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

8457

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

October 9, 2015

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

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to directing local government units providing services to individuals with mental illness or developmental disabilities to create a single point of access system

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

Section 1. Subdivision (a) of section 41.13 of the mental hygiene law is amended by adding a new paragraph 17 to read as follows:

17. CREATE, DIRECT AND EXERCISE SUPERVISORY AUTHORITY OVER A SINGLE POINT OF ACCESS SYSTEM TO FACILITATE ENTRY TO CARE COORDINATION SERVICES, RESIDENTIAL PLACEMENT, REHABILITATIVE SERVICES, AND OTHER SERVICES FOR HIGH NEED ADULTS AND CHILDREN. THE SINGLE POINT OF ACCESS SYSTEM MAY BE OPERATED EITHER INDIVIDUALLY BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNIT OR COLLECTIVELY IN COOPERATION WITH ONE OR MORE OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS. SEPARATE SINGLE POINT OF ACCESS SYSTEMS MAY BE ESTABLISHED IN ORDER TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF A TARGETED POPULATION BASED ON CRITERIA INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, AGE, DISABILITY, VETERAN STATUS OR SPECIFIC SERVICE NEED SUCH AS HOUSING OR CARE COORDINATION. SINGLE POINT OF ACCESS SYSTEMS SHALL HAVE THE POWER TO:

(I) RECEIVE REFERRALS OF ALL PERSONS WITH A MENTAL DISABILITY AS DEFINED IN SECTION 1.03 OF THIS CHAPTER WHO ARE IDENTIFIED AS A HIGH NEED PERSON BY THE COMMISSIONER;

(II) RECEIVE REFERRALS REGARDLESS OF AGE, ABILITY TO PAY, OR HEALTH INSURANCE STATUS;

(III) REQUIRE THE COOPERATION OF PROVIDERS OF CARE COORDINATION, HOUSING, HEALTH CARE, AND MANAGED CARE OPERATING WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNIT TO DETERMINE THE APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF CARE AND SERVICE DELIVERY FOR DESIGNATED HIGH NEED PERSONS.

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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