STATE OF NEW YORK

7806--A

IN SENATE

February 27, 2018

Introduced by Sens. CROCI, AKSHAR, AMEDORE, BONACIC, FUNKE, GOLDEN, HELMING, JACOBS, LARKIN, MARCELLINO, MARCHIONE, PHILLIPS, RANZENHOFER, ROBACH, SEWARD, VALESKY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Education -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the education law and the retirement and social security law, in relation to creating a school mental health services program coordinator

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

Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 2801-d to read as follows:

§ 2801-d. New York state school mental health services program coordinator. 1. For purposes of this section, the term "school mental health services program coordinator" shall mean a mental health services professional, with qualifications determined by regulation by the commissioner, whose role and responsibility shall be to work with students, faculty and other mental health and health care professionals to identify, report and address mental health issues of students, faculty and administration at any public or non-public school that could pose a risk to public safety.

2. Any public or non-public school may employ a mental health services professional, in either the classified or unclassified service, determined in regulation by the commissioner to be qualified, as a mental health services program coordinator. Any such public or non-public school may also contract with the state of New York, a county, city, town or village, or with a private mental health services provider, for the provision of a mental health services professional, determined in regulation by the commissioner to be qualified, to serve as a mental health services program coordinator.

3. The commissioner shall, by regulation, determine the qualifications for a mental health services program coordinator. A school district shall be authorized to employ or contract for as many mental health

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

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services program coordinators, as such district deems necessary. The commissioner shall by regulation, establish the mandatory reports, the persons or entities with whom such reports shall be filed, and the treatment services that may be offered or directed by a mental health services program coordinator.

§ 2. Section 3641 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 18 to read as follows:

18. Mental health services program coordinator grants. a. In the two thousand eighteen--two thousand nineteen school year and thereafter, within the amount appropriated for services and expenses related to the expense of school mental health services program coordinators, the commissioner shall provide grants pursuant to this subdivision to: (1) public school districts, (2) charter schools, and (3) non-public schools.

b. Grants under this subdivision shall be equal to the greater of fifty thousand dollars or the product of (1) twenty thousand dollars, and (2) the greater of (A) the total number of instructional school buildings owned, leased or in use for instructional purposes by such public school district, charter school, or non-public school, or (B) the quotient of the enrollment of such public school district pursuant to paragraph n of subdivision one of section thirty-six hundred two of this article divided by two hundred and fifty, and (3) the aid ratio pursuant to subdivision seven of section thirty-six hundred two of this article, provided that for a charter school or non-public school, the aid ratio shall be the aid ratio for the public school district where the charter school or the non-public school is located.

c. The commissioner shall be authorized to adopt regulations to implement the provisions of this subdivision.

d. In the event the appropriation for purposes of this subdivision in any year is insufficient to pay all claims received pursuant to this subdivision, the commissioner shall pay such claims on a prorated basis among all districts filing such claims until the appropriation is exhausted.

§ 3. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 2 of section 211 of the retirement and social security law is amended by adding a new subparagraph 3-a to read as follows:

(3-a) that his or her employment title and respective duties will be restricted to school mental health services program coordinator, as such term is defined in section twenty-eight hundred one-d of the education law;

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately.