STATE OF NEW YORK

4420

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 8, 2023

Introduced by Sen. FERNANDEZ -- 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 the creation of a school-based teen dating violence prevention program

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 57 to read as follows:

57. School-based teen dating violence prevention program. a. The commissioner shall consult and collaborate with the commissioner of health, the office for the prevention of domestic violence and organizations that promote teen dating violence awareness, prevention and education, as well as other interested parties, to establish and develop a school-based teen dating violence prevention program within the department. Such program shall be defined by the commissioner in regulations after consultation with the department of health and the office for the prevention of domestic violence and be designed to educate students, parents and school personnel about healthy relationship behaviors, teen dating violence awareness and prevention. The teen dating violence awareness prevention program shall include but not be limited to:

(i) age-appropriate model curriculum, exemplar lesson plans and best practice instructional resources for students, parents and school personnel developed or approved to promote awareness of healthy relationship behaviors and teen dating violence prevention. Such model curriculum, lesson plans and instructional resources shall include but not be limited to information on healthy relationship behaviors and teen dating violence, recognizing the warning signs of teen dating violence, and a discussion of local community resources that are available to teens in an abusive relationship;

(ii) instructional tools and materials for students, parents and school personnel developed or approved in collaboration with the commis-

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

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sioner of health and the office for the prevention of domestic violence, which shall include updated data and information on healthy relationship behaviors and teen dating violence awareness and prevention, with a review of such data and information to occur periodically, at intervals deemed appropriate by the commissioner, the commissioner of health and the office for prevention of domestic violence; and

(iii) public availability of all materials related to the teen dating violence awareness prevention program on a dedicated webpage on the department's internet website, and all materials shall be provided at no cost to every school district, board of cooperative educational services, charter school and nonpublic school upon request.

b. The commissioner shall issue a guidance memorandum to every school district, board of cooperative educational services, charter school and nonpublic school, to inform them of the availability of the teen dating violence awareness prevention program and to encourage them to work and collaborate with local organizations that promote teen dating violence awareness, prevention and education and to develop policies and procedures on responding to incidents of teen dating violence and healthy relationship initiatives. The commissioner shall annually remind school districts, boards of cooperative educational services, charter schools and nonpublic schools, of the availability of teen dating violence awareness and prevention materials as part of teen dating violence awareness and prevention month.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the first of July next succeeding the date on which 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.