STATE OF NEW YORK

6439

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

April 20, 2023

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

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to providing reimbursement for schools to transition from native names, logos, and mascots

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 319 to read as follows:

§ 319. Transitioning from native mascots, names or logos. 1. As used in this section, "native name, logo, or mascot" shall mean any person, animal or object used to represent a school district which names, refers to, represents, or is associated with Native Americans, including aspects of Native American cultures and specific Native American tribes.

2. The commissioner shall reimburse any school required by law, rule, or regulation to transition away from a native name, logo, or mascot for the actual costs of such transition. Such costs shall include, but not be limited to, any costs incurred from:

(a) selecting a new school or athletic team name, logo, or mascot;

(b) designing the selected new school or athletic team name, logo, or mascot;

(c) replacing uniforms or other materials bearing a native name, logo, or

(d) replacing a marquee, sign, art work, or other fixture which bears the native name, logo, or mascot; and

(e) replacing any portion of a school's facilities which bears the native name, logo or mascot including, but not limited to, buildings, athletic fields, courts, structures, vehicles, and floors.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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