

STATE OF NEW YORK

7037

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 18, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. SANTABARBARA -- read once and referred to the
Committee on People with Disabilities

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to duties of providers of services for the developmentally disabled

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

1 Section 1. The mental hygiene law is amended by adding a new section
2 16.39 to read as follows:

3 § 16.39 Surveillance cameras.

4 (a) (i) Surveillance cameras with sound capability shall be installed
5 in all public common areas including, but not limited to, all common
6 living areas, dining areas, hallways, classrooms and time-out rooms in
7 all group homes, residential and day schools and programs licensed,
8 certified, funded or operated by the office which provide services for
9 children or adults with mental or physical disabilities.

10 (ii) All public common areas including, but not limited to, all common
11 living areas, dining areas, hallways, classrooms and time-out rooms of a
12 facility providing residential care to youth which is operated, licensed
13 or certified by the office of children and family services, or which is
14 subject to the supervision of such office shall be equipped with
15 surveillance cameras with sound capability.

16 (b) In all residential facilities statewide, for children with mental
17 disabilities certified, licensed, funded or operated by the office,
18 surveillance cameras may be placed in a child's, age thirteen or younger,
19 room at the request of and with the consent of the child's parent or
20 guardian and only if the child is in a single occupancy bedroom.

21 (c) Any provider that fails to implement the provisions of this
22 section shall be subjected to a fine of one thousand dollars per day of
23 noncompliances.

24 § 2. This act shall take effect one year after it shall have become a
25 law.

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

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