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

2485

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

January 16, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. PRETLOW -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to funding for programs to assist students transitioning from the English-speaking countries of the Caribbean

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

Section 1. Section 3641 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 15 to read as follows:

15. TRANSITION PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS FROM ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES OF THE CARIBBEAN. A. CITY SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN CITIES HAVING POPULATIONS IN EXCESS OF SIXTY-FIVE THOUSAND INHABITANTS UPON APPLICATION TO THE COMMISSIONER THEREFORE, AND WITHIN AMOUNTS APPROPRIATED FOR SUCH PURPOSE, SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR GRANTS TO FUND PROGRAMS CONDUCTED BY SUCH DISTRICTS WHICH ARE DESIGNED AND INTENDED FOR THE PURPOSE OF AIDING THE CULTURAL AND ACADEMIC TRANSITION OF STUDENTS FROM ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES OF THE CARIBBEAN INTO SCHOOLS IN NEW YORK STATE. SUCH PROGRAMS SHALL PROVIDE SUPPORT AND ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTION TO FACILITATE THE ADJUSTMENT OF SUCH IMMIGRANT STUDENTS WHO DO NOT QUALIFY FOR PROGRAMS FOR LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY.

B. SUCH DISTRICTS SHALL FILE A PLAN WITH THE COMMISSIONER WHICH SHALL DETAIL PROCEDURES FOR IDENTIFYING PUPILS WHO HAVE RECENTLY IMMIGRATED FROM ENGLISH-SPEAKING CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES AND DETAILING SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED FOR SUCH STUDENTS. PREFERENCE SHALL BE GIVEN TO PROGRAMS PROVIDING INSTRUCTION, SUPPORT AND SERVICES TO STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED LIMITED OR INTERRUPTED FORMAL EDUCATION IN THEIR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN.

C. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS GRANT PROGRAM.

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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