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

9162

I N A S S E M B L Y

January 29, 2016

Introduced by M. of A. GUNTHER -- 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 ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Subdivision 6 of section 401 of the correction law, as amended by a chapter of the laws of 2015 amending the correction law relating to training for staff in residential mental health treatment units programs inside correctional facilities, as proposed in legislative bills numbers S.633 and A.836, is amended to read as follows:

6. The department shall ensure that the curriculum for new CORRECTION OFFICERS, AND OTHER NEW department staff WHO WILL REGULARLY WORK IN PROGRAMS PROVIDING MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT FOR INMATES, shall include at least eight hours of training about the types and symptoms of mental illnesses, the goals of mental health treatment, the prevention of suicide and training in how to effectively and safely manage inmates with mental illness. Such training may be provided by the office of mental health or the justice center for the protection of people with special needs. All department staff who are transferring into a residential mental health treatment unit shall receive a minimum of eight additional hours of such training[. All security, program services, mental health, and medical staff with direct inmate contact shall receive a minimum of], AND eight hours of [such] ANNUAL training [each year] AS LONG AS THEY WORK IN SUCH A UNIT. ALL SECURITY, PROGRAM SERVICES, MENTAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL STAFF WITH DIRECT INMATE CONTACT SHALL RECEIVE TRAINING EACH YEAR REGARDING IDENTIFICATION OF, AND CARE FOR, INMATES WITH MENTAL ILLNESSES. The department shall provide additional training on these topics on an ongoing basis as it deems appropriate.

S 2. This act shall take effect on the same date and in the manner as a chapter of the laws of 2015 amending the correction law relating to training for staff in residential mental health treatment units programs inside correctional facilities, as proposed in legislative bills numbers S.633 and A.836, takes effect.

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

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