

# STATE OF NEW YORK

6438

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

March 17, 2021

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

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to establishing the "Purple Star School Program" to emphasize the importance of assisting military-connected students and to recognize the value of military service and civic responsibility

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

1 Section 1. This act shall be known and maybe cited as the "Purple Star  
2 School Program Act".

3 § 2. The education law is amended by adding a new article 66-A to read  
4 as follows:

### ARTICLE 66-A

#### PURPLE STAR SCHOOL PROGRAM

##### Section 3330. Purple star school program.

8 § 3330. Purple star school program. 1. The commissioner, in consulta-  
9 tion with the state council created pursuant to subdivision one of  
10 section thirty-three hundred eight of this title, shall establish the  
11 "Purple Star School Program" to recognize schools and school districts  
12 which demonstrate a commitment to assisting military-connected students  
13 and their families.

14 2. As used in this section, "military-connected student" means a  
15 school-aged child enrolled in kindergarten through twelfth grade in the  
16 household of an active duty military member as that term is defined in  
17 subdivision one of section thirty-three hundred two of this title.

18 3. The commissioner, or his or her designee, shall designate a school  
19 as a "Purple Star School" upon application of a school or school  
20 district which (a) has designated a staff member as a military liaison  
21 whose duties include (i) identifying military-connected students  
22 enrolled in the district and serving as the point of contact between the  
23 school and such students; (ii) determining appropriate campus services

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

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1 available to military-connected students; and (iii) assisting in coordi-  
2 nating campus programs relevant to military-connected students;

3 (b) maintains on its website an easily accessible page that includes  
4 resources for military-connected students and their families, including  
5 information regarding: (i) relocation to, enrollment at, registration  
6 at, and transferring records to the campus; (ii) academic planning,  
7 course sequences, and advanced classes available at the campus; (iii)  
8 counseling and other support services available for military-connected  
9 students enrolled at the campus; and (iv) the military liaison desig-  
10 nated under paragraph (a) of this subdivision, and the liaison's duties  
11 under such paragraph;

12 (c) maintains a transition program led by students, where appropriate,  
13 that assists military-connected students in transitioning into the  
14 campus;

15 (d) offers professional development for staff members on issues  
16 related to military-connected students; and

17 (e) the board of education or other person or entity authorized to act  
18 on behalf of the school or school district has either (i) issued a  
19 resolution, proclamation, or other official statement of support for  
20 military-connected students and their families; or (ii) issued a resol-  
21 ution, proclamation, or other official statement recognizing the month  
22 of April as the "Month of the Military Child" and/or the month of Novem-  
23 ber as "Military Family Month" and has hosted events on campus celebrat-  
24 ing either or both; or (iii) entered into a partnership with a local  
25 military installation that provides opportunities for active duty mili-  
26 tary members to volunteer at the campus, speak at an assembly, host a  
27 field trip, or participate in such other educational activities as the  
28 commissioner or his or her designee deem appropriate.

29 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.