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I N   A S S E M B L Y

February 9, 2012

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Introduced by M. of A. ORTIZ -- read once and referred to the Committee  
on Correction

AN ACT to amend the correction law, in relation to training for staff in  
residential mental health treatment units programs inside correctional  
facilities

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

1     Section 1. Subdivision 6 of section 401 of the correction law, as  
2     added by chapter 1 of the laws of 2008, is amended to read as follows:  
3     6. The department shall ensure that the curriculum for new [correction  
4     officers, and other new] department staff [who will regularly work in  
5     programs providing mental health treatment for inmates,] shall include  
6     at least eight hours of training about the types and symptoms of mental  
7     illnesses, the goals of mental health treatment, the prevention of  
8     suicide and training in how to effectively and safely manage inmates  
9     with mental illness. Such training may be provided by the office of  
10    mental health or the New York state commission on quality of care and  
11    advocacy for persons with disabilities. All department staff who are  
12    transferring into a residential mental health treatment unit shall  
13    receive a minimum of eight additional hours of such training[, and]. ALL  
14    SECURITY, PROGRAM SERVICES, MENTAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL STAFF WITH DIRECT  
15    INMATE CONTACT SHALL RECEIVE A MINIMUM OF eight hours of [annual] SUCH  
16    training [as long as they work in such a unit] EACH YEAR. The department  
17    shall provide additional training on these topics on an ongoing basis as  
18    it deems appropriate.  
19    S 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after  
20    it shall have become a law.

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

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