

6342--A

I N S E N A T E

January 30, 2012

Introduced by Sen. HUNTLEY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the executive law and the social services law, in relation to developing plans to adequately address military sexual trauma experienced by female veterans

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 Section 1. Section 353 of the executive law is amended by adding two
2 new subdivisions 21 and 22 to read as follows:
3 21. TO DEVELOP AND DIRECT GENDER SPECIFIC PROGRAMMING AT VETERANS'
4 AFFAIRS MEDICAL FACILITIES WHERE SUCH PROGRAMMING IS DEEMED NECESSARY
5 AND APPLICABLE, AND WOULD BEST FACILITATE THE RECOVERY OF FEMALE VETER-
6 ANS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA. FOR THE PURPOSES OF
7 THIS ARTICLE, MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA SHALL MEAN PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMA,
8 WHICH IN THE JUDGMENT OF A VETERANS' AFFAIRS MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL,
9 RESULTED FROM A PHYSICAL ATTACK OF A SEXUAL NATURE, BATTERY OF A SEXUAL
10 NATURE OR SEXUAL HARASSMENT WHICH OCCURRED WHILE THE VETERAN WAS SERVING
11 ON ACTIVE DUTY OR ON ACTIVE DUTY FOR TRAINING.
12 22. TO ENSURE THAT ALL PROFESSIONAL STAFF EMPLOYED AT A VETERANS'
13 AFFAIRS MEDICAL FACILITY IS EDUCATED AND PROPERLY TRAINED ABOUT THE
14 EFFECTS OF MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA AND THE TREATMENT OF SUCH CONDITION.
15 S 2. The social services law is amended by adding a new section 179 to
16 read as follows:
17 S 179. ASSISTANCE TO FEMALE VETERANS. PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISIONS TWEN-
18 TY-ONE AND TWENTY-TWO OF SECTION THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-THREE OF THE EXECU-
19 TIVE LAW, ANY VETERAN ORGANIZATION DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION THREE OF
20 SECTION ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-EIGHT OF THIS TITLE SHALL PROVIDE ASSISTANCE
21 TO FEMALE VETERANS WHICH ADEQUATELY ADDRESS MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA EXPE-
22 RIENCED BY SUCH VETERANS AS DEVELOPED BY THE STATE DIRECTOR OF VETERANS'
23 AFFAIRS OR HIS OR HER AGENT.
24 S 3. 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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