STATE OF NEW YORK

6766

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 19, 2019

Introduced by M. of A. CUSICK -- read once and referred to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to requiring the department of health to conduct education and outreach programs on neonatal abstinence syndrome and the importance of screening, intervention, and counseling for pregnant women

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

Section 1. Paragraph (g) of subdivision 1 of section 207 of the public health law, as amended by chapter 465 of the laws of 2015, is amended to read as follows:

(g) Improving birth outcomes, including the importance of preconceptional care, early prenatal care, considerations of health risks during pregnancy, considerations of benefits and risks of labor and delivery options including, but not limited to, vaginal and cesarean section delivery, elective or repeat cesarean sections, and appropriate use of drugs during delivery. There shall also be education and outreach concerning**:** spina bifida, a permanently disabling birth defect occurring at the end of the first month of pregnancy which involves the incomplete development of the spinal cord or its coverings, and the importance of encouraging all women in their child-bearing years to increase their folic acid intake in order to reduce the incidence of spina bifida**; neonatal abstinence syndrome and the importance of screening, interventions, and counseling for pregnant women**.

§ 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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