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

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2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

March 11, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. McDONOUGH, RAIA, THIELE, BARCLAY, CONTE, McKEVITT -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. HAWLEY, QUINN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to establishing the World Trade Center tribute act which shall create the SUNY student volunteer service program and the CUNY student volunteer service program

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

Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "World Trade Center tribute act".

S 2. Legislative intent. The legislature hereby declares that the creation of the state university of New York student volunteer service program and the city university of New York student volunteer service program is a fitting tribute to the thousands of citizens across the state who volunteered their time and resources in response to the World Trade Center tragedy. From rescue workers at "Ground Zero" to individuals who worked at soup kitchens, from blood donors to average working men and women across the state who sent cash contributions for victims' families, from school children who wrote poems for survivors to business owners who donated equipment, the events of September eleventh, two thousand one brought out the true spirit of New Yorkers, a spirit of volunteerism and community concern.

The legislature finds that the creation of the state university of New York student volunteer service program and the city university of New York student volunteer service program would raise the awareness of the need for community volunteers and promote community activism on the part of college students. Once students are exposed to the operation of volunteer organizations and the valuable services provided by these groups, students will hopefully continue to perform volunteer service on their own initiative as they finish their collegiate studies and enter the workforce. The state university of New York student volunteer

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

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service program and the city university of New York student volunteer service program would offer tangible benefits to community organizations that regularly are in need of volunteer assistance.

S 3. Section 355 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 20 to read as follows:

20. CREATION OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK STUDENT VOLUNTEER SERVICE PROGRAM. A. THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SHALL ESTABLISH AND DISTRIBUTE, ON OR BEFORE MARCH FIRST, TWO THOUSAND ELEVEN, GUIDELINES FOR THE CREATION OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK STUDENT VOLUNTEER SERVICE PROGRAM TO BE OFFERED TO THE INDIVIDUAL STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK COLLEGES. THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SHALL DISTRIBUTE SUCH GUIDELINES FOR REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION TO THE PRESIDENT OF EACH COLLEGE IN THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK SYSTEM. SUCH GUIDELINES SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS:

(1) COLLEGES ARE ENCOURAGED, BUT NOT REQUIRED, TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM AS AN INDEPENDENT STUDY COURSE.

(2) COLLEGES MAY OFFER THREE CREDIT HOURS, AS AN ELECTIVE COURSE, TO ANY MATRICULATED STUDENT WHO PERFORMS WITH AN APPROVED ORGANIZATION A MINIMUM OF NINETY HOURS OF VOLUNTEER WORK DURING ANY SEMESTER.

(3) A STUDENT SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THREE CREDIT HOURS FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE ONLY ONCE DURING HIS OR HER COLLEGIATE CAREER.

(4) A STUDENT WHO PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM MAY NOT RECEIVE FROM THE COLLEGE OR THE ORGANIZATION HE OR SHE IS VOLUNTEERING WITH, A STIPEND OR OTHER PAY FOR HIS OR HER VOLUNTEER SERVICE WORK.

(5) EACH COLLEGE THAT PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM SHALL REQUIRE THE PAYMENT OF TUITION IN THE SAME MANNER IN WHICH TUITION IS COLLECTED FROM STUDENTS BY SUCH COLLEGE FOR OTHER INDEPENDENT STUDY COURSES.

(6) EACH COLLEGE THAT PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM SHALL APPOINT A FACULTY MEMBER OR OTHER COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL AS CAMPUS COORDINATOR OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK STUDENT VOLUNTEER SERVICE PROGRAM. THE COORDINATOR SHALL SERVE AS THE LIAISON BETWEEN THE COLLEGE AND LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THAT STUDENTS MEET PROGRAM STANDARDS AND FULFILL ALL REQUIREMENTS.

(7) EACH COLLEGE THAT PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM SHALL DETERMINE WHICH LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS ARE ELIGIBLE TO REQUEST STUDENT VOLUNTEERS, BASED ON GENERAL CRITERIA OFFERED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

(8) EACH COLLEGE WISHING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM SHALL SUBMIT A DETAILED PLAN OF ACTION TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL.

B. UPON REQUEST OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, EACH COLLEGE THAT PARTICIPATES IN THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK STUDENT VOLUNTEER SERVICE PROGRAM SHALL PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS FROM SUCH COLLEGE ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM, AND THE ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVING VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE.

C. BEGINNING ON NOVEMBER FIRST, TWO THOUSAND ELEVEN, AND EVERY YEAR THEREAFTER, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR, THE TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY, THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE AND THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE ASSEMBLY ON THE STATUS OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK STUDENT VOLUNTEER SERVICE PROGRAM, SETTING FORTH THE NAMES OF THE INDIVIDUAL COLLEGES THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM AND THE NUMBER OF STUDENT PARTICIPANTS; DESCRIBING PROGRAMS THAT HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED SUCCESSFULLY; AND MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO HOW PARTICIPATION IN THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK STUDENT VOLUNTEER SERVICE PROGRAM CAN BE INCREASED.

S 4. Section 6206 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 17 to read as follows:

17. CREATION OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK STUDENT VOLUNTEER SERVICE PROGRAM. A. THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SHALL ESTABLISH AND DISTRIBUTE, ON OR BEFORE MARCH FIRST, TWO THOUSAND ELEVEN, GUIDELINES FOR THE CREATION OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK STUDENT VOLUNTEER SERVICE PROGRAM TO BE OFFERED TO THE INDIVIDUAL CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK COLLEGES. THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SHALL DISTRIBUTE SUCH GUIDELINES FOR REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION TO THE PRESIDENT OF EACH COLLEGE IN THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK SYSTEM. THE GUIDELINES SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS:

(1) COLLEGES ARE ENCOURAGED, BUT NOT REQUIRED, TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM AS AN INDEPENDENT STUDY COURSE.

(2) COLLEGES MAY OFFER THREE CREDIT HOURS, AS AN ELECTIVE COURSE, TO ANY MATRICULATED STUDENT WHO PERFORMS WITH AN APPROVED ORGANIZATION A MINIMUM OF NINETY HOURS OF VOLUNTEER WORK DURING ANY SEMESTER.

(3) A STUDENT SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THREE CREDIT HOURS FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE ONLY ONCE DURING HIS OR HER COLLEGIATE CAREER.

(4) A STUDENT WHO PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM MAY NOT RECEIVE FROM THE COLLEGE OR ORGANIZATION A STIPEND OR OTHER PAY FOR HIS OR HER VOLUNTEER SERVICE WORK.

(5) EACH COLLEGE THAT PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM SHALL REQUIRE THE PAYMENT OF TUITION IN THE SAME MANNER IN WHICH TUITION IS COLLECTED FROM STUDENTS BY SUCH COLLEGE FOR OTHER INDEPENDENT STUDY COURSES.

(6) EACH COLLEGE THAT PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM SHALL APPOINT A FACULTY MEMBER OR OTHER COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL AS CAMPUS COORDINATOR OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK STUDENT VOLUNTEER SERVICE PROGRAM. THE COORDINATOR SHALL SERVE AS THE LIAISON BETWEEN THE COLLEGE AND THE LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THAT STUDENTS MEET PROGRAM STANDARDS AND FULFILL ALL REQUIREMENTS.

(7) EACH COLLEGE THAT PARTICIPATES IN THE PROGRAM SHALL DETERMINE WHICH LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS ARE ELIGIBLE TO REQUEST STUDENT VOLUNTEERS, BASED ON GENERAL CRITERIA OFFERED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

(8) EACH COLLEGE WISHING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM SHALL SUBMIT A DETAILED PLAN OF ACTION TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL.

B. UPON REQUEST OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, EACH COLLEGE THAT PARTICIPATES IN THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK STUDENT VOLUNTEER SERVICE PROGRAM SHALL PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS FROM SUCH COLLEGE ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM, AND THE ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVING VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE.

C. BEGINNING ON NOVEMBER FIRST, TWO THOUSAND ELEVEN, AND EVERY YEAR THEREAFTER, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR, THE TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY, THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE AND MINORITY LEADER OF THE ASSEMBLY ON THE STATUS OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK STUDENT VOLUNTEER SERVICE PROGRAM, SETTING FORTH THE NAMES OF THE INDIVIDUAL COLLEGES THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM AND THE NUMBER OF STUDENT PARTICIPANTS; DESCRIBING PROGRAMS THAT HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED SUCCESSFULLY; AND MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO HOW PARTICIPATION IN THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK STUDENT VOLUNTEER SERVICE PROGRAM CAN BE INCREASED.

S 5. This act shall take effect immediately.