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

7461

I N S E N A T E

May 3, 2016

Introduced by Sen. GRIFFO -- 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 creating a committee to study ways to reduce the length of standardized tests and ways to increase the test's transparency

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

Section 1. Section 305 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 55 to read as follows:

55. A. THE BOARD OF REGENTS IS AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED TO ESTABLISH A COMMITTEE TO RESEARCH AND DEVELOP WAYS TO REDUCE THE LENGTH OF STANDARDIZED TESTS ADMINISTERED TO STUDENTS BETWEEN KINDERGARTEN AND THE EIGHTH GRADE AND WAYS TO INCREASE THE TEST'S TRANSPARENCY. THE COMMITTEE SHALL REVIEW HOW THE TEST'S TRANSPARENCY WOULD IMPACT STUDENTS' PRIVACY, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO: (I) WHAT DATA IS BEING COLLECTED; (II) HOW THE DATA IS BEING COLLECTED; (III) WHO IS COLLECTING THE DATA; (IV) WHERE IS THE DATA BEING STORED; AND (V) WHY THE DATA IS BEING USED.

B. ALONG WITH ANY RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE COMMITTEE, THE SUBSEQUENT CRITERIA SHALL BE FOLLOWED BY THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND/OR SCHOOL DISTRICTS:

(1) ANY STANDARDIZED TEST ADMINISTERED TO STUDENTS BETWEEN KINDERGARTEN AND EIGHTH GRADE SHALL BE RELEASED PUBLICLY ON THE NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE WITHIN TEN DAYS OF THE SCORES BEING RELEASED;

(2) THE RELEASE OF TEST SCORES SHALL OCCUR WITHIN TEN DAYS OF THE TESTS BEING GRADED; AND

(3) PARENTS SHALL BE NOTIFIED WITHIN THIRTY DAYS OF ANY DISTRICT-WIDE STANDARDIZED TEST PLANNED TO BE ADMINISTERED, ALONG WITH THE TEST'S MAKE-UP DATES. THIS INCLUDES ANY OPERATIONAL TEST AS WELL AS FIELD TESTS.

B. THE COMMITTEE SHALL BE MADE UP ENTIRELY OF NEW YORK STATE CERTIFIED EDUCATORS WHO RESIDE IN THIS STATE.

C. THE COMMITTEE SHALL CREATE A PROPOSAL AND PRESENT IT TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS WITHIN A YEAR OF THE COMMITTEE'S CREATION.

S 2. This act shall take effect on the twentieth day after it shall have become a law.

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

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