

4291

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

February 2, 2011

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

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to requiring instruction related to the prevention of suicide as an integral part of health education

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

1 Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 804-e
2 to read as follows:

3 S 804-E. INSTRUCTION RELATED TO THE PREVENTION OF SUICIDE AMONG
4 YOUTHS. 1. ALL SCHOOLS SHALL BE AUTHORIZED TO INCLUDE, AS AN INTEGRAL
5 PART OF HEALTH EDUCATION, INSTRUCTION REGARDING THE PREVENTION OF
6 SUICIDE AMONG YOUTHS.

7 2. INSTRUCTION REGARDING THE PREVENTION OF SUICIDE SHALL BE INCLUDED
8 IN THE HEALTH EDUCATION PROVIDED FOR ALL SECONDARY SCHOOL PUPILS AND
9 SHALL BE TAUGHT BY TEACHERS CERTIFIED IN HEALTH EDUCATION. RELATED
10 COURSES IN THE SECONDARY SCHOOL CURRICULUM MAY BE TAUGHT IN A MANNER
11 SUPPORTIVE OF HEALTH EDUCATION REGARDING THE PREVENTION OF SUICIDE AMONG
12 YOUTHS. SUCH CURRICULUM SHALL INCLUDE INSTRUCTION RELATING TO THE SIGNS
13 AND RESPONSES TO DEPRESSION AND THE RISKS OF SUICIDE AMONG YOUTHS.

14 3. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL PROMULGATE RULES AND REGULATIONS TO ESTAB-
15 LISH A CURRICULUM FOR INSTRUCTION REGARDING THE PREVENTION OF SUICIDE
16 AMONG YOUTHS FOR THE WELFARE OF PUPILS AND THE COMMUNITY TO BE AVAILABLE
17 IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS. THE CONTENTS MAY BE VARIED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF
18 PARTICULAR SCHOOL DISTRICTS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND NEED NOT BE
19 UNIFORM THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

20 4. SCHOOL AUTHORITIES SHALL BE AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE THE NEEDED FACIL-
21 ITIES, TIME, AND PLACE FOR THE INSTRUCTION SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION AND
22 TO PROVIDE LEARNING AIDS AND CURRICULUM RESOURCE MATERIALS WHICH
23 CONTRIBUTE TO EFFECTIVE TEACHING METHODS AND LEARNING IN HEALTH EDUCA-
24 TION REGARDING THE PREVENTION OF SUICIDE AMONG YOUTHS.

25 S 2. This act shall take effect on the first of July next succeeding
26 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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