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

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2511--A

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

January 26, 2015
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Introduced by Sen. PARKER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when
  printed to be committed to the Committee on Veterans, Homeland Securi-
  ty and Military Affairs -- recommitted to the Committee on Veterans,
  Homeland Security and Military Affairs in accordance with Senate Rule
  6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as
  amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to creating a public
  education initiative designed to eliminate stigma and misinformation
  about mental illness and chemical dependence among military service
  members; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expira-
  tion thereof

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

 1   Section 1. Section 7.09 of the mental hygiene law is amended by adding
 2 a new subdivision (k) to read as follows:
 3   (K) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY GENERAL OR SPECIAL LAW TO THE CONTRARY, THE
 4 COMMISSIONER, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF ALCOHOLISM AND
 5 SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF VETERANS'
 6 AFFAIRS SHALL DEVELOP A PUBLIC EDUCATION INITIATIVE DESIGNED TO ELIMI-
 7 NATE STIGMA AND MISINFORMATION ABOUT MENTAL ILLNESS AND CHEMICAL DEPEND-
 8 ENCE AMONG SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND THEIR FAMILIES, IMPROVE THEIR
 9 UNDERSTANDING OF MENTAL AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS AND THE EXISTENCE OF
10 EFFECTIVE TREATMENT, AND PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING AVAILABLE
11 RESOURCES AND HOW TO ACCESS THEM. THESE PUBLIC EDUCATION INITIATIVES MAY
12 INCLUDE THE USE OF THE INTERNET, INCLUDING THE USE OF SOCIAL NETWORKING
13 SITES.
14   S 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire on June
15 30, 2019 when upon such date the provisions of this act shall be deemed
16 repealed.

     EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
                        [ ] is old law to be omitted.
                                                            LBD04604-02-6