STATE OF NEW YORK

10396

IN ASSEMBLY

May 21, 2024

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

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to authorizing and directing the commissioner of education establish rules and regulations for a college or university seeking to cease operations

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

Section 1. Section 305 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 62 to read as follows:

62. The commissioner is authorized and directed to promulgate rules and regulations that shall establish an orderly process for the closure of a college or university. Such rules and regulations shall include, but not be limited to:

(a) any decision to cease operations at a college or university shall be made public and disclosed at least one year prior to the proposed closing date;

(b) any college or university ceasing operations shall hold at least three public meetings to address concerns from students, faculty, staff, and the local community;

(c) any college or university ceasing operations shall provide notice to such college or university's accrediting agency at least nine months prior to the proposed closing date;

(d) any college or university ceasing operations shall provide details on teach out plans or transfer agreements to enrolled students at least six months prior to the proposed closing date;

(e) any college or university ceasing operations shall provide details on any plans to sell, transfer, or utilize campus resources, including but not limited to buildings, grounds, and facilities to local governments at least six months prior to the proposed closing date; and

(f) any college or university ceasing operations that shares responsibility for or provides shared services to local governments or agencies for programs or physical operations shall develop a transition plan with the relevant partner at least four months prior to the proposed closing date.

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

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§ 2. This act shall take effect one year after it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective date.