

STATE OF NEW YORK

2146

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 23, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. STERN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to establishing an educational program related to the prevention of anti-Semitism, Islamophobia bias and discrimination based on religion, race, sexual orientation or gender identity or expression

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

1 Section 1. Section 305 of the education law is amended by adding a new
2 subdivision 60 to read as follows:

3 60. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, and
4 subject to an appropriation, the department shall contract with an
5 outside entity who has expertise in the prevention of anti-Semitism,
6 Islamophobia bias and discrimination based on religion, race, sexual
7 orientation or gender identity or expression to establish an anti-Semi-
8 tism, Islamophobia bias and discrimination prevention and education
9 program overseen by such department. The commissioner shall work with
10 such outside entity, to establish and develop an educational program
11 within such department related to the prevention of anti-Semitism,
12 Islamophobia bias and discrimination based on religion, race, sexual
13 orientation or gender identity or expression in grades kindergarten
14 through twelve. Such program shall be further defined by such commis-
15 sioner in regulation and shall be designed to educate students, parents
16 and school personnel about the prevention of anti-Semitism, Islamophobia
17 bias and discrimination based on religion, race, sexual orientation or
18 gender identity or expression. Such commissioner, in collaboration with
19 any other stakeholder groups deemed appropriate by such commissioner,
20 shall develop:

21 a. the anti-Semitism, Islamophobia bias and discrimination prevention
22 and education program prepared by an outside expert organization into
23 age-appropriate model curriculum resources, including exemplar lesson

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

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1 plans, and best practice instructional resources for students, parents
2 and school personnel designed to prevent anti-Semitism, Islamophobia
3 bias and discrimination based on religion, race, sexual orientation or
4 gender identity or expression. Such model curriculum, resources, lesson
5 plans and instructional resources shall include but not be limited to
6 guidelines and methods of prevention, indicators and warning signs of
7 anti-Semitism, Islamophobia bias and discrimination based on religion,
8 race, sexual orientation or gender identity or expression, guidelines
9 and methods to prevent anti-Semitism, Islamophobia bias and discrimi-
10 nation based on religion, race, sexual orientation or gender identity or
11 expression and how to report complaints of anti-Semitism, Islamophobia
12 bias and discrimination based on religion, race, sexual orientation or
13 gender identity or expression. Such model curriculum shall be made
14 available to school boards, school superintendents, their equivalents,
15 and teachers for voluntary implementation in social studies classes and
16 in social studies coursework;

17 b. instructional tools and materials for students, parents and school
18 personnel, which shall include updated information on how to report
19 incidents of anti-Semitism, Islamophobia bias and discrimination based
20 on religion, race, sexual orientation or gender identity or expression,
21 with a review of such information to occur periodically, at intervals
22 deemed appropriate by such commissioner; and

23 c. public availability of all materials related to the anti-Semitism,
24 Islamophobia bias and discrimination prevention and education program on
25 such department's website in Spanish, Creole, Mandarin, Korean, Bengali
26 and any other language predominantly spoken by the population of the
27 state.

28 § 2. This act shall take effect on the first of July next succeeding
29 the date on which it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the
30 addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary
31 for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized
32 to be made and completed on or before such effective date.