STATE OF NEW YORK

4159

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 3, 2023

Introduced by Sen. SANDERS -- 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 reporting on swimming education in a public school; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon the expiration thereof

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 817 to read as follows:

§ 817. Swimming education. (a) Within one year of the effective date of this section, the commissioner shall allocate monies from existing budgetary resources to inventory and report to the education committee of the legislature on the extent of all existing resources and best practices available for swimming instruction classes in public schools.

(b) The commissioner shall establish a working group on swimming education which shall be composed of not more than fifteen individuals representing interested stakeholders, including:

(i) the commissioner or his or her designee;

(ii) physical education teachers who teach at any grade level from kindergarten through twelve;

(iii) school administrators who work at an elementary school, middle school or high school;

(iv) members of school board associations;

(v) individuals who represent not-for-profit recreational and fitness organizations across the state;

(vi) individuals who represent public park and recreation departments across the state; and

(vii) any other stakeholder the commissioner deems necessary, including but not limited to, community members who are underserved and disproportionately impacted by the current distribution of swimming resources in their public school districts.

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

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(c) Eighteen months after the effective date of this section, the working group on swimming education shall submit a report to the education committee, the temporary president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly, of such working group's findings and recommendations regarding resources, personnel and any other costs needed to make swimming instruction available in all public schools for children of all ages. Such report shall consider the commissioner's report pursuant to subdivision (a) of this section.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be deemed repealed six months after the working group on swimming education reports its findings and recommendations to the legislature pursuant to subdivision (c) of section 817 of the education law as added by section one of this act; provided that the commissioner of education shall notify the legislative bill drafting commission upon the submission of the report required in subdivision (c) of section 817 of the education law as added by section one of this act in order that the commission may maintain an accurate and timely effective data base of the official text of the laws of the state of New York in furtherance of effectuating the provisions of section 44 of the legislative law and section 70-b of the public officers law.