

4787

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

April 17, 2015

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

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to school session days

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision 8 of section 3604 of the education law, as
2 amended by chapter 260 of the laws of 2012, is amended to read as
3 follows:
4 8. No school shall be in session on a Saturday, GENERAL ELECTION DAY
5 or a legal holiday, except [general election day,] Washington's birthday
6 and Lincoln's birthday, and except that driver education classes may be
7 conducted on a Saturday. A SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY ELECT TO REQUIRE STAFF
8 ATTENDANCE ON A GENERAL ELECTION DAY OR TO SCHEDULE A PROFESSIONAL
9 DEVELOPMENT DAY. A deficiency not exceeding four days during any school
10 year caused by teachers' attendance upon conferences held by superinten-
11 dents of schools of city school districts or other school districts
12 employing superintendents of schools shall be excused by the commission-
13 er, notwithstanding any provision of law, rule or regulation to the
14 contrary, a school district may elect to schedule such conference days
15 in the last two weeks of August, subject to collective bargaining
16 requirements pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law, and
17 such days shall be counted towards the required one hundred eighty days
18 of session, provided however, that such scheduling shall not alter the
19 obligation of the school district to provide transportation to students
20 in non-public elementary and secondary schools or charter schools. The
21 commissioner shall excuse a deficiency not exceeding four days during
22 such school year caused by teachers' attendance upon conferences held by
23 such superintendents, provided that at least two such conference days
24 during such school year shall be dedicated to staff attendance upon
25 conferences providing staff development relating to implementation of
26 the new high learning standards and assessments, as adopted by the board

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

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1 of regents. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, rule or regu-
2 lation to the contrary, school districts may elect to use one or more of
3 such allowable conference days in units of not less than one hour each
4 to provide staff development activities relating to implementation of
5 the new high learning standards and assessments. A district making such
6 election may provide such staff development during the regularly sched-
7 uled daily session and apply such units to satisfy a deficiency in the
8 length of one or more daily sessions of instruction for pupils as speci-
9 fied in regulations of the commissioner. The commissioner shall assure
10 that such conference days include appropriate school violence prevention
11 and intervention training, and may require that up to one such confer-
12 ence day be dedicated for such purpose.

13 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.