STATE OF NEW YORK

10720

IN ASSEMBLY

March 27, 2026

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

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to requiring state university councils to include the institution's faculty and professional staff

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

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 356 of the education law, as amended by chapter 552 of the laws of 1985, is amended to read as follows:

1. Subject to the general management, supervision and control of and in accordance with rules established by the state university trustees, the operations and affairs of each state-operated institution of the state university shall be supervised locally by a council consisting of [~~ten~~] **twelve** members, nine of whom shall be appointed by the governor [~~and~~], one of whom shall be elected by and from among the students of the institution**, one of whom shall be a faculty member elected by the campus' faculty senate or faculty-professional staff senate, dependent on the shared governance structure of that campus, and one of whom shall be a professional staff member elected by the campus' professional staff senate, faculty senate or faculty-professional staff senate**. Such voting members shall be subject to every provision of any general, special or local law, ordinance, charter, code, rule or regulation applying to the voting members of such board with respect to the discharge of their duties including, but not limited to, those provisions setting forth codes of ethics, disclosure requirements and prohibiting business and professional activities. The election of the student member shall be conducted in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the respective representative campus student association in accordance with guidelines established by the state university trustees. One member shall be designated by the governor as [~~chairman~~] **the chair**. Where an undergraduate state-operated institution of the state university is located adjacent to another institution of higher education and students of such undergraduate state-operated

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

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institution are, under arrangements made by the state university, taking a substantial portion of their courses at such other institution, the president or other head of such other institution shall be an ex-officio member of the council for such undergraduate state-operated institution. Initial appointments, other than the student member and ex-officio members, shall be for terms expiring July first, nineteen hundred fifty-four, July first, nineteen hundred fifty-five, July first, nineteen hundred fifty-six, July first, nineteen hundred fifty-seven, July first, nineteen hundred fifty-eight, July first, nineteen hundred fifty-nine, July first, nineteen hundred sixty, July first, nineteen hundred sixty-one and, where there is no ex-officio member, July first, nineteen hundred sixty-two, respectively, and subsequent appointments, other than the student member, shall be for a full term of nine years from the first day of July of the calendar year in which the appointment is made. Vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as original selections. The term of office for each council member appointed on or after April first, nineteen hundred eighty-six shall be seven years. The term of office for the student member shall be one year commencing July first of the calendar year in which the election is conducted, provided, however, that the term of the student member first elected shall be nine months commencing October first, nineteen hundred seventy-five and expiring June thirtieth, nineteen hundred seventy-six. In the event that the student member ceases to be a student at the institution, such member shall be required to resign. Members of such councils appointed by the governor may be removed by the governor. Members of such councils elected by the students of the institution may be removed by such students in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the respective representative campus student association in accordance with guidelines promulgated by the state university trustees. Members of such councils shall receive no compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed for the expenses actually and necessarily incurred by them in the performance of their duties hereunder.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.