STATE OF NEW YORK

2312

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 17, 2017

Introduced by M. of A. RA, MONTESANO, McDONOUGH, FRIEND, McKEVITT, LUPINACCI, PALMESANO, SALADINO, MURRAY, DiPIETRO, McLAUGHLIN, RAIA, CROUCH -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. BARCLAY, GIGLIO, SIMON, THIELE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to establishing the standardized testing transparency act; and making an appropriation therefor

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

Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "standardized testing transparency act".

§ 2. Section 305 of the education law is amended by adding two new subdivisions 56 and 57 to read as follows:

56. The commissioner shall release all state standardized test content, questions, and answers for public review within thirty days of the completion of the testing and any make-up testing.

57. The commissioner shall release data following the administration of each state standardized test regarding the number of eligible students who completed the exams by district and the number of students who opted out of the exam.

§ 3. The education law is amended by adding a new section 115 to read as follows:

§ 115. Standardized testing task force. 1. a. There is established a standardized testing task force. The purpose of the task force shall be to study the current standardized testing program.

b. The task force shall consist of nine members appointed by the P-12 committee on the board of regents and shall include at least:

(1) one certified New York state special education teacher;

(2) one certified teacher with an English language teaching certificate; and

(3) one parent of a New York state elementary public school student.

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

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2. The task force shall evaluate:

a. the age and developmental appropriateness of common core standardized tests in third through eighth grades in English language arts and mathematics as administered in the two thousand fourteen--two thousand fifteen, two thousand fifteen--two thousand sixteen, and two thousand sixteen--two thousand seventeen school years; and

b. the benefit of having tests created internally by New York state educators as opposed to contracted vendors or increasing input with any outside vendor by allowing New York educators an advisory role in test creation.

§ 4. The sum of eight million four hundred thousand dollars ($8,400,000), or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to the department of education out of any moneys in the state treasury in the general fund to the credit of the state purposes account, not otherwise appropriated, and made immediately available, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act and for the reduction of field testing. Such moneys shall be payable on the audit and warrant of the comptroller on vouchers certified or approved by the commissioner of education in the manner prescribed by law.

§ 5. This act shall take effect immediately.