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

1397

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

(PREFILED)

January 7, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. SCHIMEL, P. RIVERA, LUPARDO, JAFFEE, GUNTHER, WEISENBERG, ROSENTHAL, McENENY, FIELDS, SPANO, MAISEL, GOTTFRIED, KOON, PHEFFER, ALESSI, CAHILL, ZEBROWSKI, TITONE -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. ABBATE, ALFANO, BARCLAY, BRENNAN, BURLING, CONTE, CROUCH, ERRIGO, FINCH, GABRYSZAK, KOLB, P. LOPEZ, MAGEE, McDONOUGH, McKEVITT, MOLINARO, RAIA, REILLY, SAYWARD, SCOZZAFAVA, TOBACCO, WALKER -- read once and referred to the Committee on Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities

AN ACT in relation to requiring the commissioner of mental retardation and developmental disabilities to report to the legislature regarding services for persons with autism spectrum disorder

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

Section 1. The commissioner of mental retardation and developmental disabilities, in consultation with consumers, parents and providers of services, shall study and report to the legislature, its findings and recommendations of the office of mental retardation and developmental disabilities current capabilities and future service delivery needs for persons with autism spectrum disorder. The report shall include, but not be limited to:

(a) identifying and supporting evidence-based practices for serving people with autism spectrum disorders, including a review of the research findings at the Institute for Basic Research in Developmental Disabilities and other such facilities, as may be appropriate;

(b) evaluating the manner in which the current services system of residential, day, family support, employment, diagnostic and other services meets the needs of persons with autism spectrum disorders, including a review of program design, staffing needs and financing;

(c) coordinating with the department of health early intervention program, and the education department office of vocational and educa-

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

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tional services for individuals with disabilities, for the identification and referral of children with autism spectrum disorders served by those programs for whom supportive services from the office of mental retardation and developmental disabilities are necessary, and for the prompt and timely transfer of responsibility for services to students with autism spectrum disorders transitioning from school to adult services and supports;

(d) identifying the training needs for staff working with individuals with autism spectrum disorders and recommending opportunities for workforce development; and

(e) improving public awareness of the needs of individuals with autism spectrum disorders and the supports available from the office.

S 2. The report required by section one of this act shall be submitted to the legislature within one year after the effective date of this act.

S 3. This act shall take effect immediately.