

4839

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N   A S S E M B L Y

February 6, 2009

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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:

1     Section 1. Section 19.07 of the mental hygiene law is amended by  
2     adding a new subdivision (h) to read as follows:  
3     (H) THE OFFICE OF ALCOHOLISM AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES SHALL ESTAB-  
4     LISH A CURRICULUM FOR A COURSE OF INSTRUCTION IN ADOLESCENT PROBLEM  
5     GAMBLING WHICH MAY, AT THE OPTION OF ANY SCHOOL, BE PROVIDED IN GRADES  
6     FOUR THROUGH TWELVE. SUCH COURSE OF INSTRUCTION SHALL INCLUDE MATERIALS  
7     TO EDUCATE STUDENTS ON THE DANGERS AND CONSEQUENCES OF PROBLEM GAMBLING,  
8     AND SHALL BE AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET WEBSITE OF SUCH OFFICE.  
9     S 2. Adolescent gambling task force. (a) An adolescent gambling task  
10    force is hereby created to examine, evaluate and make recommendations  
11    concerning the content and manner of instruction for the course of  
12    instruction in problem gambling established by subdivision (h) of  
13    section 19.07 of the mental hygiene law, as added by section one of this  
14    act. Such task force shall also examine the prevalence and consequences  
15    of problem gambling among adolescents.  
16    (b) The adolescent gambling task force shall be composed of nine  
17    members as follows: the commissioner of alcoholism and substance abuse  
18    services, one member appointed by the commissioner of health to repre-  
19    sent the department of health, one member appointed by the commissioner  
20    of education to represent the department of education, two members  
21    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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1 izations which serve or advocate on behalf of adolescents, two members  
2 appointed by the speaker of the assembly to represent organizations  
3 which serve or advocate on behalf of adolescents, one member appointed  
4 by the minority leader of the senate and one person appointed by the  
5 minority leader of the assembly. The appointees shall be broadly repre-  
6 sentative of the geographic areas of the state, and shall serve at the  
7 pleasure of the appointing official for such member. The chair of the  
8 task force shall be the commissioner of alcoholism and substance abuse  
9 services. The commissioner of alcoholism and substance abuse services  
10 shall, on or before January 1, 2010, report to the governor and the  
11 legislature as to whether all members of the task force have been  
12 appointed, and if not, which member or members have not been appointed.  
13 Vacancies in the membership of the task force shall be filled in the  
14 manner provided for original appointments.

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

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

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

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

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

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