

STATE OF NEW YORK

794

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 4, 2017

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

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to peace/conflict resolution centers

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

1 Section 1. Legislative intent. Peace/conflict resolution centers
2 already in operation at Luperon and Heritage High Schools in Washington
3 Heights have demonstrated that mediation of disputes can reduce violence
4 in schools, reduce the number of suspensions, and promote constructive
5 conflict management. Peer mediation develops leadership skills among
6 pupils and enables them to apply those skills immediately in their
7 schools. This legislation requires every school district in the state to
8 maintain a peace/conflict resolution center.

9 § 2. The education law is amended by adding a new section 1504-a to
10 read as follows:

11 § 1504-a. Peace/conflict resolution centers. 1. All school districts
12 are hereby required to establish and maintain a peace/conflict resolu-
13 tion center.

14 2. Such peace/conflict resolution centers shall:

15 (a) provide for the supervised peer mediation of conflicts;

16 (b) develop pupil leadership skills; and

17 (c) promote peaceful atmospheres in schools and the surrounding commu-
18 nities.

19 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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