STATE OF NEW YORK

8708--A

IN SENATE

July 9, 2020

Introduced by Sens. HARCKHAM, JACKSON -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to requiring school boards of school districts with race-based mascots to, at least once annually, dedicate a portion of a meeting of such school board to the discussion of racial sensitivity

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

Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 2002-a to read as follows:

§ 2002-a. School districts with race-based mascots; school board discussion of racial sensitivity. 1. As used in this section, "race-based mascot" shall mean any person, animal or object used to represent a school district which is derived from a specific race or ethnicity or is based on certain characteristics of a specific race or ethnicity.

2. Any school board of a school district within the state that has adopted a race-based mascot and where such mascot is used to represent such school district publicly or privately, shall, at least once annually, dedicate a portion of a meeting of such school board to the discussion of racial sensitivity. Such requirement shall be indefinite until a school district disassociates completely with such race-based mascot.

§ 2. 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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