

STATE OF NEW YORK

S. 2937--A

A. 3648--A

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

SENATE - ASSEMBLY

January 30, 2019

IN SENATE -- Introduced by Sens. MYRIE, BAILEY, BIAGGI, COMRIE, GOUNARDES, HOYLMAN, JACKSON, PARKER, PERSAUD, RAMOS, SALAZAR -- 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

IN ASSEMBLY -- Introduced by M. of A. RICHARDSON, DICKENS, ARROYO, RIVERA, PRETLOW, COOK, JEAN-PIERRE, TITUS, BICHOTTE, SIMON, KIM, REYES, CRUZ, CRESPO, EPSTEIN, ORTIZ, DE LA ROSA, FRONTUS, SOLAGES, LAVINE, FERNANDEZ, HUNTER, DARLING, PICHARDO, BLAKE, RODRIGUEZ, VANEL, RAMOS, PERRY, ROMEO, DAVILA, JACOBSON, BRONSON, TAYLOR, NIOU, JOYNER, HYNDMAN, JAFFEE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to establishing a culturally responsive education curriculum and standards; and making an appropriation therefor

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

1 Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 804-e
2 to read as follows:

3 § 804-e. Culturally responsive education curriculum and standards. 1.
4 Culturally responsive education rules and regulations. (a) The commis-
5 sioner shall promulgate rules and regulations for the implementation of
6 culturally responsive education curriculum for all schools including
7 elementary schools, junior high schools and senior high schools. In
8 formulating such regulations, the commissioner shall seek input of
9 parents, students and other stakeholders.

10 (b) In formulating the rules and regulations required by paragraph (a)
11 of this subdivision, the commissioner shall recognize that: more than
12 half of New York state's public school students are students of color;

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

LBD04518-02-9

1 education that makes a cultural connection with students has been shown
2 to improve educational outcomes; cultural responsiveness advances and
3 accelerates student learning by honoring and supporting students'
4 cultural, linguistic and racial experiences; in order for students to
5 gain the full benefits of the diversity of New York state, culturally
6 responsive education must be a part of the daily schooling experiences
7 of all students; and cultural responsiveness will prepare educators to
8 relate aspects of students' daily lives to the curriculum.

9 (c) All school districts, charter schools and private schools shall
10 integrate culturally responsive education throughout the education of
11 all students at all grade levels in accordance with the commissioner's
12 rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to this subdivision.

13 (d) The commissioner's rules and regulations shall include, but not be
14 limited to, curriculum standards for: African American history and
15 achievement, Latino American history and achievement, Native American
16 history and achievement, Asian American history and achievement, and the
17 role of racial oppression and inequity based in the formation, growth
18 and existence of our nation and state. The commissioner shall also
19 develop model curricula for use by schools.

20 2. Graduation standards. The commissioner shall promulgate rules and
21 regulations requiring all high school students to pass a course in a
22 subject area that meets the culturally responsive education standards
23 established by this section as a prerequisite for graduation.

24 3. Teacher certification. The commissioner shall promulgate rules and
25 regulations to include completion of at least one college course in
26 effective teaching for students of diverse cultural backgrounds as a
27 prerequisite for teacher certification.

28 4. Professional development. The commissioner shall promulgate rules
29 and regulations requiring cultural competency and culturally responsive
30 education to be incorporated into the ongoing professional development
31 standards for all pre-kindergarten through grade twelve educators.

32 5. Culturally responsive school climate assessment and/or rubric. The
33 commissioner shall create a culturally responsive school climate assess-
34 ment and/or rubric which school districts may utilize in assessing the
35 cultural responsiveness of the educational climate in their schools and
36 district. This assessment and/or rubric shall be consistent with the
37 purposes of this section.

38 6. Pilot program. Within amounts appropriated therefor, the commis-
39 sioner shall establish a pilot program in culturally responsive educa-
40 tion and shall make funds available to school districts through a
41 request for proposal. The award of such funds shall be based on criteria
42 to be developed by the commissioner and approved by the board of
43 regents. The commissioner shall prioritize districts with the highest
44 needs as measured in terms of student poverty and English language lear-
45 ners and other demographic or community factors which the commissioner
46 may identify. The criteria for an award shall include, but not be
47 limited to, the quality of the proposal and its consistency with the
48 purposes of this section, the ability of the school district to demon-
49 strate parent, family, student and community engagement in the develop-
50 ment and implementation of its proposal, the capacity of the school
51 district to draw upon the direct experiences of its students, families
52 and communities in implementing the purposes of this section, including
53 but not limited to the ability to draw upon these experiences in imple-
54 menting paragraph (d) of subdivision one of this section and the utili-
55 zation of the culturally responsive school climate assessment and/or

1 rubric developed by the commissioner or of a comparable assessment
2 and/or rubric in developing its proposal.

3 § 2. The sum of twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000), or so much
4 thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to the department of
5 education out of any moneys in the state treasury in the general fund to
6 the credit of the state purposes fund, not otherwise appropriated, and
7 made immediately available, for the sole purpose of providing funding
8 for the pilot program in culturally responsive education established
9 pursuant to subdivision 6 of section 804-e of the education law, as
10 added by section one of this act. Such moneys shall be payable on the
11 audit and warrant of the comptroller on vouchers certified or approved
12 by the commissioner of education in the manner prescribed by law.

13 § 3. 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.