

6671

I N S E N A T E

February 26, 2014

Introduced by Sen. FLANAGAN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to meetings and absences of the board of regents

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

1 Section 1. Section 204 of the education law is amended to read as
2 follows:
3 S 204. Meetings and absences. 1. (A) The regents may provide for regu-
4 lar meetings[, and the chancellor, or the commissioner of education, or
5 any five regents, may at any time call a special meeting of the board of
6 regents and fix the time and place therefor; and at least ten days'
7 notice of every meeting shall be mailed to the usual address of each
8 regent. If any regent shall fail to attend three consecutive meetings,
9 without excuse accepted as satisfactory by the regents, he may be deemed
10 to have resigned and the regents shall then report the vacancy to the
11 legislature, which shall fill it] OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS AND ANY
12 COMMITTEE, TASK FORCE, COUNCIL OR OTHER BODY THEREOF. NOTICE OF TIME,
13 PLACE AND AGENDA FOR ALL REGULAR PUBLIC MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
14 AND ANY COMMITTEE, TASK FORCE, COUNCIL OR OTHER SUCH BODY OF THE BOARD
15 SHALL BE PUBLICLY PROVIDED AT LEAST TEN DAYS IN ADVANCE OF SUCH MEETING.
16 SUCH NOTICE OF TIME, PLACE AND AGENDA SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED VIA THE
17 BOARD'S OFFICIAL INTERNET WEBSITE AND SPECIFICALLY DISTRIBUTED BY UNITED
18 STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO ALL REGENTS AT THEIR USUAL ADDRESSES AND, IF A
19 MEETING OF A COMMITTEE, TASK FORCE, COUNCIL OR OTHER SUCH BODY OF THE
20 BOARD, BY SUCH MEANS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE UNITED STATES
21 POSTAL SERVICE OR ELECTRONIC MEANS, AS DETERMINED BY THE COMMITTEE, TASK
22 FORCE, COUNCIL OR OTHER SUCH BODY. AN AGENDA FOR A REGULAR PUBLIC MEET-
23 ING OF THE BOARD OR ANY COMMITTEE, TASK FORCE, COUNCIL OR OTHER BODY
24 THEREOF, SHALL BE COMPRISED OF A LIST OF ALL ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED, A
25 DESCRIPTION OF THE SUBJECT MATTER OF EACH SUCH ITEM AND THE FULL TEXT OF
26 ALL ITEMS SUBJECT TO A VOTE AND THE NAME OF A PERSON KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT
27 THE AGENDA AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR SUCH PERSON, INCLUDING OFFICE
28 ADDRESS, E-MAIL ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER, FROM WHOM INFORMATION

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

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1 ABOUT THE AGENDA MAY BE OBTAINED AND TO WHOM WRITTEN COMMENTS MAY BE
2 SUBMITTED. THE NOTICE AND AGENDA SHALL BE CONSIDERED A PUBLIC RECORD.

3 (B) THE CHANCELLOR OR THE COMMISSIONER, OR ANY FIVE REGENTS, MAY AT
4 ANY TIME CALL A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS AND FIX THE TIME
5 AND PLACE THEREFOR. NOTICE OF TIME, PLACE AND AGENDA FOR ALL REGULAR
6 PUBLIC MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS AND ANY COMMITTEE, TASK FORCE,
7 COUNCIL OR OTHER SUCH BODY OF THE BOARD SHALL BE PUBLICLY PROVIDED AT
8 LEAST THREE DAYS IN ADVANCE OF SUCH MEETING. SUCH NOTICE OF TIME, PLACE
9 AND AGENDA SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED VIA THE BOARD'S OFFICIAL INTERNET
10 WEBSITE AND SPECIFICALLY CIRCULATED ACCORDING TO THE RULES AND REGU-
11 LATIONS OF THE REGENTS TO ALL REGENTS. THE BOARD OF REGENTS SPECIAL
12 PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA SHALL BE COMPRISED OF A LIST OF ALL ITEMS TO BE
13 CONSIDERED, A DESCRIPTION OF THE SUBJECT MATTER OF EACH SUCH ITEM AND
14 THE FULL TEXT OF ALL ITEMS SUBJECT TO A VOTE AND THE NAME OF A PERSON
15 KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THE AGENDA AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR SUCH PERSON,
16 INCLUDING OFFICE ADDRESS, E-MAIL ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER, FROM
17 WHOM INFORMATION ABOUT THE AGENDA MAY BE OBTAINED AND TO WHOM WRITTEN
18 COMMENTS MAY BE SUBMITTED. THE NOTICE AND AGENDA SHALL BE CONSIDERED A
19 PUBLIC RECORD.

20 2. ANY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS AND ANY COMMITTEE, TASK FORCE,
21 COUNCIL OR OTHER SUCH BODY SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE
22 SEVEN OF THE PUBLIC OFFICERS LAW.

23 3. A SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND OTHER ACTIONS BY THE BOARD
24 OF REGENTS AND ANY COMMITTEE, TASK FORCE, COUNCIL OR OTHER BODY THEREOF
25 FOR ANY MEETING SHALL BE ELECTRONICALLY AVAILABLE ON THE BOARD OF
26 REGENTS WEBSITE NO LATER THAN FIVE DAYS FOLLOWING SUCH MEETING AND SHALL
27 BE CONSIDERED A PUBLIC RECORD. THE APPROVED MINUTES, ATTENDANCE, VOTING
28 RECORD AND EITHER TRANSCRIPTS OR VIDEO RECORD FOR ANY MEETING MUST BE
29 POSTED NO LATER THAN FIVE DAYS FOLLOWING THE APPROVAL BY THE BOARD,
30 COMMITTEE, TASK FORCE, COUNCIL OR OTHER SUCH BODY. INFORMATION POSTED ON
31 THE BOARD OF REGENTS WEBSITE SHALL REMAIN ON THE SITE AS ARCHIVED DATA
32 FOR A MINIMUM OF TEN YEARS.

33 4. IF ANY REGENT SHALL FAIL TO ATTEND THREE CONSECUTIVE MEETINGS,
34 WITHOUT EXCUSE ACCEPTED AS SATISFACTORY BY THE REGENTS, THAT REGENT MAY
35 BE DEEMED TO HAVE RESIGNED AND THE REGENTS SHALL THEN REPORT THE VACANCY
36 TO THE LEGISLATURE WHICH SHALL FILL IT.

37 S 2. This act shall take effect on the first of July next succeeding
38 the date on which it shall have become a law.