

6593

I N   S E N A T E

January 29, 2016

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Introduced by Sen. SANDERS -- 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 requiring police departments and the department of education to provide the public with information regarding school violence

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

1     Section 1. Legislative findings. The legislature hereby finds and  
2 declares that in order to combat violence in our schools, residents of  
3 the state must have accurate information on the number and types of  
4 incidents occurring and where these incidents are taking place. This  
5 information must be made public so that parents are aware of the safety  
6 conditions within which their children learn and so that our civic lead-  
7 ers can institute meaningful reform.

8     To help parents and the public understand and fully assess the problem  
9 of school crime and other serious disruptive incidents, the department  
10 of education must continue to enhance and improve upon the information  
11 on school safety data that is provided on the internet. By receiving  
12 this information, the public will be in a better position to analyze and  
13 comment upon any inconsistencies and to weigh in on proposed policy  
14 amendments.

15     S 2. The education law is amended by adding a new section 2803 to read  
16 as follows:

17     S 2803. DEPARTMENT AND POLICE DEPARTMENT SCHOOL INCIDENT REPORTING  
18 REQUIREMENTS. 1. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MAKE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC,  
19 PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION FOUR OF THIS SECTION, REPORTS THAT REFLECT THE  
20 ENVIRONMENT OF CRIMINAL AND SERIOUSLY DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR IN SCHOOLS  
21 OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

22     2. SUCH REPORTS SHALL INCLUDE AN ANNUAL REPORTING, ON A STATE-WIDE  
23 BASIS AS WELL AS FOR EACH SCHOOL OR GROUP OF SCHOOLS OPERATED BY THE  
24 DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION REPORTED BY LOCAL POLICE DEPARTMENTS TO THE  
25 DEPARTMENT ON THE FOLLOWING: THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF MAJOR FELONY CRIME,  
26 DISAGGREGATED BY FELONY CATEGORY; THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF OTHER CRIME,

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

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1 DISAGGREGATED BY CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS AND CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY; AND  
2 THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF NON-CRIMINAL INCIDENTS.

3 3. SUCH REPORTS SHALL ALSO INCLUDE AN ANNUAL REPORTING, ON A  
4 STATE-WIDE BASIS AS WELL AS FOR EACH SCHOOL OR GROUP OF SCHOOLS OPERATED  
5 BY THE DEPARTMENT, OF INCIDENTS DESIGNATED BY THE COMMISSIONER AS SERI-  
6 OUSLY DISRUPTIVE, DANGEROUS OR VIOLENT BEHAVIOR IN SCHOOLS OPERATED BY  
7 THE DEPARTMENT, AS REPORTED PURSUANT TO SECTION TWENTY-EIGHT HUNDRED TWO  
8 OF THIS ARTICLE, OR A SUCCESSOR REPORTING SYSTEM. THE COMMISSIONER, IN  
9 CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL POLICE DEPARTMENTS, SHALL DEVELOP GUIDELINES TO  
10 AVOID DUPLICATIVE REPORTING.

11 4. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MAKE SUCH REPORTS AVAILABLE ON ITS WEB SITE  
12 AND SHALL INCLUDE SUCH INFORMATION IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT CARDS  
13 OR BOARD OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES REPORT CARDS REQUIRED BY  
14 THIS CHAPTER. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ALSO MAKE SUCH REPORTS AVAILABLE IN  
15 PAPER FORM AT ALL SCHOOLS AND ALL DISTRICT AND REGIONAL OFFICES, AND  
16 SHALL PROVIDE COPIES TO THE PUBLIC UPON REQUEST. SUCH ANNUAL REPORTS  
17 SHALL BE AVAILABLE BY OCTOBER FIRST, AND SHALL INCLUDE DATA FROM THE  
18 PREVIOUS SCHOOL YEAR (SEPTEMBER FIRST THROUGH JUNE THIRTIETH) OF INFOR-  
19 MATION REPORTED BY LOCAL POLICE DEPARTMENTS TO THE DEPARTMENT AND, AS  
20 SOON AS PRACTICABLE, BUT NO LATER THAN ONE YEAR AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE  
21 OF THIS SECTION, SHALL ALSO INCLUDE THE REPORTS GENERATED BY THE DEPART-  
22 MENT DESCRIBED IN SUBDIVISION THREE OF THIS SECTION.

23 S 3. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall  
24 have become a law; provided however, that effective immediately, the  
25 addition, amendment, or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for  
26 the implementation of this act shall be made and completed on or before  
27 such effective date.