

STATE OF NEW YORK

852

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 9, 2019

Introduced by Sen. BENJAMIN -- 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 establishing a pilot program for peace/conflict resolution centers; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

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

1 Section 1. Title 1 of the education law is amended by adding a new
2 article 25 to read as follows:

ARTICLE 25

PEACE/CONFLICT RESOLUTION

CENTERS PILOT PROGRAM

3 Section 1220. Peace/conflict resolution centers pilot program.

4 § 1220. Peace/conflict resolution centers pilot program. 1. The
5 commissioner shall establish a pilot program to provide peace/conflict
6 resolution centers within school districts. The commissioner shall
7 select up to five school districts to participate in the pilot program,
8 provided at least one center established pursuant to this section shall
9 be located in a city with a population of one million or more. The
10 pilot program shall begin with the two thousand twenty-two thousand
11 twenty-one school year.

12 2. To be considered for the pilot program, a school district shall
13 submit a proposal to the commissioner with the goal of facilitating
14 peaceful resolutions to student conflicts, and include methods to
15 achieve the following goals: (a) provide for the supervised peer medi-
16 ation of conflicts; (b) develop pupil leadership skills; and (c) promote
17 peaceful atmospheres in schools and the surrounding communities. Noth-
18 ing in this article shall prevent a proposal for a collaboration to
19 provide such services in collaboration with boards of cooperative educa-
20 tional services. Each peace/conflict resolution shall be authorized to
21 operate for at least two full school years.

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

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1 3. The commissioner shall submit an annual report on or before July
2 thirty-first, two thousand twenty and on or before the same date every
3 year thereafter to the governor and the legislature. Such report shall
4 include, but not be limited to, the number of cases and resolutions,
5 details on the subject matter of the cases, the commissioner's evalu-
6 ation of the results of the pilot program and legislative recommenda-
7 tions on whether to continue, expand or make changes to the pilot
8 program.

9 4. The commissioner shall promulgate any rules and regulations neces-
10 sary to implement the provisions of this article.

11 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately, and shall expire and be
12 deemed repealed July 31, 2022.