STATE OF NEW YORK

5347

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 2, 2023

Introduced by Sen. GOUNARDES -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to requiring SUNY and CUNY authorities to install and retrofit dormitory buildings with sprinkler systems

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

Section 1. The board of trustees of the state university of New York, the board of trustees of the city university of New York and the council of governing boards for the independent colleges of New York shall conduct a study concerning the safety of New York state college students in dormitories, fraternities, sororities, laboratories, physical education facilities, dining facilities, educational facilities and recreational facilities. This study shall include information including, but not limited to, the number and percentage of buildings without adequate fire extinguishment equipment including, but not limited to, sprinkler systems, fire extinguishers, fire hoses and smoke alarms. Additionally, an analysis of the cost of retrofitting existing facilities with sprinkler systems must be provided along with a plan and time schedule for the completion of such retrofitting. A report containing the information required by this section shall be submitted to the governor and the legislature not later than December 1, 2025.

§ 2. Section 355 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 22 to read as follows:

22. Plan for providing fire safety. The board of trustees of the state university of New York shall adopt rules requiring that each institution of the state university, on or before March first, two thousand twenty-six, adopt and implement a plan to cause all buildings under the jurisdiction of such institution containing dormitory facilities for student use to be constructed or retrofitted with a system of piping and appurtenances, designed and installed in accordance with generally

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

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accepted standards so that heat from a fire will automatically cause water to be discharged over such fire area to extinguish it or prevent its further spread. All retrofitting shall be completed within a three year period from the date any such plan is adopted.

§ 3. Section 6206 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 22 to read as follows:

22. The board of trustees of the city university of New York shall adopt rules requiring that each institution of the city university, on or before March first, two thousand twenty-six, adopt and implement a plan to cause all buildings under the jurisdiction of such institution containing dormitory facilities for student use to be constructed or retrofitted with a system of piping and appurtenances, designed and installed in accordance with generally accepted standards so that heat from a fire will automatically cause water to be discharged over such fire area to extinguish it or prevent its further spread. All retrofitting shall be completed within a three year period from the date any such plan is adopted.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately.