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

7189

I N S E N A T E

May 2, 2014

Introduced by Sen. RITCHIE -- 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 consolidation with city school districts

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

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 1524 of the education law, as amended by chapter 461 of the laws of 1996, is amended to read as follows:

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter or any other general, special, or local law to the contrary, whenever the qualified voters of a school district which is contiguous to the city school district OR IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT of a city with less than one hundred twenty-five thousand inhabitants, according to the latest federal census, by a majority vote taken at an annual or special meeting of such district shall adopt a proposition to consolidate such school district with such city school district, and the board of education of such city school district shall by resolution duly adopted consent thereto, the commissioner [of education] may by order consolidate such school district with such city school district; provided, however, that where several school districts are contiguous to each other and at least one of such school districts is contiguous to such city school district OR IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO SUCH CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT, such vote may be taken in each of such school districts at the same time, and if the proposition to consolidate is adopted by a majority vote in each such district, including any votes cast by absentee ballot as provided under section two thousand eighteen-a or two thousand eighteen-b of this chapter, whichever shall apply, and upon the consent of the city school district board of education, the commissioner [of education] may include each such district in one order of consolidation; provided, further, however, that if the proposition to consolidate is not adopted by a majority vote in each such district, but is so adopted in one or more of such districts, upon the consent of the city school district board of education, the commissioner may include in one order of consolidation

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

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only such district or districts as, either singly or as a group, are contiguous to such city school district OR IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO SUCH CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT. Such order shall specify a date on which the same shall take effect, and shall have the same effect as an order made by a district superintendent dissolving two or more common school districts and forming a new district therefrom, or dissolving one or more common school districts and uniting the territory thereof to a union free school district under the provisions of article thirty-one of this chapter. A copy of such order shall be filed with the clerk of each school district affected thereby.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.