

STATE OF NEW YORK

7816

IN SENATE

February 28, 2018

Introduced by Sen. RITCHIE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Finance

AN ACT to amend the executive law and the education law, in relation to requiring certain school personnel to wear personal safety alarms

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

1 Section 1. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 214-f
2 to read as follows:

3 § 214-f. School safety. The superintendent, in consultation with the
4 commissioner of education, shall establish a school safety program in
5 which teachers and other school personnel who have significant daily
6 student contact are equipped with personal safety alarms. The super-
7 intendent shall set minimum requirements for the development and func-
8 tionality of such personal safety alarms including, but not limited to,
9 the alert system established between each district and their local
10 police department, fire station and medical assistance provider. For
11 purposes of this section, a "personal safety alarm" shall mean a weara-
12 ble device that once activated, by the pressing of an emergency button,
13 shall alert first responders, including but not limited to police, fire-
14 fighters and medical assistance, of an emergency.

15 § 2. Section 305 of the education law is amended by adding a new
16 subdivision 57 to read as follows:

17 57. a. The commissioner, in consultation with the superintendent of
18 state police, shall promulgate rules and regulations to require the
19 board of education or trustees of every school district in the state to
20 provide for the use by, and distribution of personal safety alarms to
21 teachers and other school personnel who have significant daily student
22 contact.

23 b. For purposes of this section, a "personal safety alarm" shall mean
24 a wearable device that once activated, by the pressing of an emergency
25 button, shall alert first responders, including but not limited to
26 police, firefighters and medical assistance, of an emergency.

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

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1 c. The commissioner shall submit an annual report containing the
2 amount of distributed personal safety alarms by school district to the
3 speaker of the assembly and the temporary president of the senate.

4 § 3. Section 3602 of the education law is amended by adding a new
5 subdivision 19 to read as follows:

6 19. In addition to the apportionments payable to a school district
7 pursuant to this section, the commissioner is hereby authorized to
8 apportion to any school district additional aid pursuant to this subdi-
9 vision for its approved expenditures in the base year for the purchase
10 of personal safety alarms. The commissioner shall annually prescribe a
11 special cost allowance for such personal safety alarms and the approved
12 expenditures shall not exceed such cost allowance.

13 § 4. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
14 have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or
15 repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of
16 this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed
17 on or before such effective date.