STATE OF NEW YORK

7123

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 18, 2023

Introduced by Sen. WEBB -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to providing student onboarding and ongoing education on reproductive health services

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 article 129-C to read as follows:

ARTICLE 129-C
STUDENT ONBOARDING AND ONGOING EDUCATION ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES
Section 6450. Student onboarding and ongoing education on reproductive health services.

§ 6450. Student onboarding and ongoing education on reproductive health services. 1. As used in this article, the following terms have the following meanings:

a. "Reproductive health services" shall include:

(i) abortion pursuant to section twenty-five hundred ninety-nine-bb of the public health law;

(ii) emergency contraception as defined in section twenty-eight hundred five-p of the public health law; and

(iii) medical, surgical, counseling or referral services relating to the human reproductive system, including services relating to pregnancy or the termination of a pregnancy.

b. "Code of conduct" shall mean the written policies adopted by an institution governing student behavior, rights, and responsibilities while such student is matriculated in the institution.

c. "Institution" shall mean any college or university chartered by the regents or incorporated by special act of the legislature that maintains a campus in New York.

2. Every institution shall adopt a comprehensive student onboarding and ongoing education campaign to educate members of the institution's

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

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community on the right to and availability of reproductive health services in the state.

3. Included in this campaign shall be a requirement that all new first-year and transfer students shall, during the course of their onboarding to their respective institution, receive information and resources on the following, using a method and manner appropriate to the institutional culture of each institution:

a. Where the nearest reproductive health services are located;

b. What resources are available to a student seeking reproductive health services including but not limited to financial assistance and mental health services; and

c. Reproductive health resources available to a student through the institution, if applicable.

4. Every institution shall provide such reproductive health resources to all new students, whether first-year or transfer, undergraduate, graduate, or professional.

5. Every institution shall require that each student leader and officer of student organizations recognized by or registered with the institution, as well as those seeking recognition by the institution, complete training on reproductive health services available to students at the institution.

6. Every institution shall adopt written rules and regulations implementing this article by amending its code of conduct or other comparable policies which shall be distributed annually to students, made available on each institution's website, posted in campus residence halls and campus centers where applicable, and shall include links to relevant reproductive health service resources provided pursuant to subdivision two of this section.

§ 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.