

# STATE OF NEW YORK

988

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

(Prefiled)

January 8, 2025

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

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to requiring the office of mental health to convene forums and listening sessions in areas with high rates of death by suicide, suicide attempts, or other risk factors associated with suicide, and high risk minority groups or special populations

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

1 Section 1. Section 7.07 of the mental hygiene law is amended by adding  
2 a new subdivision (i) to read as follows:

3 (i) The office of mental health shall convene statewide forums and  
4 listening sessions for the purpose of meeting its statutory responsibil-  
5 ities and duties pursuant to subdivisions (g) and (h) of this section.  
6 Such forums and listening sessions shall be conducted in areas of the  
7 state which have high rates of death by suicide, suicide attempts, or  
8 other risk factors associated with suicide, and high risk minority  
9 groups or special populations, including but not limited to Latina and  
10 Latino adolescents, black youth, individuals residing in rural communi-  
11 ties, veterans, members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender  
12 community, and any other group deemed high risk or underserved by the  
13 office. The office may consult or work collaboratively with any state  
14 agency, advocacy group, or association to promote or convene a forum or  
15 listening session. The office shall include its findings and any recom-  
16 mendations resulting from a forum or listening session in its report  
17 required pursuant to subdivision (g) of this section.

18 § 2. 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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