STATE OF NEW YORK

5706

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 24, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. JOYNER -- read once and referred to the Committee on Correction

AN ACT to amend the correction law, in relation to establishing a program for elderly inmates who are under community supervision or who will be released from a state correctional facility

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

Section 1. The correction law is amended by adding a new section 210 to read as follows:

§ 210. Reentry for the elderly program. 1. The department shall establish a reentry for the elderly program using existing funds for adults over fifty years of age who are under community supervision or who will be released from a state correctional facility.

2. The commissioner, in consultation with the office of minority health, the commissioner of the city of New York department of health and mental hygiene, the commissioner of the city of New York department of homeless services and the commissioner of the city of New York department of social services and local stakeholders such as senior centers and service providers, shall be responsible for the implementation and coordination of program services provided for in this section for participants who are on community supervision or will be released from a state correctional facility to the city of New York.

3. The commissioner, in consultation with county departments of health, mental health and social services, and with local stakeholders such as county senior centers and service providers, shall be responsible for the implementation and coordination of program services provided for in this section for participants who are on community supervision or will be released from a state correctional facility to a county outside the city of New York.

4. The program shall include, but not be limited to, the following components:

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

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(a) geriatric assessment and discharge planning to assess individual needs and develop individualized release plans;

(b) parole board interview preparation including identification of approved residences; and

(c) case management to connect participants to appropriate housing, medical and behavioral health care, benefits, employment, and services available through senior centers, and provide ongoing support.

5. The commissioners of the city of New York departments of health and mental hygiene, homeless services and social services and county commissioners of health, mental health, and social services shall cooperate with the commissioner, as well as the office of minority health, in furtherance of the program provided for in this section.

6. The department may, subject to available appropriations, contract with a non-profit entity for the performance of the functions set forth in this section.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law.