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I N   S E N A T E

June 3, 2014

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Introduced by Sens. FELDER, ESPAILLAT -- 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 admission to a special  
high school in the city school district of the city of New York; and  
providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

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

1     Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 1 of section 2590-h of the  
2     education law, as amended by chapter 345 of the laws of 2009, is amended  
3     to read as follows:  
4     (b) all specialized [senior] high schools. The special high schools  
5     shall include the present schools known as:  
6     The Bronx High School of Science, Stuyvesant High School, Brooklyn  
7     Technical High School, Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music and  
8     the Arts in the borough of Manhattan, BROOKLYN LATIN SCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL  
9     FOR MATH, SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING AT CITY COLLEGE, HIGH SCHOOL OF AMERI-  
10    CAN STUDIES AT LEHMAN COLLEGE, QUEENS HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE SCIENCES AT  
11    YORK COLLEGE, AND STATEN ISLAND TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL, and such  
12    [further] ADDITIONAL schools which the city board may designate from  
13    time to time. THE CITY BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS  
14    FOR ADMISSION TO THE SPECIAL HIGH SCHOOLS OF THE CITY DISTRICT, WHICH  
15    SHALL CONSIST OF MULTIPLE MEASURES OF STUDENT MERIT INCLUDING THE GRADE  
16    POINT AVERAGES OF APPLICANTS, SCHOOL ATTENDANCE RECORDS, SCHOOL ADMIS-  
17    SION TEST SCORES, AND STATE TEST SCORES; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT  
18    APPROVED SCHOOL ABSENCES SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED AS A MEASURE OF STUDENT  
19    MERIT FOR ATTENDANCE PURPOSES. THE CITY BOARD OR CHANCELLOR SHALL  
20    PROVIDE WRITTEN EXPLANATION OF THE WEIGHTINGS SELECTED, AND MAKE SUCH  
21    EXPLANATION PUBLICLY AVAILABLE, INCLUDING VIA THE CITY BOARD'S OFFICIAL  
22    INTERNET WEBSITE. THE CHANCELLOR SHALL ENSURE THAT NOTICE OF SUCH  
23    SPECIAL HIGH SCHOOLS' ENTRANCE EXAMINATION IS WIDELY AND CONSPICUOUSLY  
24    POSTED IN A MANNER TO MAXIMIZE THE NUMBER OF AFFECTED INDIVIDUALS THAT  
25    RECEIVE NOTICE, INCLUDING PROVIDING NOTICE TO AFFECTED PARENTS AND  
26    STUDENTS. The special schools shall be [permitted] REQUIRED to maintain  
27    a discovery program [in accordance with the law in effect on the date  
28    preceding the effective date of this section; admissions to the special  
29    schools shall be conducted in accordance with the law in effect on the  
30    date preceding the effective date of this section;]. THE PRINCIPAL OF A

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

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1 SPECIAL HIGH SCHOOL MAY ADMIT A STUDENT WHO HAS SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED  
2 SUCH A PROGRAM AT HIS OR HER SCHOOL, SUBJECT TO REGULATIONS OF THE CITY  
3 BOARD.

4 S 2. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 1 of section 2590-h of the education  
5 law, as amended by chapter 720 of the laws of 1996, is amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 (b) all specialized [senior] high schools. The special high schools  
8 shall include the present schools known as:

9 The Bronx High School of Science, Stuyvesant High School, Brooklyn  
10 Technical High School, Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music and  
11 the Arts in the borough of Manhattan, BROOKLYN LATIN SCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL  
12 FOR MATH, SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING AT CITY COLLEGE, HIGH SCHOOL OF AMERI-  
13 CAN STUDIES AT LEHMAN COLLEGE, QUEENS HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE SCIENCES AT  
14 YORK COLLEGE, AND STATEN ISLAND TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL, and such  
15 [further] ADDITIONAL schools which the city board may designate from  
16 time to time. THE CITY BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS  
17 FOR ADMISSION TO THE SPECIAL HIGH SCHOOLS OF THE CITY DISTRICT, WHICH  
18 SHALL CONSIST OF MULTIPLE MEASURES OF STUDENT MERIT INCLUDING THE GRADE  
19 POINT AVERAGES OF APPLICANTS, SCHOOL ATTENDANCE RECORDS, SCHOOL ADMIS-  
20 SION TEST SCORES, AND STATE TEST SCORES; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT  
21 APPROVED SCHOOL ABSENCES SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED AS A MEASURE OF STUDENT  
22 MERIT FOR ATTENDANCE PURPOSES. THE CITY BOARD OR CHANCELLOR SHALL  
23 PROVIDE WRITTEN EXPLANATION OF THE WEIGHTINGS SELECTED, AND MAKE SUCH  
24 EXPLANATION PUBLICLY AVAILABLE, INCLUDING VIA THE CITY BOARD'S OFFICIAL  
25 INTERNET WEBSITE. THE CHANCELLOR SHALL ENSURE THAT NOTICE OF SUCH  
26 SPECIAL HIGH SCHOOLS' ENTRANCE EXAMINATION IS WIDELY AND CONSPICUOUSLY  
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28 RECEIVE NOTICE, INCLUDING PROVIDING NOTICE TO AFFECTED PARENTS AND  
29 STUDENTS. The special schools shall be [permitted] REQUIRED to maintain  
30 a discovery program [in accordance with the law in effect on the date  
31 preceding the effective date of this section; admissions to the special  
32 schools shall be conducted in accordance with the law in effect on the  
33 date preceding the effective date of this section]. THE PRINCIPAL OF A  
34 SPECIAL HIGH SCHOOL MAY ADMIT A STUDENT WHO HAS SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED  
35 SUCH A PROGRAM AT HIS OR HER SCHOOL, SUBJECT TO REGULATIONS OF THE CITY  
36 BOARD;

37 S 3. This act shall take effect on the first of July next succeeding  
38 the date on which it shall have become a law, and shall expire and be  
39 deemed repealed 5 years after such effective date; provided that the  
40 amendments to paragraph (b) of subdivision 1 of section 2590-h of the  
41 education law, made by sections one and two of this act, shall apply to  
42 the Stuyvesant high school, the Bronx high school of science, the Brook-  
43 lyn technical high school, the Staten Island technical high school, the  
44 Queens high school for the sciences at York college, the high school for  
45 mathematics, science and engineering at city college, the high school  
46 for American studies at Lehman college, the Brooklyn Latin school, and  
47 all additional schools that the board of education of the city school  
48 district of the city of New York designates as special high schools, not  
49 including the Fiorello H. LaGuardia high school of music and the arts;  
50 provided, further, that the amendments to paragraph (b) of subdivision 1  
51 of section 2590-h of the education law made by section one of this act  
52 shall be subject to the expiration and reversion of such section pursu-  
53 ant to subdivision 12 of section 17 of chapter 345 of the laws of 2009,  
54 as amended, when upon such date the provisions of section two of this  
55 act shall take effect.