



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224

APPROVAL #75
CHAPTER #688

December 21, 2021

MEMORANDUM filed with Senate Bill 979-A entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the real property law, in relation to requiring real estate brokers to receive training in cultural competency”

A P P R O V E D

Under Article 12-A of the real property law, applications for licensure to be real estate salespersons or brokers require proof of having completed a fixed number of hours of real estate coursework that covers several subject areas required by law, and renewal of licensure requires proof of having completed twenty-two and one half hours of continuing education (CE) coursework, with a minimum number of hours dedicated to identified subject areas.

This bill would (i) add a class on cultural competency training to the curriculum for new licensees; and (ii) require that of the twenty-two and one half hours of CE relating to renewals, at least two hours of cultural competency training be completed.

I support this legislation, but have concerns that there is no definition of the term “cultural competency”. Therefore, I have agreed with the legislature to pass legislation in the upcoming session that will define the term, “cultural competency,” and provide for an implementation timeframe that reflects the operational mechanics associated with expanding coursework requirements for real estate professionals.

Based upon this agreement with the legislature, I am signing this bill.

This bill is approved.

Ruth Hochul