

7200

I N S E N A T E

March 22, 2010

Introduced by Sen. SAMPSON -- 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 requiring charter schools to enroll children with disabilities and English language learners in comparable numbers to those enrolled in public schools

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

1 Section 1. Paragraph a of subdivision 2 of section 2854 of the educa-
2 tion law, as amended by section 5 of part D-2 of chapter 57 of the laws
3 of 2007, is amended to read as follows:
4 (a) A charter school shall be nonsectarian in its programs, admission
5 policies, employment practices, and all other operations and shall not
6 charge tuition or fees; provided that a charter school may require the
7 payment of fees on the same basis and to the same extent as other public
8 schools. A charter school shall not discriminate against any student,
9 employee or any other person on the basis of ethnicity, national origin,
10 gender, or disability or any other ground that would be unlawful if done
11 by a school. Admission of students shall not be limited on the basis of
12 intellectual ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, athletic
13 ability, disability, race, creed, gender, national origin, religion, or
14 ancestry; provided, however, that nothing in this article shall be
15 construed to prevent the establishment of a single-sex charter school or
16 a charter school designed to provide expanded learning opportunities for
17 students at-risk of academic failure; and provided, further, that [the]
18 A charter school [shall demonstrate good faith efforts to attract and
19 retain a comparable or greater enrollment of] **MUST ENROLL THE SAME OR A**
20 **GREATER PERCENTAGE OF** students with disabilities and limited English
21 proficient students when compared to the enrollment figures for such
22 students in the school district in which the charter school is located.
23 **FAILURE TO COMPLY FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE YEARS SHALL BE DEEMED GROUNDS FOR**
24 **REVOCATION OF THE CHARTER.** A charter shall not be issued to any school
25 that would be wholly or in part under the control or direction of any
26 religious denomination, or in which any denominational tenet or doctrine
27 would be taught.
28 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

LBD10664-01-9