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I N   A S S E M B L Y

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Introduced by M. of A. GUNTHER, SCHIMEL, BARRETT, STIRPE, RUSSELL --  
Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. MONTESANO -- read once and referred to  
the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to establishing a  
hospital-home care-physician collaboration program

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

1     Section 1. The public health law is amended by adding a new section  
2     2805-x to read as follows:  
3     S 2805-X. HOSPITAL-HOME CARE-PHYSICIAN COLLABORATION PROGRAM. 1. THE  
4     PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE TO FACILITATE INNOVATION IN HOSPITAL,  
5     HOME CARE AGENCY AND PHYSICIAN COLLABORATION IN MEETING THE COMMUNITY'S  
6     HEALTH CARE NEEDS. IT SHALL PROVIDE A FRAMEWORK TO SUPPORT VOLUNTARY  
7     INITIATIVES IN COLLABORATION TO IMPROVE PATIENT CARE ACCESS AND MANAGE-  
8     MENT, PATIENT HEALTH OUTCOMES, COST-EFFECTIVENESS IN THE USE OF HEALTH  
9     CARE SERVICES AND COMMUNITY POPULATION HEALTH. SUCH COLLABORATIVE INITI-  
10    ATIVES MAY ALSO INCLUDE PAYORS, SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES AND OTHER  
11    INTERDISCIPLINARY PROVIDERS, PRACTITIONERS AND SERVICE ENTITIES.  
12    2. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:  
13    (A) "HOSPITAL" SHALL INCLUDE A GENERAL HOSPITAL AS DEFINED IN THIS  
14    ARTICLE OR OTHER INPATIENT FACILITY FOR REHABILITATION OR SPECIALTY CARE  
15    WITHIN THE DEFINITION OF HOSPITAL IN THIS ARTICLE.  
16    (B) "HOME CARE AGENCY" SHALL MEAN A CERTIFIED HOME HEALTH AGENCY, LONG  
17    TERM HOME HEALTH CARE PROGRAM OR LICENSED HOME CARE SERVICES AGENCY AS  
18    DEFINED IN ARTICLE THIRTY-SIX OF THIS CHAPTER.  
19    (C) "PAYOR" SHALL MEAN A HEALTH PLAN APPROVED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE  
20    FORTY-FOUR OF THIS CHAPTER, OR ARTICLE THIRTY-TWO OR FORTY-THREE OF THE  
21    INSURANCE LAW.  
22    (D) "PRACTITIONER" SHALL MEAN ANY OF THE HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH OR  
23    HEALTH RELATED PROFESSIONS LICENSED PURSUANT TO TITLE EIGHT OF THE  
24    EDUCATION LAW.

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

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3. THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE FINANCING INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, GRANTS OR POSITIVE ADJUSTMENTS IN MEDICAL ASSISTANCE RATES OR PREMIUM PAYMENTS, TO THE EXTENT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE AND ALLOCATED OR APPROPRIATED THEREFOR, INCLUDING FUNDS PROVIDED TO THE STATE THROUGH FEDERAL WAIVERS, FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH STATE APPROPRIATIONS AND/OR FUNDING THROUGH SECTION TWENTY-EIGHT HUNDRED SEVEN-V OF THIS ARTICLE, AS WELL AS WAIVERS OF REGULATIONS UNDER TITLE TEN OF THE NEW YORK CODES, RULES AND REGULATIONS, TO SUPPORT THE VOLUNTARY INITIATIVES AND OBJECTIVES OF THIS SECTION.

4. HOSPITAL-HOME CARE-PHYSICIAN COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVES UNDER THIS SECTION MAY INCLUDE, BUT SHALL NOT BE LIMITED TO:

(A) HOSPITAL-HOME CARE-PHYSICIAN INTEGRATION INITIATIVES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

(I) TRANSITIONS IN CARE INITIATIVES TO HELP EFFECTIVELY TRANSITION PATIENTS TO POST-ACUTE CARE AT HOME, COORDINATE FOLLOW-UP CARE AND ADDRESS ISSUES CRITICAL TO CARE PLAN SUCCESS AND READMISSION AVOIDANCE;

(II) CLINICAL PATHWAYS FOR SPECIFIED CONDITIONS, GUIDING PATIENTS' PROGRESS AND OUTCOME GOALS, AS WELL AS EFFECTIVE HEALTH SERVICES USE;

(III) APPLICATION OF TELEHEALTH/TELEMEDICINE SERVICES IN MONITORING AND MANAGING PATIENT CONDITIONS, AND PROMOTING SELF-CARE/MANAGEMENT, IMPROVED OUTCOMES AND EFFECTIVE SERVICES USE;

(IV) FACILITATION OF PHYSICIAN HOUSE CALLS TO HOMEBOUND PATIENTS AND/OR TO PATIENTS FOR WHOM SUCH HOME VISITS ARE DETERMINED NECESSARY AND EFFECTIVE FOR PATIENT CARE MANAGEMENT;

(V) ADDITIONAL MODELS FOR PREVENTION OF AVOIDABLE HOSPITAL READMISSIONS AND EMERGENCY ROOM VISITS;

(VI) HEALTH HOME DEVELOPMENT;

(VII) DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION OF NEW MODELS OF INTEGRATED OR COLLABORATIVE CARE AND CARE MANAGEMENT NOT OTHERWISE ACHIEVABLE THROUGH EXISTING MODELS; AND

(VIII) BUNDLED PAYMENT DEMONSTRATIONS FOR HOSPITAL-TO-POST-ACUTE-CARE FOR SPECIFIED CONDITIONS OR CATEGORIES OF CONDITIONS, IN PARTICULAR, CONDITIONS PREDISPOSED TO HIGH PREVALENCE OF READMISSION, INCLUDING THOSE CURRENTLY SUBJECT TO FEDERAL/STATE PENALTY, AND OTHER DISCHARGES WITH EXTENSIVE POST-ACUTE NEEDS;

(B) RECRUITMENT, TRAINING AND RETENTION OF HOSPITAL/HOME CARE DIRECT CARE STAFF AND PHYSICIANS, IN GEOGRAPHIC OR CLINICAL AREAS OF DEMONSTRATED NEED. SUCH INITIATIVES MAY INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

(I) OUTREACH AND PUBLIC EDUCATION ABOUT THE NEED AND VALUE OF SERVICE IN HEALTH OCCUPATIONS;

(II) TRAINING/CONTINUING EDUCATION AND REGULATORY FACILITATION FOR CROSS-TRAINING TO MAXIMIZE FLEXIBILITY IN THE UTILIZATION OF STAFF, INCLUDING:

(A) TRAINING OF HOSPITAL NURSES IN HOME CARE;

(B) DUAL CERTIFIED NURSE AIDE/HOME HEALTH AIDE CERTIFICATION; AND

(C) DUAL PERSONAL CARE AIDE/HHA CERTIFICATION;

(III) SALARY/BENEFIT ENHANCEMENT;

(IV) CAREER LADDER DEVELOPMENT; AND

(V) OTHER INCENTIVES TO PRACTICE IN SHORTAGE AREAS; AND

(C) HOSPITAL - HOME CARE - PHYSICIAN COLLABORATIVES FOR THE CARE AND MANAGEMENT OF SPECIAL NEEDS, HIGH-RISK AND HIGH-COST PATIENTS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO BEST PRACTICES, AND TRAINING AND EDUCATION OF DIRECT CARE PRACTITIONERS AND SERVICE EMPLOYEES.

5. HOSPITALS AND HOME CARE AGENCIES WHICH ARE PROVIDED FINANCING OR WAIVERS PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL REPORT TO THE COMMISSIONER ON THE

1 PATIENT, SERVICE AND COST EXPERIENCES PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, INCLUD-  
2 ING THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE PROJECT GOALS ARE ACHIEVED. THE COMMISSIONER  
3 SHALL COMPILE AND MAKE SUCH REPORTS AVAILABLE ON THE DEPARTMENT'S  
4 WEBSITE.

5 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.