STATE OF NEW YORK

2377

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 24, 2019

Introduced by Sen. HOYLMAN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to providing certain benefits to veterans; and to amend the correction law, in relation to requiring certain reports relating to veterans

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

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 3803 of the public health law, as amended by chapter 743 of the laws of 2006, is amended to read as follows:

1. There is hereby created within the department the veterans health care information program (referred to in this section as the "program"), which shall provide information on health issues associated with military duty, including but not limited to Agent Orange, **spina bifida,** Gulf War Syndromes, toxic materials or harmful physical agents such as, depleted uranium, and hepatitis C, **and specific mental and physical health issues including post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury and other brain-related injuries,** for veterans, their surviving spouses**, children of veterans** and health care providers.

§ 2. Subdivision 1 of section 29 of the correction law, as amended by section 12 of subpart A of part C of chapter 62 of the laws of 2011, is amended to read as follows:

1. The department shall continue to collect, maintain, and analyze statistical and other information and data with respect to persons subject to the jurisdiction of the department, including but not limited to: (a) the number of such persons: placed in the custody of the department, assigned to a specific department program, accorded community supervision and declared delinquent, recommitted to a state correctional institution upon revocation of community supervision, or discharged upon maximum expiration of sentence; (b) the criminal history of such

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

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persons; (c) the social, educational, and vocational circumstances of any such persons; [~~and,~~] (d) the institutional and community supervision programs and the behavior of such persons**; and, (e) the military background and circumstances, if such person served in the United States armed forces**. Provided, however, in the event any statistical information on the ethnic background of the inmate population of a correctional facility or facilities is collected by the department, such statistical information shall contain, but not be limited to, the following ethnic categories: (i) Caucasian; (ii) Asian; (iii) American Indian; (iv) Afro-American/Black; and (v) Spanish speaking/Hispanic which category shall include, but not be limited to, the following subcategories consisting of: (1) Puerto Ricans; (2) Cubans; (3) Dominicans; and (4) other Hispanic nationalities.

§ 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law. 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 on or before such date.