# STATE OF NEW YORK

3260

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

# IN ASSEMBLY

January 22, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. GUNTHER, SCHMITT -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to creating a state-wide literacy education advocacy program and to study the viability of the Newburgh armory unity center literacy education advocacy partnership

**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. (a) The commissioner of education shall conduct a study on literacy advocacy programs in the state, including the Newburgh Armory Unity Center Literacy Education Advocacy Partnership (NAUC LEAP). The purpose of such study shall be to determine the successes and effectiveness of these programs in achieving their goals, with the intent of understanding effective practices that support students being able to read at grade level and score proficient on the grade three through eight English language arts state assessment. The commissioner of education shall then develop recommendations and best practices for replicating literacy advocacy programs in areas throughout the state.**

**(b) The commissioner of education shall, within one year of the effective date of this subdivision, report the findings, conclusions and recommendations of such study to the governor, temporary president of the senate and speaker of the assembly.**

**(c) Within one year of the effective date of this subdivision, the commissioner shall develop a literacy education advocacy program to provide additional literacy instruction for grade three through eight students. Such program shall:**

**(i) foster collaborative relationships among not-for-profit organizations that increase the capacity for programming aimed at urban children, youth, and families;**

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

LBD02938-01-1

(ii) make available a list of participating organizations to better implement programs of value to the community;

(iii) be optional for school districts across New York state; and

(iv) utilize the study performed by the commissioner pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subdivision.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.