

## **A09533 Summary:**

BILL NO A09533A

SAME AS SAME AS [S07526-A](#)

SPONSOR Ortiz

COSPNSR Quart, Hooper

MLTSPNSR

Add §803-b, Ed L

Requires at least one full-time licensed or certified school social worker to be employed in each elementary, intermediate, middle, junior high school and senior high school throughout the state.

[Go to top](#)

---

## A09533 Actions:

BILL NO        A09533A

01/19/2018    referred to education

01/25/2018    amend (t) and recommit to education

01/25/2018    print number 9533a

[Go to top](#)

---

## A09533 Committee Votes:

[Go to top](#)

---

## A09533 Floor Votes:

*There are no votes for this bill in this legislative session.*

[Go to top](#)

---

## A09533 Memo:

NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY  
MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION  
submitted in accordance with Assembly Rule III, Sec 1(f)

**BILL NUMBER:** A9533A

**SPONSOR:** Ortiz

**TITLE OF BILL:** An act to amend the education law, in relation to requiring a licensed or certified social worker in each elementary, intermediate, middle, junior high and senior high school

**PURPOSE:**

To insure that all elementary, intermediate, middle, junior and senior high schools throughout New York State have an effective social work program in place to meet the needs of their students.

#### **SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:**

The education law is amended by adding a new section 803-B, to require the board of trustees of every school district to employ at least one licensed or certified social worker in each elementary, intermediate, middle, junior high and senior high school under their jurisdiction. This employment shall be exclusive of any social workers funded or mandated through any special education funding, aid, regulation or statute.

#### **JUSTIFICATION:**

The role and function of a licensed or certified school social worker and the role and function of other pupil personnel services are distinctly separate. In addition to possessing certification through the Office of Teaching Initiatives, school social workers are licensed by the New York State Board of Regents with a scope of practice legally protected under Article 154 of the New York State Education Law.

Licensed and certified school social workers are at the forefront of school social, behavioral, and community issues. The skills and competencies of these licensed and certified school social workers enable schools to carry out their primary functions of educating all pupils more effectively.

Reducing or eliminating the presence of social workers in our schools would have a devastating effect on our students. Given the current economic crisis and the resulting impact on families and children, stress and worry has risen sharply due to loss of income, rising debt, unemployment, underemployment, loss of insurance, housing instability, hunger, and many other factors. These factors are known to contribute to increased incidence of mental illness, substance abuse, suicide, violence, crime, and in an academic environment, may be attributed to increased absence and risk of school failure.

Licensed and certified school social workers are qualified to address these factors. By applying appropriate intervention strategies, school social workers are able to alleviate some of these issues and support academic success. Every student in New York deserves equal access to services and every school in New York should provide the important services social workers can provide.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT ON THE STATE:**

Unknown

#### **LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:**

New Bill

**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

This act shall take effect immediately.

[Go to top](#)

---

**A09533 Text:**

**STATE OF NEW YORK**

---

9533--A

**IN ASSEMBLY**

January 19, 2018

---

Introduced by M. of A. ORTIZ, QUART -- read once and referred to  
the Committee on Education -- committee discharged, bill amended,  
ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to requiring a  
licensed or certified social worker in each elementary, intermediate,  
middle, junior high and senior high school

**The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and  
Assem- bly, do enact as follows:**

1 Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section  
803-b to read as follows:  
2 **§ 803-b. Social workers licensed under article one hundred fifty-**  
3 **four**  
4 **of this chapter or certified pursuant to rules and regulations**  
5 **established by the department, required in elementary, intermediate,**  
6 **middle, junior high and senior high schools. The board of education or**  
**trustees**

7 of every public school district in the state shall on and after  
July  
8 first, two thousand eighteen employ and provide access to at least  
one  
9 licensed or certified school social worker in each of the schools  
under  
10 their jurisdiction exclusive of any school social workers funded  
or  
11 mandated through any special education funding, aid, regulation or  
stat-  
12 ute. Such licensed or certified school social worker shall perform  
such  
13 duties within their lawful scope of practice.  
14 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in  
brackets

[ - ] is old law to be omitted.

LBD14250-

02-8

[Go to top](#)