

# 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:

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

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

5 § 55-d. Employment of persons with developmental disabilities by  
6 school districts. 1. The commission may determine up to seventeen  
7 hundred positions in a school district with duties such as can be  
8 performed by persons with developmental disabilities, including intel-  
9 lectual disabilities, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, autism spectrum  
10 disorders, Prader-Willi syndrome and other neurological impairments who  
11 are found otherwise qualified to perform satisfactorily the duties of  
12 any such position. Positions designated to be filled pursuant to this  
13 section may be filled on a full-time or part-time basis. Upon such  
14 determination the said positions shall be classified in the noncompet-  
15 itive class, and may be filled only by persons who shall have been  
16 certified by the employee health service of the department or the office  
17 for people with developmental disabilities, as being a person with a  
18 developmental disability. The number of persons appointed pursuant to  
19 this section shall not exceed seventeen hundred.

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

23 § 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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