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2021-2022 Regular Sessions

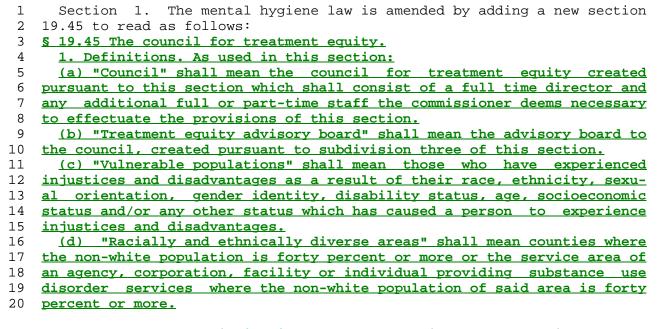
IN ASSEMBLY

January 13, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. L. ROSENTHAL, REYES, GRIFFIN, FERNANDEZ, DAVILA, DeSTEFANO -- read once and referred to the Committee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to establishing a council for treatment equity within the office of addiction services and supports

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



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

LBD00661-04-1

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1	(e) "Provider of services" shall mean any agency, corporation, facili-
2	ty or individual providing substance use disorder services to vulnerable
3	populations.
4	(f) "Treatment disparities" shall mean measurable differences in
5	access to and quality of substance use disorder services as determined
б	by race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability
7	status, age and socioeconomic status.
8	(g) "Treatment equity" shall mean achieving the highest level of
9	substance use disorder services for all people and shall entail focused
10	efforts to address avoidable inequalities by equalizing those conditions
11	for substance use disorder services for those that have experienced
12	injustices and socioeconomic disadvantages.
13	2. The council for treatment equity. There is hereby created a council
14	for treatment equity. The council, in conjunction with the treatment
15	equity advisory board, shall have the following powers and duties:
16	(a) Work collaboratively with the office, other relevant state agen-
17	cies, the local governmental unit as defined in article forty-one of
18	this chapter and other affected stakeholders, including, but not limited
19	to, providers to and representatives of vulnerable populations, in order
20	to set priorities to achieve treatment equity in both racial and
21	ethnically diverse areas and for vulnerable populations throughout the
22	state;
23	(b) Analyze collected data to determine the causes of treatment
24	disparities in both racially and ethnically diverse areas and for
25	vulnerable populations throughout the state, including any economic,
26	physical, social or cultural barriers;
27	(c) Develop and implement strategies aimed at achieving treatment
28	equity in racially and ethnically diverse areas and among vulnerable
29	populations;
30	(d) Promote community involvement by conducting promotional and educa-
31	tional outreach programs regarding substance use disorders and available
32	services; and
33	(e) Review the impact of current laws, rules, regulations, policies
34	and programs that may be affecting the ability to achieve treatment
35	equity.
36	3. The treatment equity advisory board. (a) The treatment equity advi-
37	sory board shall consist of thirteen members. Six members shall be
38	appointed by the governor, three members appointed by the temporary
39	president of the senate, three members appointed by the speaker of the
40	assembly and the final member shall be the chairperson of the conference
41	of local mental hygiene directors, or his or her designee. The chair-
42	person of the board shall be the commissioner or their designee.
43	(b) The members of the board shall be from the community with exper-
44	tise in conducting substance use disorder services. In making such
45	appointments, due consideration shall be given to ensuring adequate
46	geographic representation.
47	(c) The term of office for each member of the treatment equity advi-
48	sory board shall be two years. Vacancies in the treatment equity advi-
49	sory board, other than by expiration of a term, shall be filled for the
50	remainder of the unexpired term in the same manner as original appoint-
51	ments.
52	(d) The members of the treatment equity advisory board shall receive
53	no compensation for their services, but shall be reimbursed for all
54	expenses actually and necessarily incurred by them in the performance of
55	their duties under this section within the amount made available by
FC	annuanistion therefor

56 <u>appropriation therefor.</u>

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1	4. Report. The council shall submit a written report to the governor,
2	the temporary president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly no
3	later than one year succeeding the effective date of this section and
4	annually thereafter, setting forth the findings, recommendations and
5	activities of the council on matters within the scope of its powers and
6	<u>duties as set forth in this section.</u>
7	§ 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after
'	§ 2. THIS ACT SHALL LAKE ELLECT ON THE ONE HUNDLED EIGHTLETH DAY ALLER