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

9536

I N A S S E M B L Y

March 12, 2012

Introduced by M. of A. O'DONNELL, NOLAN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to requiring course work on discrimination and anti-bias for school professionals applying for a certificate or license

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

Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 14-a to read as follows:

S 14-A. COMMISSIONER'S RESPONSIBILITIES REGARDING PRE-CERTIFICATION OR PRE-LICENSING TRAINING. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL PRESCRIBE REGULATIONS THAT SCHOOL PROFESSIONALS APPLYING ON OR AFTER JULY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND THIRTEEN FOR A CERTIFICATE OR LICENSE, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO A CERTIFICATE OR LICENSE VALID FOR SERVICE AS A CLASSROOM TEACHER, SCHOOL COUNSELOR, SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST, SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER, SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR OR SUPERVISOR OR SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS SHALL, IN ADDITION TO ALL OTHER CERTIFICATION OR LICENSING REQUIREMENTS, HAVE COMPLETED SIX UNDERGRADUATE OR GRADUATE CREDIT HOURS ADDRESSING EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ON DISCRIMINATION AS WELL AS ANTI-BIAS AND EQUITABLE, INCLUSIVE TEACHING AND/OR PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES. THIS COURSEWORK SHALL ADDRESS THE EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND EXPERIENCES OF STUDENTS WHO BELONG TO A SOCIALLY MARGINALIZED IDENTITY CATEGORY, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO A PERSON'S ACTUAL OR PERCEIVED RACE, COLOR, WEIGHT, NATIONAL ORIGIN, ETHNIC GROUP, RELIGION, RELIGIOUS PRACTICE, DISABILITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER, AND SEX; THE COURSEWORK SHALL GIVE EACH SOCIALLY MARGINALIZED IDENTITY CATEGORY PROPORTIONAL COVERAGE. THIS COURSEWORK MUST ALSO ADDRESS CURRENT EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ON THE SOCIAL PATTERNS OF PEER-TO-PEER AGGRESSION TARGETING DIFFERENCE (INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO TARGETING; HARASSMENT; VERBAL, PHYSICAL OR CYBER VIOLENCE; MICROAGGRESSIONS) AND STRATEGIES FOR EFFECTIVELY ADDRESSING PROBLEMS OF EXCLUSION, DISCRIMINATION, BIAS, AND AGGRESSION IN EDUCATIONAL SETTINGS.

S 2. Subdivision 3 of section 3004 of the education law, as added by chapter 181 of the laws of 2000, is amended to read as follows:

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

3. The commissioner shall prescribe regulations requiring that all persons applying on or after February second, two thousand one for a teaching certificate or license, including but not limited to a certificate or license valid for service as a classroom teacher, teaching assistant, pupil personnel service professional, school administrator or supervisor or superintendent of schools, shall, in addition to all the other certification or licensing requirements, have completed two hours of course work or training in school violence prevention and intervention. The course work or training shall be obtained from an institution or provider which has been approved by the department to provide such course work or training. Such regulations shall also require that school districts and boards of cooperative educational services include training for teachers and other certified or licensed employees in school violence prevention and intervention in their required professional development plans. AFTER JULY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND THIRTEEN, THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBDIVISION FOR PERSONS APPLYING FOR A CERTIFICATE OR LICENSE MAY BE MET BY COURSE WORK THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION FOURTEEN-A OF THIS CHAPTER.

S 3. This act shall take effect on July 1, 2013; provided, however, that if chapter 482 of the laws of 2010 shall not have taken effect on or before such date then sections one and two of this act shall take effect on the same date and in the same manner as such chapter of the laws of 2010 takes effect. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective date.