

# STATE OF NEW YORK

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## IN ASSEMBLY

January 11, 2022

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Introduced by M. of A. GUNTHER -- read once and referred to the Committee on Mental Health

AN ACT to repeal article 6-B of the county law; and in relation to a 9-8-8 suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system

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

1 Section 1. Article 6-B of the county law, as added by a chapter of the  
2 laws of 2021, amending the county law relating to a 9-8-8 suicide  
3 prevention and mental health crisis hotline system, as proposed in  
4 legislative bills numbers S. 6194-B and A. 7177-B, is REPEALED.

5 § 2. The commissioner of the office of mental health, in consultation  
6 with the commissioner and the office of addiction services and supports,  
7 shall submit a report that details the resources necessary to make the  
8 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, otherwise known as the 9-8-8  
9 suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system, available,  
10 operational, and effective across the state. Such report shall address  
11 the following:

12 1. The assurance of twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week state-  
13 wide coverage by National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Centers;

14 2. Strategies for identifying and supporting funding streams to meet  
15 the projected increase in volume;

16 3. Mechanisms relating to increasing and sustaining capacity for call,  
17 chat, text and follow-up at the centers including workforce capacity  
18 building and training;

19 4. Proposed operational, clinical and performance standards, including  
20 identifying reporting metrics on usage, services and impact, for all  
21 Lifeline call centers to be reported annually;

22 5. Proposed linguistically and culturally competent care training  
23 standards for all Lifeline call centers;

24 6. Multi-stakeholder input through a 9-8-8 Implementation Coalition;

25 7. Systems to maintain local resource and referral listings, as well  
26 as assure linkages to local community crisis services;

27 8. Follow-up services for individuals who contact 9-8-8 through call,  
28 text, and chat based on Lifeline best practices and guidelines; and

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 9. Public messaging at the state level to distinguish from 911 and  
2 educate the public on the range of 9-8-8 services; which shall include  
3 public messaging for underserved and high risk populations.

4 The report shall be submitted on or before January twenty-first, two  
5 thousand twenty-two to the governor, the temporary president of the  
6 senate, the speaker of the assembly, and the minority leaders of the  
7 senate and the assembly.

8 § 3. This act shall take effect on the same date and in the same  
9 manner as a chapter of the laws of 2021 amending the county law relating  
10 to a 9-8-8 suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system,  
11 as proposed in legislative bills numbers S.6194-B and A.7177-B, takes  
12 effect.