STATE OF NEW YORK

4876

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 7, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. SIMON, COLTON, GONZALEZ-ROJAS, DE LOS SANTOS, R. CARROLL, ROSENTHAL, LUNSFORD, MAMDANI, BICHOTTE HERMELYN, SIMONE, SHRESTHA, TAYLOR, GALLAGHER, DINOWITZ, BURDICK, WEPRIN, ALVAREZ, DAVILA, CHANDLER-WATERMAN, CUNNINGHAM, SHIMSKY, REYES, KELLES, TAPIA, BURKE, ROZIC, STECK, RAGA -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. COOK, SAYEGH, SEAWRIGHT -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to interdisciplinary instruction on climate change

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 819 to read as follows:

§ 819. Instruction on climate change. 1. Subject to appropriation, beginning with the two thousand twenty-six--two thousand twenty-seven school year, every public school shall provide instruction on climate change and such instruction may be provided through interdisciplinary instruction, where appropriate. Such instruction shall include, but not be limited to, identifying the causes and impacts of climate change on individuals, environments and communities, and learning to evaluate solutions. Such instruction on climate change shall be in alignment with state learning standards, as appropriate.

2. The department shall, subject to appropriation, prepare and make available guidance and resources for educators including, but not limited to, supports for school districts to offer professional learning opportunities, that may be used to assist such educators in meeting the requirements of this section. The department shall also, subject to appropriation, provide technical assistance to school districts as such school districts transition their operations, including but not limited to facilities and transportation, to more energy efficient and climate friendly approaches.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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