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

10312

I N A S S E M B L Y

May 22, 2012

Introduced by M. of A. N. RIVERA -- read once and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to developing plans to adequately address military sexual trauma experienced by female veterans

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

Section 1. Section 353 of the executive law is amended by adding two new subdivisions 21 and 22 to read as follows:

21. TO DISSEMINATE INFORMATION TO FEMALE VETERANS, WHEN APPLICABLE, REGARDING WHICH VETERANS' AFFAIRS CENTERS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS SUCH FEMALE VETERANS CAN SEEK TREATMENT, COUNSELING AND RESOURCES FOR MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA. SUCH INFORMATION SHALL BE POSTED ON THE VETERAN AFFAIRS' WEBSITE. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE, MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA SHALL MEAN PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMA, WHICH IN THE JUDGMENT OF A VETERANS' AFFAIRS MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL, RESULTED FROM A PHYSICAL ATTACK OF A SEXUAL NATURE, BATTERY OF A SEXUAL NATURE OR SEXUAL HARASSMENT WHICH OCCURRED WHILE THE VETERAN WAS SERVING ON ACTIVE DUTY OR ON ACTIVE DUTY FOR TRAINING.

22. TO ESTABLISH PEER COUNSELING AND SUPPORT SERVICES REGARDING MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA FOR FEMALE VETERANS AT ONE OR MORE VETERAN AFFAIRS' FACILITIES IF HE OR SHE DEEMS IT APPROPRIATE AND NECESSARY.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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