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

7230

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

May 8, 2013

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

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to peace/conflict resolution centers

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

Section 1. Legislative intent. Peace/conflict resolution centers already in operation at Luperon and Heritage High Schools in Washington Heights have demonstrated that mediation of disputes can reduce violence in schools, reduce the number of suspensions, and promote constructive conflict management. Peer mediation develops leadership skills among pupils and enables them to apply those skills immediately in their schools. This legislation requires every school district in the state to maintain a peace/conflict resolution center.

S 2. The education law is amended by adding a new section 1504-a to read as follows:

S 1504-A. PEACE/CONFLICT RESOLUTION CENTERS. 1. ALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS ARE HEREBY REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A PEACE/CONFLICT RESOLUTION CENTER.

2. SUCH PEACE/CONFLICT RESOLUTION CENTERS SHALL:

(A) PROVIDE FOR THE SUPERVISED PEER MEDIATION OF CONFLICTS;

(B) DEVELOP PUPIL LEADERSHIP SKILLS; AND

(C) PROMOTE PEACEFUL ATMOSPHERES IN SCHOOLS AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES.

S 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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