STATE OF NEW YORK

10251

IN ASSEMBLY

May 15, 2024

Introduced by COMMITTEE ON RULES -- (at request of M. of A. Bichotte Hermelyn) -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to requiring school districts to provide information regarding water safety and swimming certification to certain parents or students upon enrollment

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

Section 1. Section 3205 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 4 to read as follows:

4. a. Beginning with the two thousand twenty-five--two thousand twenty-six school year, each school district shall provide, to a parent or guardian who initially enrolls their child in the school, information on the important role water safety education courses and swimming lessons play in saving lives. The information must be provided electronically or in hard copy and must include local options for age-appropriate water safety courses and swimming lessons that result in a certificate indicating successful completion, including courses and lessons offered for free or at a reduced price. If the student is eighteen years of age or older, or is under the age of twenty-one and is enrolling in adult education classes, the information must be provided to the student.

b. For the purposes of this subdivision, the term "water safety" shall mean age-appropriate education intended to promote safety in, on, and around bodies of water and reduce the risk of injury, including fatal or non-fatal drowning.

§ 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

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

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