# STATE OF NEW YORK

8947

# IN ASSEMBLY

January 9, 2018

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

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to allowing all students to participate in a high school graduation ceremony; and to repeal certain provisions of the education law relating thereto

**The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:**

Section 1. Subdivision 9 of section 4402 of the education law, as added by a chapter of the laws of 2017 amending the education law relating to policies that allow students with disabilities to participate in a high school graduation ceremony as proposed in legislative bills numbers S. 4729-A and A. 1595-A, is REPEALED.

§ 2. Section 3204 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 4-b to read as follows:

**4-b. The board of education or the board of trustees of each school district shall establish a policy and adopt procedures to allow any student in such district to participate in the graduation ceremony of the student's high school graduating class and all related activities if such student has been awarded a skills and achievement commencement credential or career development and occupational studies commencement credential but has not otherwise qualified for a regents or local diploma. The policy and procedures shall provide annual written notice to all students and their parents or guardians about the school district's policy and procedures adopted in accordance with this subdivision. Nothing in this subdivision shall compel a student to participate in the high school graduation ceremony and activities. For purposes of this subdivision, a student's high school graduating class shall be the twelfth grade class with which such student entered into ninth grade.**

§ 3. This act shall take effect on the same date and in the same manner as a chapter of the laws of 2017 amending the education law relating to policies that allow students with disabilities to participate in a high school graduation ceremony as proposed in legislative bills numbers S. 4729-A and A. 1595-A, takes effect.

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

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