

STATE OF NEW YORK

S. 7598

A. 9634

SENATE - ASSEMBLY

January 29, 2018

IN SENATE -- Introduced by Sen. AMEDORE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities

IN ASSEMBLY -- Introduced by M. of A. SANTABARBARA -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, the public health law and the executive law, in relation to establishing a training program for first responders for handling emergency situations involving individuals with autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities

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

1 Section 1. The mental hygiene law is amended by adding a new section
2 13.43 to read as follows:

3 § 13.43 First responder training.

4 (a) The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of health,
5 the office of fire prevention and control, the municipal police training
6 council, and the superintendent of state police, shall develop a train-
7 ing program and associated training materials, to provide instruction
8 and information to firefighters, police officers and emergency medical
9 services personnel on appropriate recognition and response techniques
10 for handling emergency situations involving individuals with autism
11 spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities. The training
12 program and associated training materials shall include any other infor-
13 mation deemed necessary and appropriate by the commissioner.

14 (b) Such training shall address appropriate response techniques for
15 dealing with both adults and minors with autism spectrum disorder and
16 other developmental disabilities.

17 (c) Such training program may be developed as an online program.

18 § 2. The public health law is amended by adding a new section 3054 to
19 read as follows:

20 § 3054. Emergency situations involving individuals with autism spec-
21 trum disorder and other developmental disabilities. In coordination with
22 the commissioner of developmental disabilities, the commissioner shall
23 provide the training program relating to handling emergency situations
24 involving individuals with autism spectrum disorder and other develop-

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

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1 mental disabilities and associated training materials pursuant to
2 section 13.43 of the mental hygiene law to all emergency medical
3 services personnel including, but not limited to, first responders,
4 emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians
5 and emergency vehicle operators.

6 § 3. Section 156 of the executive law is amended by adding a new
7 subdivision 22 to read as follows:

8 22. In coordination with the commissioner of developmental disabili-
9 ties, provide the training program relating to handling emergency situ-
10 ations involving individuals with autism spectrum disorder and other
11 developmental disabilities and associated training materials pursuant to
12 section 13.43 of the mental hygiene law to all firefighters, both paid
13 and volunteer. The office shall adopt all necessary rules and regu-
14 lations relating to such training, including the process by which train-
15 ing hours are allocated to counties as well as a uniform procedure for
16 requesting and providing additional training hours.

17 § 4. Section 840 of the executive law is amended by adding a new
18 subdivision 5 to read as follows:

19 5. The council shall, in addition:

20 (a) Develop, maintain and disseminate, in consultation with the
21 commissioner of developmental disabilities, written policies and proce-
22 dures consistent with section 13.43 of the mental hygiene law, regarding
23 the handling of emergency situations involving individuals with autism
24 spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities. Such policies
25 and procedures shall make provisions for the education and training of
26 new and veteran police officers on the handling of emergency situations
27 involving individuals with autism spectrum disorder and other develop-
28 mental disabilities; and

29 (b) Recommend to the governor, rules and regulations with respect to
30 the establishment and implementation on an ongoing basis of a training
31 program for all current and new police officers regarding the policies
32 and procedures established pursuant to this subdivision, along with
33 recommendations for periodic retraining of police officers.

34 § 5. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 214-f to
35 read as follows:

36 § 214-f. Emergency situations involving people with autism spectrum
37 disorder and other developmental disabilities. The superintendent shall,
38 for all members of the state police:

39 1. Develop, maintain and disseminate, in consultation with the commis-
40 sioner of developmental disabilities, written policies and procedures
41 consistent with section 13.43 of the mental hygiene law, regarding the
42 handling of emergency situations involving individuals with autism spec-
43 trum disorder and other developmental disabilities. Such policies and
44 procedures shall make provisions for the education and training of new
45 and veteran police officers on the handling of emergency situations
46 involving individuals with developmental disabilities; and

47 2. Recommend to the governor, rules and regulations with respect to
48 establishment and implementation on an ongoing basis of a training
49 program for all current and new police officers regarding the policies
50 and procedures established pursuant to this subdivision, along with
51 recommendations for periodic retraining of police officers.

52 § 6. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after
53 it shall have become a law; provided, however, that the commissioner of
54 developmental disabilities may promulgate any rules and regulations
55 necessary for the implementation of this act on or before such effective
56 date.