STATE OF NEW YORK

9344

IN ASSEMBLY

February 23, 2022

Introduced by M. of A. STECK -- read once and referred to the Committee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to expanding the scope of the CHAMP program to include representation for other agencies whose populations are impacted

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

Section 1. Subdivision (a) of section 33.27 of the mental hygiene law, as added by section 1 of part FF of chapter 57 of the laws of 2018, is amended to read as follows:

(a) There is hereby established the office of the independent substance use disorder and mental health ombudsman program that will be operated or selected by the office of [~~alcoholism and substance abuse~~] addiction services and supports, in consultation with the office of mental health for the purpose of assisting individuals with a substance use disorder and/or mental illness to ensure that they receive appropriate health insurance coverage. Such program shall include representatives from various agencies whose populations are impacted by substance use disorder and/or mental illness, including but not limited to the division of veterans' services, the office for people with developmental disabilities, the office of children and family services, the department of corrections, or providers contracted by such agencies to provide assistance to the impacted populations.

§ 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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