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

302

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

(PREFILED)

January 7, 2009

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

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to community service requirements for high school graduation

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 BASED SERVICE LEARNING; COMMUNITY SERVICE REQUIREMENT. 1. BEGINNING WITH THE NINTH GRADE CLASS IN THE TWO THOUSAND TEN--TWO THOUSAND ELEVEN SCHOOL YEAR, AND FOR EVERY CLASS THEREAFTER, EACH STUDENT SHALL COMPLETE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING AS A REQUIREMENT FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION: (A) FORTY HOURS OF STUDENT COMMUNITY SERVICE THAT INCLUDES PREPARATION, ACTION AND REFLECTION COMPONENTS; OR (B) A LOCALLY DESIGNED PROGRAM IN STUDENT COMMUNITY SERVICE THAT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER OR THE COMMISSIONER'S DESIGNEE.

2. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP AND ISSUE GUIDELINES FOR A PROGRAM OF STUDENT COMMUNITY SERVICE UNDER PARAGRAPH (A) OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION.

3. EACH LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION OR GOVERNING BODY SHALL ADOPT EITHER (A) A STUDENT COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE GUIDELINES ISSUED UNDER SUBDIVISION TWO OF THIS SECTION; OR (B) A LOCALLY DESIGNED PROGRAM IN STUDENT COMMUNITY SERVICE THAT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER OR THE COMMISSIONER'S DESIGNEE.

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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