STATE OF NEW YORK

1022

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 7, 2021

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

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to culturally responsive lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender education standards

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 804-e to read as follows:

§ 804-e. Culturally responsive lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender education curriculum and standards. 1. Culturally responsive education rules and regulations. (a) The commissioner shall promulgate rules and regulations for the implementation of culturally responsive lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender education curriculum for all schools including elementary schools, junior high schools and senior high schools. In formulating such regulations, the commissioner shall seek input of parents, students and other stakeholders.

(b) In formulating the rules and regulations required by paragraph (a) of this subdivision, the commissioner shall recognize that: many students in New York state's public school system are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender, and education that makes a cultural connection with students has been shown to improve educational outcomes.

(c) All school districts, charter schools and private schools shall integrate culturally responsive lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender education throughout the education of all students at all grade levels in accordance with the commissioner's rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to this subdivision.

(d) The commissioner's rules and regulations shall include, but not be limited to, curriculum standards for the role of oppression and inequity in treatment of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender in the history of New York state and the United States. The commissioner shall also develop model curricula for use by schools.

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

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2. Graduation standards. The commissioner shall promulgate rules and regulations requiring all high school students to pass a course in a subject area that meets the culturally responsive lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender education standards established by this section as a prerequisite for graduation.

3. Teacher certification. The commissioner shall promulgate rules and regulations to include completion of at least one college course in effective teaching for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students as a prerequisite for teacher certification.

4. Professional development. The commissioner shall promulgate rules and regulations requiring lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender competency and responsive education to be incorporated into the ongoing professional development standards for all pre-kindergarten through grade twelve educators.

5. Culturally responsive school climate assessment. The commissioner shall create a lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender culturally responsive school climate assessment which school districts may utilize in assessing the cultural responsiveness of the educational climate in their schools and district. This assessment shall be consistent with the purposes of this section.

6. Pilot program. Within amounts appropriated therefor, the commissioner shall establish a pilot program in lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender culturally responsive education and shall make funds available to school districts through a request for proposal. The award of such funds shall be based on criteria to be developed by the commissioner and approved by the board of regents.

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