STATE OF NEW YORK

5931

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 23, 2021

Introduced by Sen. PARKER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Internet and Technology

AN ACT to amend the state technology law, in relation to requiring a digital equity officer be appointed by the director of the office of information technology services

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

Section 1. Subdivision 5 of section 102 of the state technology law, as added by chapter 430 of the laws of 1997 and as renumbered by chapter 437 of the laws of 2004, is amended to read as follows:

5. **(a) The director shall appoint, in accordance with the civil service law, a digital equity officer, who shall develop, oversee and assist in providing statewide broadband access to rural and residential areas, public schools in coordination with the department of education, and small and medium businesses.**

(b) The digital equity officer shall, in coordination with the department of education, oversee and assist in providing a computer, laptop, or tablet to a student enrolled in any public school in the state if such student would qualify for free or reduced meals as determined by the local agency.

6. The director may request and receive from any department, division, board, bureau, commission or other agency of the state or any political subdivision thereof or any public authority, staff and other assistance, information, and resources as will enable the office to properly carry out its functions, powers and duties.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law.

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

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