

STATE OF NEW YORK

2476

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 25, 2019

Introduced by Sen. SANDERS -- 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 requiring police departments and the department of education to provide the public with information regarding school violence

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

1 Section 1. Legislative findings. The legislature hereby finds and
2 declares that in order to combat violence in our schools, residents of
3 the state must have accurate information on the number and types of
4 incidents occurring and where these incidents are taking place. This
5 information must be made public so that parents are aware of the safety
6 conditions within which their children learn and so that our civic lead-
7 ers can institute meaningful reform.

8 To help parents and the public understand and fully assess the problem
9 of school crime and other serious disruptive incidents, the department
10 of education must continue to enhance and improve upon the information
11 on school safety data that is provided on the internet. By receiving
12 this information, the public will be in a better position to analyze and
13 comment upon any inconsistencies and to weigh in on proposed policy
14 amendments.

15 § 2. The education law is amended by adding a new section 2803 to read
16 as follows:

17 § 2803. Department and police department school incident reporting
18 requirements. 1. The department shall make available to the public,
19 pursuant to subdivision four of this section, reports that reflect the
20 environment of criminal and seriously disruptive behavior in schools
21 operated by the department.

22 2. Such reports shall include an annual reporting, on a state-wide
23 basis as well as for each school or group of schools operated by the
24 department of information reported by local police departments to the

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

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1 department on the following: the total amount of major felony crime,
2 disaggregated by felony category; the total amount of other crime,
3 disaggregated by crimes against persons and crimes against property; and
4 the total amount of non-criminal incidents.

5 3. Such reports shall also include an annual reporting, on a state-
6 wide basis as well as for each school or group of schools operated by
7 the department, of incidents designated by the commissioner as seriously
8 disruptive, dangerous or violent behavior in schools operated by the
9 department, as reported pursuant to section twenty-eight hundred two of
10 this article, or a successor reporting system. The commissioner, in
11 consultation with local police departments, shall develop guidelines to
12 avoid duplicative reporting.

13 4. The department shall make such reports available on its web site
14 and shall include such information in the school district report cards
15 or board of cooperative educational services report cards required by
16 this chapter. The department shall also make such reports available in
17 paper form at all schools and all district and regional offices, and
18 shall provide copies to the public upon request. Such annual reports
19 shall be available by October first, and shall include data from the
20 previous school year (September first through June thirtieth) of infor-
21 mation reported by local police departments to the department and, as
22 soon as practicable, but no later than one year after the effective date
23 of this section, shall also include the reports generated by the depart-
24 ment described in subdivision three of this section.

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