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I N   A S S E M B L Y

February 29, 2016

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

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to establishing the St.  
Patrick's Day school holiday

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

1     Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 3204-a  
2     to read as follows:

3     S 3204-A. ST. PATRICK'S DAY SCHOOL HOLIDAY. 1. THE 17TH DAY OF MARCH,  
4     COMMONLY KNOWN AS ST. PATRICK'S DAY, SHALL BE A SCHOOL HOLIDAY FOR ALL  
5     PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN A QUALIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT.

6     2. A QUALIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, SHALL  
7     INCLUDE A CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF A CITY HAVING A POPULATION OF ONE  
8     MILLION OR MORE INHABITANTS AND HAVING AN IRISH-AMERICAN POPULATION  
9     EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN SEVEN AND ONE-HALF PERCENT THEREOF. THE IRISH-  
10    AMERICAN POPULATION, FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, SHALL INCLUDE THOSE  
11    PERSONS, ADULTS AND CHILDREN, WHO ARE FULLY OR PARTIALLY OF IRISH  
12    DESCENT AND SHALL INCLUDE ALL THOSE PERSONS AND ETHNIC GROUPS IDENTIFIED  
13    AS IRISH-AMERICAN BY THE UNITED STATES CENSUS BUREAU FOR PURPOSES OF THE  
14    YEAR TWO THOUSAND TEN FEDERAL DECENNIAL CENSUS.

15    3. THE SCHOOL AUTHORITIES OF EVERY QUALIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT ARE HERE-  
16    BY AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED TO CAUSE ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS WITHIN SUCH  
17    DISTRICT TO BE CLOSED ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

18    S 2. Section 3604 of the education law is amended by adding a new  
19    subdivision 7-c to read as follows:

20    7-C. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, FOR PURPOSES OF ANY  
21    CALCULATION UNDER SUBDIVISION SEVEN OR EIGHT OF THIS SECTION, THE  
22    COMMISSIONER SHALL DISREGARD ANY REDUCTION RESULTING FROM OBSERVANCE OF  
23    ST. PATRICK'S DAY AND, IF NECESSARY, SUCH OBSERVED HOLIDAY SHALL BE  
24    CALCULATED AS A SESSION DAY.

25    S 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after  
26    it shall have become a law; provided that any and all rules and regu-  
27    lations and any other measures necessary to implement any provision of  
28    this act on its effective date may be promulgated and taken, respective-  
29    ly, on or before such effective date.

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

LBD14090-01-6