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I N A S S E M B L Y

February 9, 2010

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

AN ACT to authorize the trustees of the state university of New York and the city university of New York to create a joint advisory board for review of the issues of textbooks' cost, bulk electronic purchasing, open-access textbooks, and utilization of library resources

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

1 Section 1. The trustees of the state university of New York and the  
2 city university of New York are hereby authorized and directed to im-  
3 mediately take all actions to create a joint advisory board, to consist of  
4 twelve members of the full-time faculty of the various institutions of  
5 higher education, whose goals will be to advise on and explore the  
6 issues of textbooks' cost, bulk electronic purchasing, open-access text-  
7 books, and utilization of library resources at all institutions of high-  
8 er education providing a course of study leading to the granting of a  
9 post-secondary degree, certificate or diploma. Such trustees working in  
10 conjunction with the joint advisory board shall establish all necessary  
11 rules and regulations, not later than October 1, 2010, to implement the  
12 provisions of this act which shall include, but not be limited to:

13 1. establishing guidelines for the faculty of the various institutions  
14 of higher education who wish to transition from textbooks to customized  
15 course packages compiled from primary source materials already purchased  
16 by the library systems of the state university of New York and city  
17 university of New York;

18 2. authorizing the joint advisory board to identify a comprehensive  
19 list of textbooks currently in use for academic purposes by the various  
20 institutions of higher education that are available electronically;

21 3. authorizing the joint advisory board to identify a comprehensive  
22 list of electronic textbooks to be used for academic purposes by the  
23 various institutions of higher education that may be purchased utilizing  
24 the universities bulk license purchasing power;

25 4. authorizing the joint advisory board to evaluate the potential for  
26 replacing textbooks currently in use for academic purposes by the vari-

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

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1 ous institutions of higher education with comparable open-access text-  
2 books, which are textbooks that are licensed to allow anyone to use,  
3 download, customize or print their content without express permission  
4 from the author; and

5 5. authorizing the joint advisory board to establish a unit to negoti-  
6 ate bulk purchases of electronic textbook licenses with publishers on  
7 behalf of both the state university of New York and the city university  
8 of New York.

9 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.