STATE OF NEW YORK

4837

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 2, 2017

Introduced by Sen. KLEIN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to prohibit the use of state aid by colleges and universities for certain academic institutions

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

Section 1. Legislative intent. The legislature hereby finds that it is beneficial to students of this state to have access to an education that is not bound by borders and to have the opportunity to obtain a global education. The legislature further finds that it is important that New York state undertake efforts to ensure that its students succeed in a world that is continually becoming more interdependent and diverse and further that students have access to international higher education institutions. A global education allows students to connect, compete and cooperate with their peers around the world. Therefore it is the policy of the state that colleges not use state funds to support boycotts of countries, or higher education institutions located in countries, that host higher education institutions chartered by the board of regents of the university of the state of New York.

§ 2. 1. For purposes of this section the following shall apply:

(a) the term "academic entity" shall mean any organization comprising colleges, universities or professors that promotes or supports academia in the United States and abroad.

(b) the term "college" shall have the same meaning as such term is defined in subdivision 2 of section 2 of the education law.

(c) the term "host country" shall mean those countries that host a higher education institution chartered by the board of regents of the university of the state of New York.

2. No college in this state may use state aid provided directly to such college to: fund an academic entity, provide funds for membership in an academic entity or fund travel or lodging for any employee to

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

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attend any meeting of such academic entity if such entity has issued a public resolution or other official statement or undertaken an official action boycotting a host country or higher education institutions located in such country.

3. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, no college shall be eligible for state aid during the academic year that such college is in violation of subdivision two of this section.

4. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any college:

(a) when such college is located in a country that is determined by the United States secretary of state to be a state sponsor of terrorism;

(b) when such boycott is connected with a labor dispute; or

(c) when such boycott is for the purpose of protesting unlawful discriminatory practices as determined by the laws, rules or regulations of this state.

5. Nothing in this section shall limit the attendance by any employee of a college at any event of an academic entity that boycotts a host country or higher education institutions located in such country and attendance at meetings of any such entity shall not be used by the college with regard to employment decisions.

§ 3. This act shall take effect on the thirtieth day after it shall have become a law.