STATE OF NEW YORK

1428

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 9, 2017

Introduced by Sens. AVELLA, SERRANO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to establish a report on arts and music education in elementary and secondary schools; 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. 1. The commissioner of education shall: (a) create a procedure in which school district compliance with current arts education and instruction requirements including visual arts, music, dance and theatre, hereinafter referred to in this act as "arts education instruction", as required by law and regulation in elementary and secondary public schools is reported to the state education department by school districts for the purposes of preparing the report provided for by subdivision two of this section; and (b) provide suggestions on how the current arts education instruction requirements could be improved or enhanced.

2. The state education department shall prepare a report that must include, but not be limited to, the following:

(a) how the state standards, including statutory and regulatory requirements, for arts education instruction could be revised or altered to better promote education and appreciation of the arts and music in elementary and secondary schools;

(b) how the state standards, including statutory and regulatory requirements, for arts education instruction could be revised or altered to increase the time devoted to providing instruction and education for such arts;

(c) i. the impacts that arts education instruction has on enhancing pupil academic performance;

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

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ii. how integrating the arts education instruction into general education throughout the learning process, could enhance students' learning capabilities.

3. On or before July 1, 2019, the commissioner of education shall report to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, the speaker of the assembly, and the chairs of the senate and assembly committees on education the findings made based on the information reported pursuant to subdivision one of this section including an analysis and explanation of the data, and shall identify steps that should be taken to ensure that all public schools are in compliance with arts education instruction requirements in elementary and secondary grades and examine, evaluate and make recommendations concerning the adequacy of the current state standards for arts education and instruction for elementary and secondary schools in the state. Such recommendations may include but not be limited to revisions or alterations to the state standards for arts education and instruction to better promote and increase time devoted to providing such instruction.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately, and shall expire and be deemed repealed January 1, 2020 or on the one hundred eightieth day after the report required by subdivisions two and three of section one of this act is submitted to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, the speaker of the assembly, and the chairs of the senate and assembly committees on education, whichever shall be later; provided, further, that the state education department shall notify the legislative bill drafting commission upon the submission of the report required by subdivisions two and three of section one of this act to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, the speaker of the assembly, and the chairs of the senate and assembly committees on education, in order that the commission may maintain an accurate and timely effective data base of the official text of the laws of the state of New York in furtherance of effectuating the provisions of section 44 of the legislative law and section 70-b of the public officers law.