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

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I N A S S E M B L Y

February 29, 2016

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

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to the educational requirements for occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants

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

Section 1. Subdivision 2 of section 7904 of the education law, as amended by chapter 460 of the laws of 2011, is amended to read as follows:

(2) Have satisfactorily completed an approved occupational therapy curriculum in AT LEAST a baccalaureate or masters program, or [a certificate program satisfactory to] ITS EQUIVALENT, AS DETERMINED BY the department [which is substantially equivalent to a baccalaureate degree program,] in accordance with the commissioner's regulations.

S 2. Subdivision (b) of section 7904-a of the education law, as added by chapter 470 of the laws of 2015, is amended to read as follows:

(b) have received an education as follows: completion of AT LEAST a two-year associate degree program for occupational therapy assistants registered by the department or accredited by a national accreditation agency which is satisfactory to the department, OR ITS EQUIVALENT, AS DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COMMISSIONER'S REGULATIONS;

S 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after it shall have become a law; provided, however, that if chapter 470 of the laws of 2015 shall not have taken effect on or before such effective date, then section two of this act shall take effect on the same date and in the same manner as chapter 470 of the laws of 2015 takes effect.

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

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