

5884

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

March 8, 2013

Introduced by M. of A. ORTIZ, ABINANTI, JAFFEE, LIFTON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Mental Health

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to increasing the frequency of visitation and inspection of facilities per year

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (a) of section 16.11 of the mental hygiene law,
2 as amended by chapter 214 of the laws of 1993, is amended to read as
3 follows:
4 (a) The commissioner shall provide for the periodic visitation and
5 inspection of each facility. Inspections shall be made as frequently as
6 the commissioner may deem necessary but in any event such inspections
7 shall be made on at least [two] THREE occasions during each calendar
8 year[, at least one of] which shall be without prior notice, provided,
9 however, that where, in the discretion of the commissioner, an operating
10 certificate has been issued to a program with a history of compliance
11 and a record of providing a high quality of care, the periodic
12 inspection and visitation required by this subdivision shall be made at
13 least [once] TWICE during each calendar year provided such [visit]
14 VISITS shall be without prior notice, PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE
15 COMMISSIONER PROVIDE NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THE APPLICABLE BOARD OF VISI-
16 TORS. ANY MEMBER OR MEMBERS OF A BOARD OF VISITORS, APPOINTED PURSUANT
17 TO SECTION 13.33 OF THIS TITLE, AND ANY OTHER INDIVIDUAL OR INDIVIDUALS
18 THE COMMISSIONER AT HIS OR HER DISCRETION APPROVES, MAY ACCOMPANY
19 INSPECTORS DURING THE STATE'S PERIODIC VISITATIONS AND INSPECTIONS
20 CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION AS INDEPENDENT MONITORS.
21 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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