

3289

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N   A S S E M B L Y

January 24, 2011

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Introduced by M. of A. WEISENBERG, J. RIVERA, SCHIMEL, BENEDETTO, SPANO, MILLMAN, MAYERSOHN, P. RIVERA, TITUS, JAFFEE, MAISEL, CASTRO, BARRON, DUPREY, MOLINARO, McDONOUGH -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. ABBATE, AMEDORE, BOYLAND, BURLING, CONTE, CRESPO, CROUCH, FINCH, GIGLIO, HOOPER, JEFFRIES, MARKEY, J. MILLER, MONTESANO, PHEFFER, REILLY, ROBINSON, SALADINO, SAYWARD, SCARBOROUGH, SWEENEY, TEDISCO, THIELE, TOBACCO -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to the administration of exams to students with disabilities

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

1     Section 1. Legislative findings and intent. The legislature finds that  
2     certain students with disabilities are allowed extended testing time  
3     according to their individual education program, or perhaps even accom-  
4     modations provided pursuant to regulations promulgated under section 504  
5     of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The legislature further finds that  
6     these students, as a result of this extended time allowance, are being  
7     subjected to ten or eleven straight hours of testing when they are  
8     required to take two regents exams on the same date.  
9     The legislature acknowledges the department of education's need for  
10    security concerning the substance of the examination. As such, the  
11    legislature understands the department's continuing hesitance to allow  
12    these students with disabilities to take the exams on days other than  
13    which they had been officially scheduled.  
14    However, the benefits of providing these children with respite between  
15    each exam far outweighs the potential of one of these students garnering  
16    information about the exam from another student who had previously taken  
17    the exam. Therefore, it is the intent of this legislature to have the  
18    commissioner of education implement a process whereby students with  
19    certain disabilities are not required to take more than one regents  
20    examination in any given day.

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

LBD01577-01-1

1 S 2. The education law is amended by adding a new section 319 to read  
2 as follows:  
3 S 319. EXAMINATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES. THE COMMISSIONER  
4 SHALL PROMULGATE REGULATIONS ESTABLISHING GUIDELINES WHICH PROVIDE THAT  
5 ANY CHILD WHO HAS EXTENDED TESTING TIME PROVISIONS ON HIS OR HER INDI-  
6 VIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM, OR WHO RECEIVES EXTENDED TESTING TIME  
7 ACCOMMODATIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF  
8 1973, IS PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY TO ONLY TAKE ONE REGENTS EXAMINATION ON  
9 ANY GIVEN DAY.  
10 S 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after  
11 it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amend-  
12 ment, and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the timely  
13 implementation of this act on its effective date is hereby authorized to  
14 be made on or before such effective date.