STATE OF NEW YORK

8057--A

Cal. No. 550

IN SENATE

January 21, 2022

Introduced by Sen. HARCKHAM -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse -- reported favorably from said committee, ordered to first and second report, ordered to a third reading, amended and ordered reprinted, retaining its place in the order of third reading

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to providing outreach services to make certain stakeholders aware of the independent substance use disorder and mental health ombudsman program

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. **The office of addiction services and supports in consultation with the office of mental health shall provide annual outreach services to other state and local entities, 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 to make them aware of the independent substance use disorder and mental health ombudsman program and the assistance they provide.**

§ 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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