STATE OF NEW YORK

7509

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

November 5, 2021

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

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to establishing the healthcare workforce innovation fund; and making an appropriation therefor

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

Section 1. The public health law is amended by adding a new section 3609-a to read as follows:

§ 3609-a. Healthcare workforce innovation fund. The department shall establish the healthcare workforce innovation fund for the purpose of expanding the direct care provider and home health aide workforce pipelines. The department shall, on an annual basis, identify areas of the state experiencing a shortage of workers in the direct care service provider and home health aide sectors. The department shall work in collaboration with the department of mental hygiene and the department of education to improve the workforce pipelines in those areas. The department may provide grants out of funds available to providers and educational institutions, including, but not limited to, BOCES programs, employment opportunity centers, and other institutions for the purpose of improving such pipelines.

§ 2. The sum of five million dollars ($5,000,000) is hereby appropriated to the department of health out of any moneys in the state treasury in the general fund to the credit of the local assistance account, not otherwise appropriated, and made immediately available, for the purpose of the healthcare workforce innovation fund. Such moneys shall be payable on the audit and warrant of the comptroller on vouchers certified or approved by the commissioner of the department of education in the manner prescribed by law.

§ 3. 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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