

STATE OF NEW YORK

10573

IN SENATE

May 26, 2026

Introduced by Sen. STEC -- 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 prohibiting the use of timeout boxes, closets or other secluded physical enclosures in schools in the state

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

1 Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 116 to
2 read as follows:

3 § 116. Prohibitions on timeout boxes in schools. 1. The use of timeout
4 boxes, closets or other secluded physical enclosures for the isolation
5 of children are prohibited in schools in the state.

6 2. For purposes of this section:

7 (a) "Timeout box" shall include, but not be limited to, a wooden or
8 padded room or structure where a child is isolated.

9 (b) "School" means a public school district, board of cooperative
10 educational services, charter school, state-operated and state-supported
11 school pursuant to articles eighty-five, eighty-seven and eighty-eight
12 of this chapter, in-state and out-of-state private residential or non-
13 residential school for the education of students with disabilities
14 approved pursuant to article eighty-nine of this chapter or operating
15 under article eighty-one of this chapter, state-administered prekindergarten
16 program directly operated by a school district, board of cooperative
17 educational services, or an eligible agency, as defined in 8 NYCRR
18 151-1.2 (b), or operated by a school district in collaboration with an
19 eligible agency, preschool special education program approved pursuant
20 to section four thousand four hundred ten of this chapter, and regis-
21 tered nonpublic nursery school, kindergarten, and high school, and a
22 nonpublic school serving grades one through eight that has a registered
23 high school, in this state.

24 § 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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