

STATE OF NEW YORK

5848--A

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 23, 2023

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

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to requiring patient transporters to meet certain minimum requirements

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

1 Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as "Melania's
2 law".

3 § 2. The public health law is amended by adding a new section 2831 to
4 read as follows:

5 § 2831. Patient transporters. 1. For the purposes of this section, the
6 terms:

7 (a) "Patient transporter" shall mean a person who provides the
8 services of transportation of patients in internal healthcare facility
9 moves including, but not limited to, movements to and from testing or
10 treatment areas, discharging of patients, and operation of transport
11 equipment to escort patients throughout a healthcare facility. "Patient
12 transporter" shall exclude high-level clinical teams that provide the
13 services of internal healthcare facility transportation for patients
14 with high-acuity, or who present with certain symptoms as may be deter-
15 mined by the commissioner and mobile code teams.

16 (b) "Healthcare facility" shall mean facilities subject to this arti-
17 cle.

18 2. A person shall not function as a patient transporter in a health-
19 care facility and a healthcare facility shall not employ or otherwise
20 contract for the services of a patient transporter unless the patient
21 transporter has successfully passed a state accredited basic life
22 support course, in which knowledge and skills in cardiopulmonary resus-
23 citation using automated external defibrillators and relieving airway

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

LBD07065-03-3

1 obstructions is taught. Healthcare facilities shall provide such course
2 to employees and potential employees at no cost to such individual.

3 3. A patient transporter currently employed or otherwise contracted by
4 a healthcare facility who does not meet the requirements of subdivision
5 two of this section shall have twelve months from the date of enactment
6 of this act to meet such requirements.

7 4. Nothing in this section shall prohibit any healthcare professional
8 from performing patient transporter tasks or functions if the person is
9 acting within the scope of his or her practice.

10 5. Nothing in this section shall be construed as a patient transporter
11 duty to assess and act in a situation where basic life support may be
12 required.

13 6. The commissioner shall promulgate regulations as they deem appro-
14 priate to effectuate the purposes of this section.

15 § 3. This act shall take effect January 1, 2024.