STATE OF NEW YORK

8542

IN SENATE

May 9, 2018

Introduced by Sen. SERINO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to a study to analyze the adequacy of health networks and the delivery of gerontologic services and senior health care in New York state

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

Section 1. The public health law is amended by adding a new section 2703 to read as follows:

§ 2703. Delivery of gerontologic services and senior health care. The commissioner, in conjunction with the Charles D. Cook Office of Rural Health, shall conduct a study to analyze the adequacy of health networks and the delivery of gerontologic services and senior health care in this state. The study shall contain, but not be limited to, evaluations of access to care and specialized practitioners in all areas of the state with a focus on identifying underserved or unserved areas as well as at-risk senior populations. The study shall consider, among other things, transportation concerns related to accessing care, the utilization of telehealth and telemedicine in senior populations and any impediments thereto, the availability of specialized practitioners, as well as highly prevalent chronic diseases or conditions requiring additional education, prevention, and service supports. The study shall also consider incentive options used in New York state, other states, and at the federal level to encourage physicians and nurse practitioners to practice in gerontology or focus on services for the elderly including, but not limited to, the incorporation of targeted gerontology supports into the primary care practitioner scholarship program as articulated by section nine hundred four of this chapter, as a qualifying shortage specialty as defined in section two thousand eight hundred seven-m of this chapter, or any other public health programming deemed appropriate. The report shall contain recommendations to address the specified considerations in addition to other relevant concerns related to health care delivery and senior populations. The commissioner shall deliver the report to the governor, the temporary president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly no later than October first, two thousand nineteen.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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