STATE OF NEW YORK

7356

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

May 6, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. WOERNER -- read once and referred to the Committee on People with Disabilities

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to establishing a public awareness program to combat the stigma and stereotyping of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities

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

Section 1. Section 13.09 of the mental hygiene law is amended by adding a new subdivision (i) to read as follows:

(i) The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of mental health, shall develop and implement a public awareness program that combats the discrimination, stigma and stereotyping of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities across the state. Such program shall utilize public forums, social media and mass media, including but not limited to internet, radio, and print advertising and shall include educational materials and information on the office's website. The program shall be tailored to educate the general public about intellectual and developmental disabilities and shall also highlight the accomplishments and contributions of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to the state and their respective communities.

§ 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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