STATE OF NEW YORK

2423--A

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 13, 2017

Introduced by Sens. HAMILTON, RITCHIE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to the prescription of antidepressant and anti-anxiety medications which have an increased risk of suicidal behavior

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

Section 1. The mental hygiene law is amended by adding a new section 7.49 to read as follows:

§ 7.49 Antidepressant and anti-anxiety medications.

(a) The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of health, shall create or utilize existing educational materials regarding the potential side effects with use of antidepressants or anti-anxiety medication.

(b) Such materials shall be made available to pharmacies registered in the state, and shall be distributed at the time of dispensing with any prescribed drug that is identified by the department of health as having an increased risk of side effects when used. Information disseminated pursuant to this subdivision may, at the option of the consumer, be distributed through electronic means.

(c) Such material shall also be posted on the websites of the office and the department of health and shall be provided in language other than English as deemed appropriate by the commissioners, but shall include the ten most commonly spoken languages, aside from English, in the state.

(d) The materials required in subdivision (a) of this section shall include the following:

(1) The suicide prevention lifeline telephone number;

(2) The suicide prevention website;

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

LBD00729-03-7

(3) Relevant information about antidepressants and anti-anxiety medications and potential side effects of the medication as well as the physical, behavioral and advanced warning signs of suicide; and

(4) Such other information as the commissioner and the commissioner of the department of health shall determine to be necessary or informative.

(e) The office is authorized and directed to promulgate any rules and regulations and prepare pamphlets necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law; provided, however, that effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such date.