STATE OF NEW YORK

6568

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 6, 2021

Introduced by Sen. MAYER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Civil Service and Pensions

AN ACT to direct the commissioner of education to establish a regional secondary school advisory council to make recommendations on the establishment of regional secondary high schools; 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:

Section 1. 1. The commissioner of education shall establish a temporary regional secondary advisory council, which shall develop recommendations for legislative proposals for the establishment of regional high schools. Such advisory council shall be comprised of eleven members, of whom, two shall be appointed upon the recommendation of the governor, two shall be appointed upon the recommendation of the temporary president of the senate, two shall be appointed upon the recommendation of the speaker of the assembly, one member of the board of regents and/or his or her designee and the remaining members shall be either certified teachers, principals, superintendents from rural, urban and suburban school districts and/or district superintendents of boards of cooperative educational services appointed by the commissioner of education. The commissioner of education shall appoint a chair of the advisory council. The members of the advisory council shall represent the diversity of school environments that exists throughout the state and shall have demonstrated experience with expertise in one or more of the following areas: the use of regional educational services, teaching, administration in secondary schools, or regional transportation.

2. The recommendations of the advisory council shall include, but not be limited to:

(a) recommendations for legislative proposals to establish regional high schools in certain areas of the state;

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

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(b) best practices and model school district policies from throughout the state and nation relating to regional educational services that may be considered by the state and school districts in implementation of regional high schools;

(c) methods to use regional secondary programming to maximize student access to a wide range of curricular opportunities to best prepare students for post-secondary opportunities and the workforce;

(d) recommendations for the delivery of regional educational services, including tuition reimbursement, the issuance of degrees in regional high schools when there are multiple sending districts, the role of boards of cooperative educational services, employees in the regional high schools; transportation issues, economic and administrative efficiencies and services for students with disabilities and English language learners;

(e) partnerships with institutions of higher education and other relevant stakeholders for workforce opportunities in regional high schools;

(f) examination of the current school district reorganization process and recommendations of how to update and improve such process; and

(g) any other recommendations the council feels necessary to successfully implement regional high schools in certain areas of this state.

§ 2. The members of the advisory council shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties pursuant to this act, provided that the advisory council shall be authorized to conduct meetings in a manner that minimizes travel and costs as determined by the commissioner of education.

§ 3. The advisory committee shall submit a final report of its recommendations to the Board of Regents, the governor, the temporary president of the senate, the speaker of the assembly and the chairs of the education committees in the assembly and senate on or before the first of October, two thousand twenty-two.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be deemed repealed October 1, 2022.