

# STATE OF NEW YORK

5042

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

February 6, 2017

Introduced by M. of A. SANTABARBARA -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to vocational rehabilitation services for enhancing communication support

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

1 Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 1004-c  
2 to read as follows:

3 § 1004-c. Communication support services. 1. The commissioner is here-  
4 by directed to promulgate rules and regulations to include communication  
5 support services as a vocational rehabilitation service as defined by  
6 paragraph a of subdivision five of section one thousand two of this  
7 article. Any individual who shall have been diagnosed with a pragmatic  
8 language impairment or whose employment prospects may reasonably benefit  
9 from an improved capacity to communicate shall qualify for communication  
10 support services. All referrals made pursuant to this section shall be  
11 made to individuals licensed, certified, registered or otherwise quali-  
12 fied under existing state laws, rules and regulations. Nothing herein  
13 shall be construed to alter or define scope of practice under existing  
14 state laws, rules and regulations.

15 2. For the purposes of this section, "communication support services"  
16 shall mean treatment or services that focus on communication-related  
17 skills including, but not limited to, dialogue strategies for:

18 (i) initiating and exiting communication of intent;  
19 (ii) topic maintenance;  
20 (iii) defusing hostile situations that result from ineffective  
21 attempts at independent communication;  
22 (iv) preparing, strategizing, and organizing information for written  
23 or electronic correspondence; and  
24 (v) preparing for upcoming interpersonal communication situations.

25 § 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2019.

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

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