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

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7820--A

Cal. No. 871

I N   S E N A T E

May 13, 2010
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Introduced by Sens. OPPENHEIMER, KRUEGER -- read twice and ordered
  printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Educa-
  tion -- reported favorably from said committee, ordered to first and
  second report, ordered to a third reading, substituted by Assembly
  Bill No. 3467-A, substitution reconsidered and vote reconsidered,
  restored to third reading, amended and ordered reprinted, retaining
  its place in the order of third reading

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to the dissection of
  animals

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

 1   Section 1. Subdivision 4 of section 809 of the education law, as
 2 amended by chapter 542 of the laws of 1994, is amended to read as
 3 follows:
 4   4. Dissection of animals. Any student expressing a moral or religious
 5 objection to the performance or witnessing of the dissection of an
 6 animal, either wholly or in part, shall be provided the opportunity to
 7 undertake and complete an alternative project that shall be approved by
 8 such student's teacher; provided, however, that such objection is
 9 substantiated in writing by the student's parent or legal guardian.
10 Students who perform alternative projects who do not perform or witness
11 the dissection of animals shall not be penalized. THE BOARD OF EDUCA-
12 TION OR TRUSTEES OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL DEVELOP A POLICY TO GIVE
13 REASONABLE NOTICE TO ALL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN A COURSE THAT INCLUDES THE
14 DISSECTION OF AN ANIMAL AND STUDENTS' PARENTS OR LEGAL GUARDIANS ABOUT
15 THEIR RIGHTS UNDER THIS SUBDIVISION. SUCH NOTICE SHALL BE MADE AVAIL-
16 ABLE UPON REQUEST AT THE SCHOOL AND DISTRIBUTED TO PARENTS AND STUDENTS
17 ENROLLED IN A COURSE THAT INCLUDES DISSECTION AT LEAST ONCE AT THE
18 BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.
19   S 2. This act shall take effect on the first of July next succeeding
20 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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