



Senate Education

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ALBANY - (05/14/2024, 10:00 a.m., 510 LOB)

The Senate Standing Committee on Education met Tuesday morning to discuss six bills. Chair Shelley Mayer, Ranker James Tedisco, along with Senators Joseph Addabbo Jr., Iwen Chu, Cordell Cleare, Simcha Felder, Robert Jackson, John Liu, Alexis Weik and Bill Weber were present.

The following bills were reported to First Reading:

SB 8821 By Sepulveda, Luis. Directs the commissioner of education to change the name of the state high school equivalency diploma to the Excelsior high school diploma.

SB 9016 By May, Rachel. Enacts the "Syracuse STEAM school act".

SB 9018 (00:05:42) By Mayer, Shelley. Allows for the designation of students as ex officio members of school boards; repealer.

Tedisco asked who would be in consideration for the ex officio member of a school board under this bill. Staff responded someone of High School age, someone in a leadership position. The Chair added that a responsible person who took the position seriously like the President of the Student Body would be considered.

Tedisco, Weik and Weber voted Aye Without Recommendation.

SB 9147 By Mannion, John W.. Requires the commissioner of education to establish uniform statewide protocols for diapering and toileting students in public schools.

The following bill was reported and committed to Finance:

SB 7233 (00:00:36) By Mayer, Shelley. Empowers the commissioner of education to declare a disaster has substantially impacted a school board or school budget election and to allow school boards to set an additional day for voting.

Tedisco asked how much of the educational funding would be used for this bill. Staff said that an appropriation would be added to the General Fund in the next fiscal budget if districts needed an additional day for voting. Tedisco then had a question regarding this bill's language which states that the additional day of voting should not take place less than seven days or more than fourteen days after the original date of voting. He asked what would happen if a disaster spanned over the course of fourteen days. Staff responded saying that if a disaster lasted fourteen days, then the time for an additional day of voting won't start until the disaster is over.

The following bill was reported and committed to Local Government:

SB 7605 By Stec, Daniel G.. Relates to the computation of building aid for the Boquet Valley central School District.

Lynn Halliburton / New York State Watch

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Committee Member Contact Information (click or mouse over): Mayer, Shelley (D) / Addabbo, Jr., Joseph P. (D) / Chu, Iwen (F) (D) / Cleare, Cordell (D) / Felder, Simcha (D) / Jackson, Robert (D) / Liu, John C. (D) / Mannion, John W. (D) / Martinez, Monica (2F) (D) / Stavisky, Toby Ann (D) / Tedisco, James N. (R) / Oberacker, Peter (R) / Stec, Daniel G. (R) / Weik, Alexis (R) / Weber, Bill (F) (R)

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