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

6829

I N S E N A T E

February 25, 2016

Introduced by Sen. ORTT -- 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 fire drills and lock-down and shelter in place drills

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

Section 1. The section heading of section 807 of the education law, as amended by chapter 765 of the laws of 1964, is amended to read as follows:

Fire, SHELTER IN PLACE AND LOCKDOWN drills.

S 2. Subdivision 1 of section 807 of the education law, as amended by chapter 143 of the laws of 1985, is amended and a new subdivision 1-b is added to read as follows:

1. It shall be the duty of the principal or other person in charge of every public or private school or educational institution within the state, other than colleges or universities, to instruct and train the pupils by means of drills, so that they may in a sudden emergency be able to leave the school building in the shortest possible time and without confusion or panic. Such drills or rapid dismissals shall be held at least [twelve] EIGHT times in each school year, [eight] SIX of which required drills shall be held between September first and December first of each such year. At least one-third of all such required drills shall be through use of the fire escapes on buildings where fire escapes are provided. In the course of at least one such drill, pupils shall be instructed in the procedure to be followed in the event that a fire occurs during lunch period, provided however, that such additional instruction may be waived where a drill is held during the regular school lunch period. At least [four] TWO additional drills shall be held in each school year during the hours after sunset and before sunrise in school buildings in which students are provided with sleeping accommodations. At least two additional drills shall be held during summer school in buildings where summer school is conducted, and one of such drills shall be held during the first week of summer school.

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

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1-B. IT SHALL BE THE DUTY OF THE PRINCIPAL OR OTHER PERSON IN CHARGE OF EVERY PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SCHOOL OR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION WITHIN THE STATE, OTHER THAN COLLEGES OR UNIVERSITIES, TO INSTRUCT AND TRAIN PUPILS BY MEANS OF DRILLS, SO THAT THEY MAY KNOW THE APPROPRIATE ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN IN AN EMERGENCY REQUIRING THEM TO REMAIN INSIDE OF A SCHOOL BUILDING. SUCH LOCKDOWN DRILLS SHALL BE HELD AT LEAST TWO TIMES IN EACH SCHOOL YEAR, ONE DRILL SHALL BE HELD BETWEEN SEPTEMBER FIRST AND DECEMBER FIRST OF EACH SUCH SCHOOL YEAR, AND AT LEAST ONE SUCH ADDITIONAL DRILL SHALL BE HELD DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF SUMMER SCHOOL. SUCH SHELTER IN PLACE DRILLS SHALL BE HELD AT LEAST TWO TIMES IN EACH SCHOOL YEAR, ONE SUCH DRILL SHALL BE HELD BETWEEN SEPTEMBER FIRST AND DECEMBER FIRST OF EACH SUCH SCHOOL YEAR AND AT LEAST ONE SUCH ADDITIONAL DRILL SHALL BE HELD DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF SUMMER SCHOOL.

S 3. This act shall take effect on the first of July next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law.