

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

(PREFILED)

January 7, 2015

Introduced by Sen. LAVALLE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to the terms of office of the regents of the University of the State of New York

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

1 Section 1. Subdivisions 1 and 2 of section 202 of the education law,  
2 subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 547 of the laws of 1993, subdivision  
3 2 as amended by chapter 296 of the laws of 1984 and as designated by  
4 chapter 892 of the laws of 1985, are amended to read as follows:  
5 1. The University of the State of New York shall be governed and all  
6 its corporate powers exercised by a board of regents the number of whose  
7 members shall at all times be four more than the number of the then  
8 existing judicial districts of the state and shall not be less than  
9 fifteen. [The regents in office April first, nineteen hundred seventy-  
10 four shall hold office, in the order of their election, for such times  
11 that the term of one such regent will expire in each year on the first  
12 day of April. Commencing April first, nineteen hundred seventy-four,  
13 each regent shall be elected for a term of seven years, each such term  
14 to expire on the first day of April.] Commencing on April first, nine-  
15 teen hundred ninety-four, each regent shall be elected for a term of  
16 five years, each such term to expire on the first day of April. REGENTS  
17 IN OFFICE MARCH THIRTY-FIRST, TWO THOUSAND FIFTEEN SHALL HOLD OFFICE  
18 UNTIL JUNE THIRTIETH OF THE YEAR IN WHICH SUCH REGENTS' TERM SHALL  
19 EXPIRE. COMMENCING JULY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND FIFTEEN, EACH REGENT SHALL  
20 BE ELECTED TO A TERM OF FIVE YEARS, EACH SUCH TERM TO EXPIRE ON THE LAST  
21 DAY OF JUNE. Each regent shall be elected by the legislature by concur-  
22 rent resolution in the preceding [March] MAY, on or before the first  
23 Tuesday of such month. If, however, the legislature fails to agree on  
24 such concurrent resolution by the first Tuesday of [such month] MAY,

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

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1 then the two houses shall meet in joint session at noon on the [second]  
2 THIRD Tuesday of [such month] MAY and proceed to elect such regent by  
3 joint ballot, PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT SUCH ELECTION SHALL BE HELD ON THE  
4 SECOND TUESDAY IN MAY IF THE TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE  
5 SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY CERTIFY NO LATER THAN MARCH FIRST THAT SUCH  
6 ELECTION WOULD CONFLICT WITH RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES.

7 2. All vacancies in such office, either for full or unexpired terms,  
8 shall be so filled that there shall always be in the membership of the  
9 board of regents at least one resident of each of the judicial  
10 districts. A vacancy in the office of regent for other cause than expi-  
11 ration of term of service shall be filled for the unexpired term by an  
12 election at the session of the legislature immediately following such  
13 vacancy in the manner prescribed in the preceding paragraph, unless the  
14 legislature is in session when such vacancy occurs, in which case the  
15 vacancy shall be filled by such legislature in the manner prescribed in  
16 the preceding paragraph, except as hereinafter provided. However, if  
17 such vacancy occurs after the [second] THIRD Tuesday in [March] MAY and  
18 before a resolution to adjourn sine die has been adopted by either  
19 house, then the vacancy shall be filled by concurrent resolution, unless  
20 the legislature fails to agree on such concurrent resolution within  
21 three legislative days after its passage by one house, in which case the  
22 two houses shall meet in joint session at noon on the next legislative  
23 day and proceed to elect such regent by joint ballots; provided, howev-  
24 er, that if the vacancy [occur] OCCURS after the adoption by either  
25 house of a resolution to adjourn sine die, then the vacancy shall be  
26 filled at the next session of the legislature in the manner prescribed  
27 in the preceding paragraph.

28 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.