

STATE OF NEW YORK

10649

IN ASSEMBLY

March 19, 2026

Introduced by M. of A. ZACCARO -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to requiring that all special education students attending schools scheduled to be closed or to undergo a significant change be assigned to new schools prior to the implementation of the closing or change

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

Section 1. Paragraphs (b) and (e) of subdivision 2-a of section 2590-h of the education law, as added by chapter 345 of the laws of 2009, are amended to read as follows:

(b) Such educational impact statement shall include the following information regarding the proposed school closing or significant change in school utilization:

(i) the current and projected pupil enrollment of the affected school, the prospective need for such school building, the ramifications of such school closing or significant change in school utilization upon the community, initial costs and savings resulting from such school closing or significant change in school utilization, the potential disposability of any closed school;

(ii) the impacts of the proposed school closing or significant change in school utilization to any affected students;

(iii) an outline of any proposed or potential use of the school building for other educational programs or administrative services;

(iv) the effect of such school closing or significant change in school utilization on personnel needs, the costs of instruction, administration, transportation, and other support services;

(v) the type, age, and physical condition of such school building, maintenance, and energy costs, recent or planned improvements to such school building, and such building's special features;

(vi) the ability of other schools in the affected community district to accommodate pupils following the school closure or significant change in school utilization, including a list of such schools with each school's most recently available enrollment, utilization rate, and

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

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1 percentage of special education pupils and the total number of special
2 education students impacted by the school closure or the change in
3 school utilization; and

4 (vii) information regarding such school's academic performance includ-
5 ing whether such school has been identified as a school under registra-
6 tion review or has been identified as a school requiring academic
7 progress, a school in need of improvement, or a school in corrective
8 action or restructuring status.

9 (e) (i) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (f) of this subdivi-
10 sion, all proposed school closings or significant changes in school
11 utilization shall be approved by the city board pursuant to section
12 twenty-five hundred ninety-g of this article and shall not take effect
13 until all the provisions of this subdivision have been satisfied and the
14 school year in which such city board approval was granted, has ended.

15 (ii) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (f) of this subdivi-
16 sion, no proposed school closing or significant change in school utili-
17 zation shall take effect until all special education pupils in the
18 affected school have been assigned to new schools within the city of New
19 York and the chancellor has verified that each new school within the
20 city of New York accepting special education students from the affected
21 school can accommodate such pupils.

22 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately; provided that the amend-
23 ments to subdivision 2-a of section 2590-h of the education law made by
24 section one of this act shall not affect the repeal of such subdivision
25 and shall be deemed repealed therewith.