STATE OF NEW YORK

8402

IN SENATE

January 26, 2024

Introduced by Sen. PARKER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Energy and Telecommunications

AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to establishing the "go green schools act" to assist schools in converting to renewable energy sources as a primary source of energy

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

Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "go green schools act".

§ 2. Article 8 of the public authorities law is amended by adding a new title 9-D to read as follows:

TITLE 9-D
GO GREEN SCHOOLS ACT

Section 1920. Definition.
1921. Mapping.
1922. Study.
1923. Reporting.

§ 1920. Definition. For the purposes of this title, "authority" shall have the same meaning as set forth in subdivision two of section eighteen hundred fifty-one of this article.

§ 1921. Mapping. The authority shall develop mapping tools to provide to schools to assist such schools in converting to renewable energy sources as a primary source of energy.

§ 1922. Study. 1. The authority, within twelve months of the effective date of this title, shall conduct a study or studies of the financial feasibility and sustainability of converting each public school district to renewable energy as a primary source of energy.

2. Such study or studies shall include, but not be limited to:

(a) the ability of each school district to safely house its own independent energy harnessing source and store the energy harnessed, including the use of nearby structures to create local storage battery facilities nearby;

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

LBD14229-01-4

(b) the ability to plug schools that are not connected to a renewable energy source into existing renewable energy sources, including but not limited to solar farms, hydrogen energy plants, wind farms, geothermal, and other renewable energy sources, as approved by the authority, that are nearby;

(c) the creation of microgrids to connect school districts to local renewable energy sources, and the cost to upkeep such microgrids; and

(d) recommendations regarding the most feasible renewable energy sources for converting public school districts to renewable energy, including the most cost-effective routes to connect schools with such renewable energy sources.

§ 1923. Reporting. 1. (a) The authority, no later than three months following the completion of the mapping required pursuant to section nineteen hundred twenty-one of this title and the study or studies required pursuant to section nineteen hundred twenty-two of this title, shall submit a report to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly, containing the results of such mapping and the findings of such study or studies.

(b) The report required pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subdivision shall include, but not be limited to:

(i) recommendations for the most efficient ways to convert schools to renewable energy sources; and

(ii) recommendations for financial savings programs to incentivize school districts to convert to renewable energy sources.

2. The authority, no later than twenty-four months following the completion of the mapping required pursuant to section nineteen hundred twenty-one of this title and the study or studies required pursuant to section nineteen hundred twenty-two of this title, shall submit a second report to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly, containing projections regarding the sustainability and upkeep costs of the renewable energy projects recommended in the first report required pursuant to subdivision one of this section.

§ 3. Section 1854 of the public authorities law is amended by adding a new subdivision 9 to read as follows:

9. To develop and provide mapping tools and assistance to each public school district in converting to renewable energy sources as a primary source of energy pursuant to title nine-D of this article.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately.