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

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I N S E N A T E

March 25, 2014

Introduced by Sens. RITCHIE, BALL, BONACIC, DeFRANCISCO, FARLEY, GALLIVAN, GRIFFO, GRISANTI, LARKIN, LAVALLE, LIBOUS, LITTLE, MARCHIONE, MAZIARZ, NOZZOLIO, O'MARA, RANZENHOFER, ROBACH, SEWARD, VALESKY, YOUNG -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to establishing a young farmer apprentice program

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

Section 1. Paragraph gg of subdivision 4 of section 1950 of the education law, as amended by chapter 301 of the laws of 1996, is amended to read as follows:

gg. (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a board of cooperative educational services may provide training for employment to adults on a space available basis, with consideration given to occupations and industries in demand, and establish reduced adult tuition rates for such training. For the purposes of this section, training for employment for adults shall be offered through state approved sequences or parts thereof of secondary career education instruction. Adults may participate in such instruction and be awarded certificates of completion, but they may not earn credit based on their participation towards a high school diploma. Pursuant to section forty-six hundred two of this chapter, a board of cooperative educational services may establish such reduced rates for participation of adults provided that participation is limited to assigned instructional staff and currently used facilities in scheduled secondary career education programs, and provided further that such rates may not be less than fifty percent of the tuition rates charged to school districts for the participation of secondary students in the same programs, unless waived by the commissioner based on application of the board of cooperative educational services. This participation of adults at reduced tuition rates shall be in accordance with terms agreed upon by the board of cooperative educational services and the component school districts receiving such services but in no case shall such rates result in extraordinary costs assigned to such component school

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

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districts. Boards of cooperative educational services which provide such training to adults shall submit to the commissioner annually a report which shall include but not be limited to the number of adults served, referral source, training sequences or parts thereof taken by adult participants, the tuition rates charged to them, and the gross revenues realized therefrom. For the purpose of this paragraph, "adult" shall mean any person under the age of twenty-one who has received a high school diploma or any person twenty-one years of age or older, whether or not they have received a high school diploma.

(2) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, TO SUPERVISE, ENCOURAGE AND PROMOTE A YOUNG FARMER APPRENTICE PROGRAM WITHIN NEW YORK STATE AND TO ESTABLISH SUGGESTED STANDARDS FOR APPRENTICESHIP AGREEMENTS BETWEEN PROSPECTIVE YOUNG FARMERS AND NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISES.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.