# STATE OF NEW YORK

8159

# IN SENATE

April 11, 2018

Introduced by Sens. ORTT, SERINO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities

AN ACT to amend the geriatric mental health act, in relation to expanding the scope of the interagency geriatric mental health planning council

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

Section 1. Subdivision (c) of section 3 of chapter 568 of the laws of 2005, constituting the geriatric mental health act, as amended by chapter 203 of the laws of 2008, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The council shall meet as often as necessary, but not less than four times per calendar year, to develop annual recommendations, to be submitted to the commissioner of mental health, the commissioner of alcoholism and substance abuse services, the director of the division of veterans' affairs, the adjutant general and the director of the state office for the aging, regarding geriatric mental health and chemical dependence needs. Such recommendations [~~may~~] **shall** address issues which include**, but are not limited to**: community integration, quality improvement, integration of mental health services with services to address alcoholism, drug abuse, [~~and~~] health care needs, workforce development, family support [~~and~~]**, the development of family support initiatives,** finance**, the impact of Medicaid redesign, mental health housing programs and community based long-term care alternatives for those with co-occurring psychiatric disabilities and chronic physical illness or disabilities, certified community behavioral health clinic demonstration sites, the treatment of those with behavioral disorders in long-term care, the development of behavioral health training programs in long-term care, behavioral health coverage in the managed long-term care program, the shortage of in-home services for those with mental disorders including changing Medicaid rules regarding payment for in-home services, the use of technology, tele-mental health services, suicide risk, and building a generationally competent behavioral health workforce through training programs and increasing the number of**

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

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**licensed behavioral health professionals who speak underrepresented languages including through the use of different licensing requirements where a potential licensee speaks an underrepresented language**.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.