STATE OF NEW YORK

2675

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 22, 2025

Introduced by Sen. FAHY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to requiring general hospitals to obtain and record certain information during the intake and registration of a patient, and to amend a chapter of the laws of 2024 amending the public health law relating to requiring hospitals to ask patients if they have a disability that requires accommodation under The Americans with Disabilities Act, as proposed in legislative bills numbers S. 8666-A and A. 8560-A, in relation to the effectiveness thereof

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

Section 1. Section 2803-t of the public health law, as amended by a chapter of the laws of 2024 amending the public health law relating to requiring hospitals to ask patients if they have a disability that requires accommodation under The Americans with Disabilities Act, as proposed in legislative bills numbers S. 8666-A and A. 8560-A, is amended to read as follows:

§ 2803-t. Preadmission information. 1. Any **general** hospital that provides preadmission information to a patient, shall offer a blind or visually impaired patient a large print version or, at the patient's or patient's representative's request, an audio recording, to be made available to such patient or such patient's representative on compact disc or other medium as the hospital may offer, or as an electronically transmitted digital file, in addition to a written copy of any preadmission information.

2. Each **general** hospital**, during the intake and registration of each patient,** shall [~~include a~~] **obtain and record information as specified by the department in regulation or guidance to determine whether such patient requires a reasonable accommodation for a** disability [~~accommodations needs assessment on their patient intake forms. The following~~

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

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~~statement and questions related to a patient's disability accommodations needs assessment shall read as follows:~~

~~"Please note, the following questions regarding your disability status are voluntary and you are not required to answer the questions if you do not wish to.~~

~~(a) Does the patient have a disability that requires accommodation under The Americans with Disabilities Act?~~

~~(b) If so, what is the nature of the patient's disability?~~

~~(c) Is the patient requesting a reasonable accommodation?~~

~~(d) If so, what is the reasonable accommodation requested?~~

~~(e) Does the patient wish to discuss accommodations with their health-care provider?"~~].

3. Nothing contained herein shall require a patient to answer the inquiries about a disability if they wish not to do so.

§ 2. Section 2 of a chapter of the laws of 2024 amending the public health law relating to requiring hospitals to ask patients if they have a disability that requires accommodation under The Americans with Disabilities Act, as proposed in legislative bills numbers S. 8666-A and A. 8560-A, is amended to read as follows:

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the [~~ninetieth~~] **one hundred eightieth** day after it shall have become a law.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, that section one of this act shall take effect on the same date and in the same manner as a chapter of the laws of 2024 amending the public health law relating to requiring hospitals to ask patients if they have a disability that requires accommodation under The Americans with Disabilities Act, as proposed in legislative bills numbers S. 8666-A and A. 8560-A, takes effect.