STATE OF NEW YORK

6332

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

June 5, 2019

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

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to establishing an educational program related to the prevention of sexual harassment in schools

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

Section 1. Section 305 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 57 to read as follows:

57. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, and subject to an appropriation, the department shall contract with an outside entity who has expertise in sexual harassment training in schools to establish a sexual harassment prevention and education program overseen by such department. The commissioner shall work with such outside entity, to establish and develop an educational program within such department related to the prevention of sexual harassment in grades kindergarten through twelve. Such program shall be further defined by such commissioner in regulation and shall be designed to educate students, parents and school personnel about the prevention of sexual harassment in schools. Such commissioner, in collaboration with any other stakeholder groups deemed appropriate by such commissioner, shall develop:

a. the sexual harassment prevention and education program prepared by an outside expert organization into age-appropriate model curriculum resources, including exemplar lesson plans, and best practice instructional resources for students, parents and school personnel designed to prevent sexual harassment in schools. Such model curriculum, resources, lesson plans and instructional resources shall include but not be limited to guidelines and methods of prevention, indicators and warning signs of sexual harassment, guidelines and methods to prevent sexual harassment and how to report complaints of sexual harassment in schools. Such

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

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model curriculum shall be made available to school boards, school superintendents, their equivalents, and teachers for voluntary implementation in health education classes and in health education coursework;

b. instructional tools and materials for students, parents and school personnel, which shall include updated information on how to report sexual harassment in schools, with a review of such information to occur periodically, at intervals deemed appropriate by such commissioner; and

c. public availability of all materials related to the sexual harassment education program on such department's website in Spanish, Creole, Mandarin, Korean, Bengali and any other language predominantly spoken by the population of the state.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the first of July next succeeding the date on which 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.