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

10537

I N A S S E M B L Y

May 31, 2016

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

AN ACT relating to converting priority schools into community schools; to repeal section 211-f of the education law, relating to takeover and restructuring failing schools; and making an appropriation therefor

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

Section 1. Section 211-f of the education law is REPEALED.

S 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, all schools identified by the commissioner of education of the state of New York as a priority school shall be converted into a community school to provide expanded health, mental health, and other services to the students and their families pursuant to a plan approved by the commissioner of education based on a comprehensive school and community needs assessment. Furthermore, a community school shall mean a school that partners with one or more agencies with an integrated focus on rigorous academics and the fostering of a positive and supportive learning environment, and a range of school-based and school-linked programs and services that lead to improved student learning, stronger families, and healthier communities. School districts shall convert priority schools into community schools pursuant to this act during the 2016-2017 school year.

S 3. The sum of seventy-five million dollars ($75,000,000), is hereby appropriated to the state education department out of any monies in the state treasury in the general fund to the credit of the state purposes account not otherwise appropriated. Such monies shall be payable on the audit and warrant of the comptroller on vouchers certified or approved by the state education department to fund grants to school districts which are converting schools to community schools pursuant to section two of this act for the purpose of funding the costs of such conversion and the operating costs associated with a community school. Such funds appropriated herein shall be used to pay grants to qualifying school districts in the 2016-2017 school year.

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

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S 4. The sum of one hundred million dollars ($100,000,000), is hereby appropriated to the state education department out of any monies in the state treasury in the general fund to the credit of the state purposes account not otherwise appropriated. Such monies shall be payable on the audit and warrant of the comptroller on vouchers certified or approved by the state education department to fund grants to school districts which are converting schools to community schools pursuant to section two of this act for the purpose of funding the costs of such conversion and the operating costs associated with a community school. Such funds appropriated herein shall be used to pay grants to qualifying school districts in the 2017-2018 school year.

S 5. This act shall take effect immediately.