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

May 6, 2016

Introduced by M. of A. RA, DUPREY, MURRAY, McDONOUGH, GRAF -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to the New York state career development and occupational studies commencement credential

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

Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 4401-b to read as follows:

S 4401-B. HIGH SCHOOL EXITING CREDENTIALS. 1. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OF LAW, RULE OR REGULATION TO THE CONTRARY, THE NEW YORK STATE CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND OCCUPATIONAL STUDIES COMMENCEMENT CREDENTIAL SHALL BE CONSIDERED A DIPLOMA AND BE RENAMED AS SUCH AND SHALL BE ISSUED AT THE SAME TIME THE STUDENT RECEIVES HIS OR HER LOCAL OR REGENTS DIPLOMA OR ANY TIME AFTER SUCH STUDENT HAS ATTENDED SCHOOL FOR AT LEAST TWELVE YEARS, EXCLUDING KINDERGARTEN, OR HAS RECEIVED A SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT EDUCATION ELSEWHERE, OR AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR IN WHICH A STUDENT ATTAINS THE AGE OF TWENTY-ONE.

2. A SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT AWARDS THE NEW YORK STATE CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND OCCUPATIONAL STUDIES COMMENCEMENT DIPLOMA TO MORE THAN TWENTY PERCENT OF THE STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN THE COHORT, WHERE SUCH DIPLOMA IS NOT A SUPPLEMENT TO A LOCAL OR REGENTS DIPLOMA, SHALL BE REQUIRED TO USE A PORTION OF ITS PART B INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT GRANT FUNDS FOR TARGETED ACTIVITIES AS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE DEPARTMENT TO ENSURE THAT STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES HAVE APPROPRIATE ACCESS TO PARTICIPATE AND PROGRESS IN THE GENERAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM NECESSARY TO EARN A LOCAL OR REGENTS DIPLOMA.

3. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL PROMULGATE RULES AND REGULATIONS ENSURING THAT ALL STUDENTS ARE PROVIDED WITH THE APPROPRIATE ACCESS TO EARN A LOCAL OR REGENTS DIPLOMA, INCLUDING PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH MEANINGFUL ACCESS TO PARTICIPATE AND PROGRESS IN THE GENERAL CURRICULUM TO ASSIST IN MEETING THE STATE'S LEARNING STANDARDS.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately, and shall be deemed to have been in full force and effect on and after July 1, 2012.

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

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