STATE OF NEW YORK

7816--A

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 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the executive law and the education law, in relation to authorizing 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:

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

§ 214-f. School safety. The superintendent, in consultation with the commissioner of education, shall establish a school safety program, that school districts may opt into at local option, in which teachers and other school personnel who have significant daily student contact are equipped with personal safety alarms. The superintendent shall set minimum requirements for the development and functionality of such personal safety alarms including, but not limited to, the alert system established between each district and their local police department, fire station and medical assistance provider. For purposes of this section, a "personal safety alarm" shall mean a wearable device that once activated, by the pressing of an emergency button, shall alert first responders, including but not limited to police, firefighters and medical assistance, of an emergency.

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

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

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

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

LBD14926-03-8

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

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

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

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