

STATE OF NEW YORK

5882

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 16, 2017

Introduced by M. of A. M. L. MILLER, BRABENEC, CROUCH, HAWLEY, KOLB, MALLIOTAKIS, NORRIS, PALMESANO, RA, WALSH -- read once and referred to the Committee on Mental Health

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to support services for individuals with developmental disabilities

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Legislative intent. The United States Supreme Court deci-
2 sion in Olmstead v. L.C. has caused a ripple effect throughout the
3 developmental disabilities community as it pertains to the integration
4 of employment and how individuals with developmental disabilities will
5 find and get to employment. Furthermore the deinstitutionalization
6 requirements of the Olmstead decision also impacts housing for the
7 developmental disabilities community. While many individuals live with
8 their families, parents are concerned with what will happen to their
9 children when they can no longer care for them. Issues regarding indi-
10 viduals with developmental disabilities are wide-ranging and unique.
11 One of the issues unifying parents regarded service coordination for
12 individuals with developmental disabilities. As a result, the office for
13 people with developmental disabilities must develop tools to aid fami-
14 lies and individuals with these challenges.

15 § 2. Section 13.09 of the mental hygiene law is amended by adding two
16 new subdivisions (i) and (j) to read as follows:

17 (i) The commissioner shall establish family support navigators to
18 assist families and individuals to gain an increased understanding and
19 assist with navigating services for individuals with developmental disa-
20 bilities. The commissioner, with collaboration from other agencies,
21 offices, and stakeholders, will develop standards for the family support
22 navigator role. These standards will include a working knowledge of, but
23 not be limited to, issues with service navigation, transportation,
24 education, housing, insurance and workforce development.

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

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1 (j) The commissioner shall develop, and show on the office's website,
2 a list of available housing and future housing availability for individ-
3 uals with developmental disabilities. The list of housing shall be
4 updated on a bi-weekly basis and be broken down by county.

5 § 3. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
6 have become a law.