

STATE OF NEW YORK

11177

IN ASSEMBLY

May 1, 2026

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

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:

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

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

14 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

LBD15461-01-6