S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

4839

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

February 6, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. P. RIVERA -- read once and referred to the Committee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to requiring the office of alcoholism and substance abuse services to establish a curriculum in problem gambling which may be provided in grades four through twelve; to establish an adolescent gambling task force and providing for its duties; and providing for the repeal of certain provisions upon expiration thereof

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 19.07 of the mental hygiene law is amended by adding a new subdivision (h) to read as follows:

(H) THE OFFICE OF ALCOHOLISM AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES SHALL ESTABLISH A CURRICULUM FOR A COURSE OF INSTRUCTION IN ADOLESCENT PROBLEM GAMBLING WHICH MAY, AT THE OPTION OF ANY SCHOOL, BE PROVIDED IN GRADES FOUR THROUGH TWELVE. SUCH COURSE OF INSTRUCTION SHALL INCLUDE MATERIALS TO EDUCATE STUDENTS ON THE DANGERS AND CONSEQUENCES OF PROBLEM GAMBLING, AND SHALL BE AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET WEBSITE OF SUCH OFFICE.

S 2. Adolescent gambling task force. (a) An adolescent gambling task force is hereby created to examine, evaluate and make recommendations concerning the content and manner of instruction for the course of instruction in problem gambling established by subdivision (h) of section 19.07 of the mental hygiene law, as added by section one of this act. Such task force shall also examine the prevalence and consequences of problem gambling among adolescents.

(b) The adolescent gambling task force shall be composed of nine members as follows: the commissioner of alcoholism and substance abuse services, one member appointed by the commissioner of health to represent the department of health, one member appointed by the commissioner of education to represent the department of education, two members appointed by the temporary president of the senate to represent organ-

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

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izations which serve or advocate on behalf of adolescents, two members appointed by the speaker of the assembly to represent organizations which serve or advocate on behalf of adolescents, one member appointed by the minority leader of the senate and one person appointed by the minority leader of the assembly. The appointees shall be broadly representative of the geographic areas of the state, and shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing official for such member. The chair of the task force shall be the commissioner of alcoholism and substance abuse services. The commissioner of alcoholism and substance abuse services shall, on or before January 1, 2010, report to the governor and the legislature as to whether all members of the task force have been appointed, and if not, which member or members have not been appointed. Vacancies in the membership of the task force shall be filled in the manner provided for original appointments.

(c) The task force may meet within and without the state, shall hold public hearings, and shall have all the powers of a legislative committee pursuant to the legislative law.

(d) The members of the task force shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties pursuant to this section.

(e) To the maximum extent feasible, the task force shall be entitled to request and receive, and shall utilize and be provided with such facilities, resources and data of any court, department, division, board, bureau, commission or agency of the state or any political subdivision thereof as it may reasonably request to properly carry out its powers and duties pursuant to this section.

(f) On or before June 1, 2010, the task force shall report to the office of alcoholism and substance abuse services its findings, conclusions and recommendations on implementing the provisions of subdivision (h) of section 19.07 of the mental hygiene law, as added by section one of this act.

(g) On or before June 1, 2011, the task force shall report to the office of alcoholism and substance abuse services on the status of and any actions taken on the recommendations made pursuant to subdivision (f) of this section.

S 3. This act shall take effect immediately, except that section one of this act shall take effect September 1, 2010, and section two of this act shall expire and be deemed repealed on June 2, 2011.