STATE OF NEW YORK

10369

IN SENATE

May 15, 2026

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

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to providing for health education pertaining to certain interpersonal violence prevention education for secondary high school students

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

Section 1. The section heading and paragraph b of subdivision 6 of section 804 of the education law, as amended by chapter 390 of the laws of 2016, are amended to read as follows:

Health education regarding mental health, alcohol, drugs, tobacco abuse [~~and~~], the prevention and detection of certain cancers, and certain violence prevention.

b. (i) The commissioner shall make available an interpersonal violence prevention education package for grades kindergarten through twelve, which package may consist of student pamphlets, parent pamphlets, videotapes and other informative materials to be distributed to school districts, and shall encourage the use of such material as part of the health or other related curricula or programs, provided, however, that interpersonal violence prevention education is required for all health education courses at the secondary high school level in order for a student to graduate.

(ii) Within the interpersonal violence prevention education package for all secondary high schools, the commissioner shall include instruction regarding certain violence prevention, including, but not limited to, the legal and social consequences of disseminating sexually explicit messages, imagery or video and cyberbullying as defined in subdivision eight of section eleven of this chapter. Instruction shall also include the education reform program established pursuant to section four hundred fifty-eight-l of the social services law.

§ 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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