STATE OF NEW YORK

8517

IN SENATE

February 8, 2024

Introduced by Sen. PARKER -- 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 providing access to laptops for high school and higher education students and textbooks for higher education students

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

Section 1. Section 753 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 6 to read as follows:

6. Beginning in the two thousand twenty-five--two thousand twenty-six school year, within amounts appropriated therefor, each school district in the state shall implement a program to provide each student in the district in grades nine through twelve a laptop without charge.

§ 2. The education law is amended by adding a new article 15-D to read as follows:

ARTICLE 15-D

ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION TEXTBOOKS AND LAPTOPS

Section 730. Access to higher education textbooks and laptops.

§ 730. Access to higher education textbooks and laptops. 1. (a) Beginning in the two thousand twenty-five--two thousand twenty-six school year, within amounts appropriated therefor, every institution of the state university of New York and every institution of the city university of New York shall implement a program to provide any student who attends such institution a laptop without charge.

(b) Beginning in the two thousand twenty-five--two thousand twenty-six school year, within amounts appropriate therefor, every private college or university within the state shall implement a program to provide any qualifying student who attends such institution a laptop without charge. For the purposes of this paragraph, "qualifying student" shall mean a student who provides such private college or university documentation of financial need based upon information provided on such student's free application for federal student aid (FAFSA).

2. (a) Beginning in the two thousand twenty-five--two thousand twenty-six school year, within amounts appropriated therefor, every institu-

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

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tion of the state university of New York, every institution of the city university of New York and every private college or university within the state shall implement a program to provide free college textbooks to every student attending such institution.

(b) Such program shall provide each student with a voucher to purchase necessary textbooks with the condition all textbooks shall be returned at the end of each semester in a serviceable condition.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.