

187

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

(PREFILED)

January 7, 2009

Introduced by Sen. MORAHAN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to establishing the child psychiatry access project

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 7.42 to read as follows:
3 S 7.42 CHILD PSYCHIATRY ACCESS PROJECT.
4 (A) THE OFFICE SHALL, WITHIN AMOUNTS APPROPRIATED THEREFOR, ESTABLISH
5 OR MAY CONTRACT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL CHILD PSYCHIATRY
6 ACCESS PROJECTS ACROSS THE STATE TO PROVIDE PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS WITH
7 TIMELY ACCESS TO CHILD PSYCHIATRY CONSULTATIONS IN ORDER TO ASSIST SUCH
8 PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS IN MEETING THE MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS OF THE CHIL-
9 DREN AND ADOLESCENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES.
10 (B) REGIONAL TEAMS SHALL CONSIST OF A CHILD PSYCHIATRIST WITH APPRO-
11 PRIATE SUPPORT STAFF, AND BE ESTABLISHED TO PROVIDE CHILD PSYCHIATRIC
12 TELEPHONE CONSULTATIONS TO PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS WITHIN THE DESIGNATED
13 REGION RESULTING IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING, DEPENDING UPON THE NEEDS OF
14 THE CHILD PATIENT AND/OR FAMILY:
15 1. RESPONDING TO THE PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIAN'S PATIENT SPECIFIC QUES-
16 TIONS ABOUT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH;
17 2. ASSISTING THE FAMILY IN ACCESSING ROUTINE, LOCAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
18 SERVICES, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THERE MAY BE A WAITING PERIOD;
19 3. PROVIDING TRANSITIONAL SUPPORT TO THE CHILD PATIENT AND FAMILY
20 UNTIL THE FAMILY CAN ACCESS ROUTINE, LOCAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES;
21 4. MAKING REFERRAL TO A TEAM CHILD PSYCHIATRIST FOR AN ACUTE PSYCHO-
22 PHARMACOLOGIC OR DIAGNOSTIC CONSULTATION.

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

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1 (D) REGIONAL TEAMS MAY ALSO PROVIDE MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCE SERVICES,
2 EDUCATIONAL SERVICES, MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCACY AND OTHER RELATED SERVICES
3 TO THE PROVIDER AND MENTAL HEALTH COMMUNITY.

4 (E) CHILD PSYCHIATRY ACCESS SERVICES PROVIDED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL
5 NOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, BASED UPON THEIR INSUR-
6 ANCE STATUS, WHEN SUCH SERVICES ARE ACCESSED THROUGH THEIR PRIMARY CARE
7 PROVIDER PRACTICING IN THE REGION.

8 S 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
9 have become a law.