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

7411

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

May 4, 2011

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

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to voting on contracts with teachers by certain members of the board of education of union free school districts

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

Section 1. The legislature finds that conflicts of interest exist when school board members vote on contracts that favorably affect members of their families. This inherent conflict of interest helps contribute to the high cost of education in areas across New York state. This in turn has resulted in higher property taxes. Such conflicts of interest need to be neutralized through the adoption of legislation prohibiting school board members from voting on contracts that have this effect.

S 2. Subdivision 16 of section 1709 of the education law, as amended by chapter 687 of the laws of 1949, is amended to read as follows:

16. To contract with and employ such persons as by the provisions of this chapter are qualified teachers, to determine the number of teachers to be employed in the several departments of instruction in said school, and at the time of such employment, to make and deliver to each teacher a written contract as required by section three thousand eleven of this chapter, except as otherwise provided by sections three thousand twelve and three thousand thirteen; PROVIDED, THAT NO MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL VOTE ON ANY CONTRACT THAT WOULD AFFECT A PERSON WHO IS RELATED BY BLOOD OR MARRIAGE TO SUCH MEMBER; and employ such persons as may be necessary to supervise, organize, conduct and maintain athletic, playground and social center activities, or for any one or more of such purposes; and to adopt rules and regulations governing the excusing of absences of all teachers and other employees and for the granting of leaves of absence to such employees either with or without pay. The regular teachers of the school may be employed at an increased compen-

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

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sation or otherwise, and by separate agreement, written or oral, for one or more of such purposes.

S 3. This act shall take effect on the thirtieth day after it shall have become a law.