2962

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 30, 2015

Introduced by Sen. FUNKE -- 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 instruction on the history of people with disabilities

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

Section 1. Legislative findings. The legislature has determined that it is necessary and appropriate to take steps to encourage greater knowledge and to decrease bullying in our schools.

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In this regard, many states have already enacted school-based programs to improve the understanding and acceptance of children with disabilities. The legislature now finds and declares that the New York Board of Regents should make available to students, teachers and administrators in public and private schools resources that will encourage greater understanding and acceptance of children with disabilities as defined in section forty-four hundred one of the education law.

- S 2. Subdivision 5 of section 801 of the education law, as added by chapter 265 of the laws of 2000, is amended to read as follows:
- 5. The regents shall make available to all elementary AND SECONDARY schools in the state [suitable curriculum materials to] EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS TO BE DISTRIBUTED EITHER BY MAIL OR ELECTRONICALLY WHICH aid in the instruction of pupils in grades kindergarten through [six] TWELVE in the understanding and acceptance of children with disabilities as defined in section forty-four hundred one of this chapter. THE REGENTS MAY CONSULT WITH DISABILITY PROVIDERS, THE MUSEUM OF DISABILITY, EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OR OTHERS AS THEY MAY SEE FIT.
- 21 S 3. This act shall take effect on the first of July next succeeding 22 the date on which it shall have become a law, and shall apply to all 23 school years which commence on or after its effective date.

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

LBD06348-01-5