STATE OF NEW YORK

9465--A

IN SENATE

March 13, 2026

Introduced by Sen. CLEARE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Education -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to including a component on water safety in kindergarten through twelfth grade

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 804-e to read as follows:

§ 804-e. Instruction in water safety. The regents shall ensure that the course of instruction in grades kindergarten through twelve includes a component on water safety. Such component shall instruct students on: 1. identifying risks associated with drowning or other injuries in connection to any body of water; 2. the behaviors necessary for both children and adults to reduce such risks; and 3. how to respond in an emergency if a drowning or other such injuries occur. The regents shall determine how to incorporate such component in existing curricula and the commissioner shall promulgate any regulations needed to carry out such determination of the regents. The regents may consider components including, but not limited to, an annual thirty-minute interactive assembly, a storyboard presentation, or in-classroom activities.

§ 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.

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

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