## STATE OF NEW YORK

7593

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

May 13, 2019

Introduced by M. of A. BRONSON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Aging

AN ACT to amend the elder law, in relation to the state office for the aging sexual discrimination training program

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

| 1  | Section 1. Section 203 of the elder law is amended by adding two new    |
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| 2  | subdivisions 13 and 14 to read as follows:                              |
| 3  | 13. (a) The director shall establish or approve a training program for  |
| 4  | the purpose of raising awareness, removing barriers and improving       |
| 5  | services for older adults based on their sexual orientation and gender  |
| б  | identity or expression as defined in section two hundred ninety-two of  |
| 7  | the executive law. For the purposes of this subdivision, the term       |
| 8  | "training program" shall mean a course of learning or professional      |
| 9  | development, in person or online, administered or provided by a         |
| 10 | national, state, or local agency, nonprofit, advocacy group, profes-    |
| 11 | sional organization, or association. Such training program shall        |
| 12 | <u>include, but not be limited to:</u>                                  |
| 13 | (i) an overview of the history, unique needs, and concerns of lesbian,  |
| 14 | gay, bisexual, transgender, asexual, gender non-conforming and gender   |
| 15 | <u>non-binary older adults;</u>   |
| 16 | (ii) reasons why lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, asexual, gender   |
| 17 | non-conforming and gender non-binary older adults may choose not to     |
| 18 | self-identify;  |
| 19 | (iii) tools employees can use to incorporate lesbian, gay, bisexual,    |
| 20 | transgender, asexual, gender non-conforming and gender non-binary older |
| 21 | adult concerns into direct care and steps employees can take to improve |
| 22 | the quality of services and support they provide; and                   |
| 23 | (iv) a list of resources where employees can learn more.                |
| 24 | (b) Such training program shall be completed by employees of the        |
| 25 | office, employees of area agencies on aging, and providers who contract |

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

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| 1  | with the office or area agencies on aging who provide direct care to     |
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| 2  | older adults. Employers shall maintain adequate documentation of         |
| 3  | completion on behalf of required employees, and provide such documenta-  |
| 4  | tion at the request of the employee or the office. Nothing in this       |
| 5  | subdivision shall prevent employees from completing any other training   |
| б  | required nor shall it prevent such approved training from being combined |
| 7  | with any other required training.  |
| 8  | 14. The director, in consultation with lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-    |
| 9  | gender, asexual, gender non-conforming and gender non-binary older adult |
| 10 | advocates, shall regularly update the intake form used to assess indi-   |
| 11 | viduals seeking to participate in programs or services offered by the    |
| 12 | office to reflect current professional standards. This may include, but  |
| 13 | is not limited to, definitions, categories, or questions relating to     |
| 14 | sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation,     |
| 15 | preferred pronouns, or family of choice. The office shall continue to    |
| 16 | prioritize confidentiality and promote self-identification for the       |
| 17 | purposes of providing appropriate, relevant services to the lesbian,     |
| 18 | gay, bisexual, transgender, asexual, gender non-conforming and gender    |
| 19 | non-binary older adult community.  |
| 20 | § 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after   |

21 it shall have become a law.