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

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2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

February 23, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. LATIMER, CLARK, GALEF, BENEDETTO, MAGNARELLI, GREENE, ESPAILLAT, SCHROEDER, COOK, BRADLEY -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. DelMONTE, LUPARDO, McENENY, PHEFFER, REILLY, ROBINSON, ROSENTHAL, WEISENBERG -- read once and referred to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to the post polio sequelae public awareness program

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

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 207 of the public health law, as amended by chapter 471 of the laws of 2007 and paragraphs (f) as added by chapters 570 and 573 of the laws of 2008, is amended to read as follows:

1. There is hereby created within the department the health care and wellness education and outreach program. The department shall conduct education and outreach programs for consumers, patients, and health care providers relating to [any health care matters the commissioner deems appropriate and]:

(a) Various health conditions, diseases and health care procedures and treatment options.

(b) Recommended preventative and wellness practices and services, including age and gender appropriate testing and screening exams and immunization schedules.

(c) Lymphedema, an abnormal swelling of the extremities including the causes and symptoms of lymphedema, the value of early detection, possible options for treatment including their benefits and risks, and other relevant information and the recommendation that hospitals treating breast cancer patients implement a lymphedema alert program by placing a bright pink wristband on the patient's affected arm.

(d) The need and importance of organ and tissue donation, including information about being registered as an organ and tissue donor and executing documents of gift under article forty-three of this chapter.

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

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(e) The need and importance for consumers and patients to have an advance directive, particularly a health care proxy, and the need and importance for health care providers to play a leadership role in discussing end-of-life care preferences and values with patients and to provide patients with health care proxy forms.

(f) Uterine fibroids, an abnormal growth that occurs in the uterus, including the causes and symptoms of uterine fibroids, the value of early detection, possible options for treatment including their benefits and risks, information on the elevated risk for minority women and other relevant information.

[(f)] (G) Improving birth outcomes, including the importance of preconceptional care, early prenatal care, considerations of health risks during pregnancy, considerations of benefits and risks of labor and delivery options including, but not limited to, vaginal and cesarean section delivery, elective or repeat cesarean sections, and appropriate use of drugs during delivery.

(H) POST-POLIOMYELITIS SEQUELAE, AN AFTER-EFFECT OF POLIO THAT CAN OCCUR MANY YEARS AFTER THE INITIAL INCIDENCE OF THE DISEASE.

(I) ANY OTHER HEALTH CARE-RELATED MATTERS AS THE COMMISSIONER DEEMS APPROPRIATE.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.