

S T A T E   O F   N E W   Y O R K

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I N   A S S E M B L Y

March 16, 2012

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Introduced by M. of A. LATIMER, GABRYSZAK, TENNEY -- Multi-Sponsored by  
-- M. of A. CERETTO, PEOPLES-STOKES -- read once and referred to the  
Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to the pledge of allegiance

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

1     Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 802 of the education law, as  
2     amended by chapter 601 of the laws of 1996, is amended to read as  
3     follows:  
4     1. It shall be the duty of the commissioner to prepare, for the use of  
5     the public schools of the state, a program providing for a salute to the  
6     flag and a daily pledge of allegiance to the flag, and instruction in  
7     its correct use and display which shall include, as a minimum, specific  
8     instruction regarding respect for the flag of the United States of America,  
9     its display and use as provided by federal statute and regulation  
10    and such other patriotic exercises as may be deemed by him to be expedient,  
11    under such regulations and instructions as may best meet the varied  
12    requirements of the different grades in such schools. However, such  
13    instruction shall include, as a minimum, the provisions of sections one  
14    hundred seventy through one hundred seventy-seven of title thirty-six of  
15    the United States Code. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ALSO PREPARE, AS PART OF  
16    SUCH PROGRAM, WHICH MAY BE USED BY SCHOOL AUTHORITIES, AN ANNUAL COURSE  
17    OF STUDY OF THE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN FLAG THAT ENCOURAGES PARTICIPATION  
18    IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BY STUDENTS AND FACULTY AND THAT  
19    INDICATES THAT THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE IS TAKEN IN RECOGNITION OF THE  
20    SACRIFICES THAT HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE ARMED FORCES  
21    OF THE UNITED STATES IN DEFENSE OF OUR COUNTRY.  
22    S 2. This act shall take effect on September 1, 2012; provided that  
23    the commissioner of education is authorized to promulgate any rules  
24    necessary to implement this act on or before its effective date.

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

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