

6784

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N   A S S E M B L Y

April 2, 2015

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

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to requiring each school district in the state to have and maintain a school library in each elementary and secondary school in the district and to employ a certified school library media specialist for such school library

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

1     Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 411 to  
2     read as follows:

3     S 411. SCHOOL LIBRARIES. 1. EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE STATE SHALL  
4     HAVE AND MAINTAIN A SCHOOL LIBRARY IN EACH ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY  
5     SCHOOL IN THE DISTRICT, AND SHALL EMPLOY A CERTIFIED SCHOOL LIBRARY  
6     MEDIA SPECIALIST FOR SUCH SCHOOL LIBRARY WITHIN THREE YEARS OF THE  
7     EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION.

8     2. EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALISTS SHALL BE  
9     IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING STANDARDS:

10    (A) IN EACH ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL WITH AN ENROLLMENT OF NOT  
11    MORE THAN FIVE HUNDRED PUPILS, A CERTIFIED SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIAL-  
12    IST SHALL BE EMPLOYED AS ONE-HALF OF A FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT STAFF  
13    MEMBER;

14    (B) IN EACH ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL WITH AN ENROLLMENT OF MORE  
15    THAN FIVE HUNDRED BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE THOUSAND, A CERTIFIED SCHOOL  
16    LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALIST SHALL BE EMPLOYED AS A FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT  
17    STAFF MEMBER;

18    (C) IN EACH ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL WITH AN ENROLLMENT OF MORE  
19    THAN TWO THOUSAND PUPILS, TWO CERTIFIED SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALISTS  
20    SHALL EACH BE EMPLOYED AS A FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT STAFF MEMBER; AND

21    (D) AN ADDITIONAL CERTIFIED SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALIST SHALL BE  
22    EMPLOYED AS A FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT STAFF MEMBER FOR EACH ADDITIONAL ONE  
23    THOUSAND PUPILS ENROLLED IN AN ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL.

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

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1 3. IN EACH ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL WITH AN ENROLLMENT OF AT  
2 LEAST ONE THOUSAND PUPILS, A FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT STAFF MEMBER SHALL BE  
3 EMPLOYED AS A LIBRARY CLERK. AN ADDITIONAL FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT STAFF  
4 MEMBER SHALL BE EMPLOYED AS A LIBRARY CLERK FOR EACH ADDITIONAL ONE  
5 THOUSAND PUPILS ENROLLED IN AN ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL.

6 4. THE COMMISSIONER MAY, UPON APPLICATION BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT, WAIVE  
7 THE APPLICABILITY OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION FOR UP TO ONE YEAR,  
8 IF SUCH APPLICATION DEMONSTRATES THE ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL IS  
9 WITHIN A DESIGNATED SHORTAGE AREA FOR CERTIFIED SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA  
10 SPECIALISTS, AND SUCH APPLICATION DEMONSTRATES THAT AN ACTUAL OFFER OF  
11 EMPLOYMENT WAS MADE TO A CERTIFIED SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALIST;  
12 HOWEVER, NO MORE THAN ONE WAIVER MAY BE GRANTED WITHIN A FIVE YEAR PERI-  
13 OD.

14 S 2. This act shall take effect on the first of July next succeeding  
15 the date upon which it shall have become law.