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I N S E N A T E

June 10, 2016

Introduced by Sens. LANZA, GOLDEN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to the distribution of educational materials regarding the misuse of and addiction to prescription drugs

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

Section 1. Section 19.09 of the mental hygiene law is amended by adding a new subdivision (j) to read as follows:

(J) (1) THE COMMISSIONER, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH, SHALL CREATE OR UTILIZE EXISTING EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS WHICH SHALL INCLUDE INFORMATION REGARDING THE DANGERS OF MISUSE AND THE POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION TO PRESCRIPTION DRUGS, TREATMENT RESOURCES AVAILABLE, AND THE PROPER WAY TO DISPOSE OF UNUSED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS. SUCH MATERIALS SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO PHARMACISTS AND MAY BE DISTRIBUTED WITH ANY PRESCRIBED DRUG THAT IS A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE BY A PHARMACIST LICENSED BY THE STATE TO DISPENSE PRESCRIPTION DRUGS TO THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO SECTION SIXTY-EIGHT HUNDRED FIVE OF THE EDUCATION LAW. THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN SUCH MATERIALS SHALL ALSO BE POSTED ON THE WEBSITE OF THE OFFICE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH. SUCH MATERIALS SHALL BE PROVIDED IN LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH AS DEEMED APPROPRIATE BY THE COMMISSIONERS.

(2) UTILIZING DATA THAT IS AVAILABLE TO THE OFFICE, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, INFORMATION OBTAINED PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION FOUR OF SECTION THIRTY-THREE HUNDRED NINE-A OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH LAW, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL IDENTIFY THE COUNTIES IN NEW YORK STATE WHERE PRESCRIPTION OPIOID ABUSE IS MOST PREVALENT. PHARMACISTS LICENSED BY THE STATE TO DISPENSE PRESCRIPTION DRUGS MAY BE NOTIFIED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMISSIONER IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, ABOUT THE PREVALENCE OF OPIOID ABUSE IN THE COUNTY IN WHICH SUCH PHARMACISTS ARE LOCATED AND ENCOURAGE THE FACILITIES WHERE PRESCRIPTION DRUGS ARE DISPENSED TO DISTRIBUTE MATERIALS CREATED OR UTILIZED PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH ONE OF THIS SUBDIVISION.

S 2. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall have become a law.

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

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