STATE OF NEW YORK

9732

IN SENATE

April 2, 2026

Introduced by Sen. BYNOE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Libraries

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to establishing a right for the board of trustees of any library chartered by the regents of the state of New York to develop, lease, or use public library spaces for the purposes of constructing affordable, mixed-use housing

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

Section 1. Section 260 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 13 to read as follows:

13. Notwithstanding any provision of state or local law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, the board of trustees of any library chartered by the regents of the state of New York, pursuant to section two hundred sixteen of this article, may develop, lease, or use public library spaces for the purposes of constructing affordable, mixed-use housing. Such activity is hereby declared to serve a public purpose and benefit; provided that the activity maintains the libraries' abilities to perform their chartered functions, including their educational purposes. Such activity shall be deemed a valid exercise of the trustees' power and in the best interests of the libraries, consistent with the trustees' duties of care, loyalty, and obedience.

§ 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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