STATE OF NEW YORK

8161

IN SENATE

April 13, 2020

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

AN ACT in relation to requiring the commissioner of health to conduct a study relating to the number of emergency room beds

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

Section 1. (a) The commissioner of health is hereby authorized and directed to study the number of emergency room beds in the state and to establish minimum numbers of beds required.

(b) The study shall include, but not be limited to: the current number of emergency room beds in the state; the minimum number of emergency room beds required to adequately meet the needs of patients; the distance patients need to travel to access emergency room services, including the maximum distance patients shall be expected to travel to access such services; and the number of emergency rooms within a specific area. The study shall also take into consideration population density, travel time to emergency rooms, proximity to other emergency rooms, public transportation routes, and such other factors the commissioner deems appropriate.

(c) The commissioner of health shall make recommendations based upon the findings of such study relating to, but not limited to, the minimum number of emergency room beds which shall be required per capita, the maximum distance patients shall be expected to travel to access emergency room services, and such other recommendations such commissioner deems appropriate.

(d) The commissioner of health shall submit a report including recommendations and findings based on this study to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, the speaker of the assembly and the chairs of the senate and assembly standing committees on health no later than December 31, 2020.

§ 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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