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

7528

I N S E N A T E

May 6, 2016

Introduced by Sen. COMRIE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Children and Families

AN ACT relating to the establishment of a pilot program to provide job and vocational skills training to youth who have been adjudicated juvenile delinquents or juvenile offenders residing in a facility overseen by the office of children and family services; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

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

Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the department of labor, in consultation with the office of children and family services shall conduct a pilot program to provide job and vocational skills training to youth who have been adjudicated juvenile delinquents or juvenile offenders under article 3 of the family court act and who are residing in a facility overseen by the office of children and family services as defined in section 504 or 504-a of the executive law. Such pilot program shall be conducted in three residential facilities chosen by the office of children and family services. The office of children and family services shall choose the three facilities in which the pilot program will be conducted as considering factors including, but not limited to, existing vocational and job skills training programs, the need for expansion of such programs, the average length of stay, and age of youth at the specific facilities. Such pilot program shall use a combination of integrated support services, educational, vocational and job skill training to provide youth with skills needed to advance to higher levels of education and higher wage jobs in growing occupational fields. Youth wishing to participate in such program who are also attending school or are receiving educational services within the facility, must be given an option to participate in the program at a time that does not conflict with their school or education schedule.

S 2. The name of any youth participating in the pilot program and any other identifying information relating to the placement of such youth at a residential facility, and his or her adjudication as a juvenile delin-

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

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quent or juvenile offender, shall remain confidential pursuant to law and shall not be disclosed to any person or entity not otherwise authorized.

S 3. To the extent possible, the department of labor and the office of children and family services shall work in collaboration with community organizations operating in or around the counties where the facilities chosen for the pilot program are located. Such community organizations may include, but not be limited to, not-for-profit organizations, faith based organizations, local development corporations and small businesses.

S 4. The department of labor and the office of children and family services shall issue a joint report on the status of the pilot program to the chair of the New York state senate standing committee on children and families, the chair of the New York state senate standing committee on labor, the chair of the New York state assembly standing committee on children and families and the chair of the New York state assembly standing committee on labor by December 31, 2018. Such report shall include, but not be limited to, the status of the program, the number of youth served in the program, the average length of time youth received services in the program, and the employment and educational outcomes of the youth participants if known, as of November 30, 2018.

S 5. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be deemed repealed April 1, 2019.