STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICIALS WHO REPRESENT THE AFFECTED COMMUNITY, APPROPRIATE CITY COMMUNITY BOARD OR BOARDS HAVING JURISDICTION, AND THE PARENTS OR GUARDIANS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING AN AFFECTED SCHOOL OR SCHOOLS. THE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL DEVELOP A METHOD TO OBTAIN MEANINGFUL INPUT BY SUCH ELECTED STATE AND

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

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LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICIALS, CITY COMMUNITY BOARDS, AND THE PARENTS OR GUARDIANS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING AN AFFECTED SCHOOL OR SCHOOLS, AND SHALL SEEK SUCH INPUT. A COPY OF THE NOTIFICATION PROVIDED AND THE MEANS OF PROVIDING INPUT SHALL ALSO BE DISPLAYED IN A PROMINENT LOCATION WITHIN ANY SCHOOL OR SCHOOLS IN THE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT MAY BE AFFECTED BY SUCH AN OPENING, CLOSING AND/OR CONSOLIDATION.

S 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after it shall have become a law; provided, however, that effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date is authorized and directed to be made and completed on or before such effective date.