2530

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 18, 2013

Introduced by Sens. HANNON, DeFRANCISCO, GRISANTI -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to establishing the eating disorders awareness and prevention program; and to amend the education law, in relation to screening students for eating disorders

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

Section 1. The public health law is amended by adding a new article 27-FF to read as follows:

ARTICLE 27-FF

EATING DISORDERS AWARENESS AND PREVENTION PROGRAM SECTION 2790. EATING DISORDERS AWARENESS AND PREVENTION PROGRAM; ESTABLISHMENT.

2791. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT.

2

3

5

6

7

11

12

13

14 15

16 17

8 S 2790. EATING DISORDERS AWARENESS AND PREVENTION PROGRAM; ESTABLISH-9 MENT. THE EATING DISORDERS AWARENESS AND PREVENTION PROGRAM IS ESTAB-10 LISHED WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT.

- S 2791. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT. 1. THE EATING DISORDERS AWARENESS AND PREVENTION PROGRAM SHALL BE DESIGNED TO PROMOTE THE AWARENESS OF EATING DISORDERS AND AVAILABLE SERVICES, AS WELL AS TO PREVENT AND REDUCE THE INCIDENCE AND PREVALENCE OF EATING DISORDERS, ESPECIALLY AMONG CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS. RECOGNIZING THAT EARLY IDENTIFICATION AND INTERVENTION OF EATING DISORDERS IS ESSENTIAL, THIS PROGRAM SHALL PROVIDE A MULTI-FACETED APPROACH TO ACHIEVE ITS INTENDED GOALS.
- 2. THE EATING DISORDERS AWARENESS AND PREVENTION PROGRAM SHALL, IN CONSULTATION AND COOPERATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE NEW YORK STATE COMPREHENSIVE CARE CENTERS FOR EATING DISORDERS AND THE NATIONAL EATING DISORDERS ASSOCIATION, BE ESTABLISHED IN ORDER TO, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO:

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

LBD05353-01-3

S. 2530 2

1

2

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18 19

20

21

22

23

2425

26

2728

29

30

31 32

33

34

35

36 37

38 39

40

41

42 43

45

46 47

48

49

50 51

52

53 54

56

(A) DEVELOP MEDIA HEALTH PROMOTION CAMPAIGNS TARGETED TO CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS AND THEIR PARENTS OR CAREGIVERS THAT RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT EATING DISORDERS AND PROVIDE INFORMATION AND RESOURCES ON WHERE TO SEEK HELP;

- (B) ESTABLISH SCHOOL-BASED EATING DISORDERS AWARENESS AND PREVENTION PROGRAMS WITH LINKAGES TO HEALTH EDUCATION COURSES;
- (C) SPONSOR PERIODIC CONFERENCES OR MEETINGS TO BRING TOGETHER EXPERTS IN PUBLIC HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, EDUCATION, PARENTING, MEDIA, FOOD MARKETING, AND OTHER DISCIPLINES TO EXAMINE SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEM OF EATING DISORDERS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER STATE POLICIES AND PROGRAMS; AND
- (D) DEVELOP, PROMOTE AND MAKE AVAILABLE TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR MEDICAL AND OTHER HEALTH PROFESSIONALS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND, IDENTIFY AND PROVIDE APPROPRIATE TREATMENT AND/OR REFERRALS OF PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES.
- 3. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PERIODICALLY COLLECT AND ANALYZE INFORMATION FROM SCHOOLS, HEALTH AND NUTRITION PROGRAMS, THE COMPREHENSIVE CARE CENTERS FOR EATING DISORDERS AND OTHER SOURCES TO DETERMINE THE PREVALENCE OF EATING DISORDERS IN THIS STATE, AND TO EVALUATE, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE EATING DISORDERS AWARENESS AND PREVENTION PROGRAM AND OTHER STATE PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO ADDRESS EATING DISORDERS.
- S 2. Subdivision 1 of section 903 of the education law, as separately amended by section 11 of part B of chapter 58 and chapter 281 of the laws of 2007, is amended to read as follows:
- 1. A health certificate shall be furnished by each student in the public schools upon his or her entrance in such schools and upon his or her entry into the grades prescribed by the commissioner in regulations, provided that such regulations shall require such certificates at least twice during the elementary grades and twice in the secondary grades. An examination and health history of any child may be required by the local school authorities at any time in their discretion to promote the educational interests of such child. Each certificate shall be signed by a duly licensed physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner, who authorized by law to practice in this state, and consistent with any applicable written practice agreement, or by a duly licensed physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner, who is authorized to practice in the jurisdiction in which the examination was given, provided that the commissioner has determined that such jurisdiction has standards of licensure and practice comparable to those of New York. such certificate shall describe the condition of the student when the examination was made, which shall not be more than twelve months prior the commencement of the school year in which the examination is required, and shall state whether such student is in a fit condition of health to permit his or her attendance at the public schools. Each such certificate shall also state the student's body mass index (BMI) and For purposes of this section, BMI is computed status category. as the weight in kilograms divided by the square of height in meters or the weight in pounds divided by the square of height in inches multiplied by a conversion factor of 703. Weight status categories for dren and adolescents shall be as defined by the commissioner of health. FURTHERMORE, EACH SUCH CERTIFICATE SHALL INCLUDE AN ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT FOR EATING DISORDERS. SUCH ASSESSMENT SHALL BE CONDUCTED PURSU-ANT TO STANDARDS ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH. school districts such physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner shall determine whether a one-time test for sickle cell anemia is

S. 2530 3

3

necessary or desirable and he or she shall conduct such a test and the certificate shall state the results.

- S 3. Subdivision 1 of section 904 of the education law, as amended by section 12 of part B of chapter 58 of the laws of 2007, is amended to read as follows:
- 5 6 principal of a public school, or his or her designee, shall Each 7 report to the director of school health services having jurisdiction 8 over such school, the names of all students who have not furnished 9 health certificates as provided in section nine hundred three 10 article, or who are children with disabilities, as defined by article 11 eighty-nine of this chapter, and the director of school health services shall cause such students to be separately and carefully examined and 12 13 tested to ascertain whether any student has defective sight or hearing, 14 EATING DISORDER, or any other physical disability which may tend to 15 prevent him or her from receiving the full benefit of school work, or from requiring a modification of such work to prevent injury to the 16 student or from receiving the best educational results. Each 17 18 shall also include a calculation of the student's body mass index 19 (BMI) and weight status category. For purposes of this section, BMI computed as the weight in kilograms divided by the square of height in 20 21 meters or the weight in pounds divided by the square of height in inches 22 multiplied by a conversion factor of 703. Weight status categories for 23 children and adolescents shall be as defined by the commissioner of health. In all school districts, such physician, physician assistant or 24 25 nurse practitioner shall determine whether a one-time test for sickle 26 cell anemia is necessary or desirable and he or she shall conduct tests and the certificate shall state the results. If it should be 27 ascertained, upon such test or examination, that any of such 28 29 have defective sight or hearing, AN EATING DISORDER, or other physical 30 disability, including sickle cell anemia, as above described, the principal or his or her designee shall notify the parents of, or other 31 32 persons in parental relation to, the child as to the existence of 33 If the parents or other persons in parental disability OR DISORDER. 34 relation are unable or unwilling to provide the necessary relief treatment for such students, such fact shall be reported by the princi-35 pal or his or her designee to the director of school health services, 36 37 whose duty it shall be to provide relief for such students. Each school 38 and school district chosen as part of an appropriate sampling methodol-39 shall participate in surveys directed by the commissioner of health 40 pursuant to the public health law in relation to students' weight status categories as determined by the examination conducted 41 pursuant to this section and which shall be subject to audit by 42 43 commissioner of health. Such surveys shall contain the information 44 required pursuant to this subdivision in relation to students' 45 weight status categories in aggregate. Parents or other persons in parental relation to a student may refuse to have the student's BMI 46 47 weight status category included in such survey. Each school and school 48 district shall provide the commissioner of health with any information, 49 records and reports he or she may require for the purpose of such audit. 50 The BMI and weight status survey and audit as described in this section 51 shall be conducted consistent with confidentiality requirements imposed law. Data collection for such surveys shall commence on a 52 by federal voluntary basis at the beginning of the two thousand seven academic 53 54 school year, and by all schools chosen as part of the sampling methodology at the beginning of the two thousand eight academic school year. The

S. 2530 4

department shall also utilize the collected data to develop a report of child obesity and obesity related diseases.

S 4. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law, except that sections two and three of this act shall take effect on the first of July next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law; provided that, effective immediately, any rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this act on its effective date are authorized and directed to be completed on or before such date.