STATE OF NEW YORK

9615

IN SENATE

May 16, 2024

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

AN ACT to amend the civil service law, in relation to the employment of persons with developmental disabilities by school districts

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

Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "unique abilities employment act".

§ 2. The civil service law is amended by adding a new section 55-d to read as follows:

§ 55-d. Employment of persons with developmental disabilities by school districts. 1. The commission may determine up to seventeen hundred positions in a school district with duties such as can be performed by persons with developmental disabilities, including intellectual disabilities, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, autism spectrum disorders, Prader-Willi syndrome and other neurological impairments who are found otherwise qualified to perform satisfactorily the duties of any such position. Positions designated to be filled pursuant to this section may be filled on a full-time or part-time basis. Upon such determination the said positions shall be classified in the noncompetitive class, and may be filled only by persons who shall have been certified by the employee health service of the department or the office for people with developmental disabilities, as being a person with a developmental disability. The number of persons appointed pursuant to this section shall not exceed seventeen hundred.

2. Those employees hired pursuant to subdivision one of this section, shall be afforded the same opportunity to take promotional examinations as provided to employees in the competitive class.

§ 3. 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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