STATE OF NEW YORK

8976

IN SENATE

September 14, 2020

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

AN ACT to require the department of health in conjunction with the department of corrections and community supervision to study the effects of certain substances on law enforcement officers involved in investigations, raids, arrests and screenings at correctional facilities

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

Section 1. The department of health and the department of corrections and community supervision shall jointly conduct a study to identify the short-term and long-term effects of fentanyl, heroin, methamphetamine, cocaine, synthetic hallucinatory substances and certain prescription drug exposure on law enforcement officers and correctional officers who repeatedly come into contact with such substances during screening efforts at correctional facilities, raids and arrests. The scope of such study shall include:

(a) identifying short-term and long-term effects of repeated exposure;

(b) methods law enforcement agencies and correctional facilities can utilize to identify and reduce repeated exposure;

(c) a study of the effectiveness of current treatments for exposure;

(d) establishing best practices to reduce short-term and long-term health impacts in accordance with subdivision (c) of this section;

(e) any disparities in treatment opportunities for such exposure throughout New York state;

(f) a recommendation on whether an increase in treatment opportunities is necessary by providing regional centers of care; and

(g) any other topic or issue that is relevant or material to the completion of this study.

§ 2. The department of health and the department of corrections and community supervision shall submit a report no later than one year after the effective date of this act to the governor and to the legislature detailing the departments' findings, conclusions and recommendations based on such study.

§ 3. 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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