

STATE OF NEW YORK

1029

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 6, 2021

Introduced by Sen. STEWART-COUSINS -- read twice and ordered printed,
and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to aiding in the
transition to adulthood for children with medical fragility living in
pediatric nursing homes and other settings

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

1 Section 1. The public health law is amended by adding a new section
2 2808-e to read as follows:

3 § 2808-e. Residential health care for children with medical fragility
4 in transition to young adults and young adults with medical fragility.
5 1. For purposes of this section:

6 (a) "children with medical fragility" shall mean children up to twen-
7 ty-one years of age who have a chronic debilitating condition or condi-
8 tions, are at risk of hospitalization, are technology-dependent for life
9 or health sustaining functions, require complex medication regimens or
10 medical interventions to maintain or to improve their health status,
11 and/or are in need of ongoing assessment or intervention to prevent
12 serious deterioration of their health status or medical complications
13 that place their life, health or development at risk.

14 (b) "young adults with medical fragility" shall mean individuals who
15 meet the definition of children with medical fragility, but for the fact
16 such individuals are aged twenty-one years or older.

17 (c) "pediatric residential health care facility" shall mean a free-
18 standing facility or discrete unit within a facility authorized by the
19 commissioner to provide extensive nursing, medical, psychological and
20 counseling support services solely to children.

21 2. Notwithstanding any law, rule or regulation to the contrary, any
22 child with medical fragility who has resided for at least thirty consec-
23 utive days in a pediatric residential health care facility and who has
24 reached the age of twenty-one while a resident, may continue residing at

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

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1 such pediatric facility and receiving such services from the facility,
2 provided that such young adult with medical fragility remains eligible
3 for nursing home care.

4 3. The commissioner is authorized to establish, with the written
5 approval of the public health and health planning council pursuant to
6 section twenty-eight hundred one-a of this article, one or more new
7 residential health care facilities for the provision of nursing,
8 medical, psychological and counseling support services appropriate to
9 the needs of nursing home-eligible young adults with medical fragility,
10 referred to herein below as a young adult facility, which such young
11 adult facility may be proposed by an established or proposed operator of
12 a pediatric residential health care facility or a discrete unit within
13 an established nursing home in good standing.

14 4. A young adult facility established pursuant to subdivision three of
15 this section may admit, from the community-at-large or upon referral
16 from an unrelated facility, young adults with medical fragility who
17 prior to reaching age twenty-one were children with medical fragility,
18 and who are eligible for nursing home care and in need of extensive
19 nursing, medical, psychological and counseling support services,
20 provided that the young adult facility, to promote continuity of care,
21 undertakes to provide priority admission to young adults with medical
22 fragility transitioning from the pediatric residential health care
23 facility operated by the entity that proposed the young adult facility
24 and ensure sufficient capacity to admit such young adults as they
25 approach or attain twenty-one years of age.

26 5. (a) For inpatient services provided to any young adults with
27 medical fragility eligible for medical assistance pursuant to title
28 eleven of article five of the social services law residing at any pedia-
29 tric residential health care facility as authorized in subdivision two
30 of this section, the commissioner shall reimburse such pediatric facili-
31 ty at the same rates of reimbursement approved by the commissioner for
32 children with medical fragility residing at said pediatric residential
33 health care facility pursuant to section twenty-eight hundred eight of
34 this article.

35 (b) For inpatient services provided to any young adults with medical
36 fragility eligible for medical assistance pursuant to title eleven of
37 article five of the social services law at any young adult facility as
38 authorized in subdivision three of this section, the commissioner shall
39 establish the operating component of rates of reimbursement utilizing
40 the same methodology used to establish the operating component of the
41 rates pursuant to section twenty-eight hundred eight of this article for
42 the free-standing pediatric residential health care facility described
43 in subdivision three of this section, subject to adjustment as appropri-
44 ate to account for any discrete expenses associated with caring for
45 young adults with medical fragility, including addressing their distinct
46 needs as young adults for psychological and counseling support services.

47 6. Subject to the foregoing, all other laws and regulations that apply
48 to pediatric residential health care facilities, including exemptions
49 from laws and regulations otherwise applicable to other residential
50 health care facilities, shall also apply to any pediatric residential
51 health care facility authorized in subdivision two of this section to
52 provide inpatient services to young adults with medical fragility and to
53 any young adult facility established pursuant to subdivision three of
54 this section, and to any inpatient services provided by either such
55 facility.

56 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.