STATE OF NEW YORK

2613

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 22, 2021

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

AN ACT to amend the executive law and the state technology law, in relation to providing for multi-formatted services menus for the cognitively impaired on websites operated by certain state agencies

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

Section 1. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 170-d to read as follows:

§ 170-d. Multi-formatted services menus for the cognitively impaired. The department of health, the office for people with developmental disabilities and the office of mental health shall develop, with the assistance of the office of information technology services, multi-formatted services menus for persons who suffer from a disability arising from a cognitive impairment, which shall be accessible from the home page of such website. Such services menus shall include a complete list of available services from each such agency in the following formats:

1. charts and graphs for visual learners;

2. dynamic flowcharts for visual thinkers. Such flowcharts shall:

(a) match the website visitor to the areas most closely related to such website visitor's inquiry by asking the website visitor individual questions and then producing responses in logical sequence; and

(b) allow website visitors to revise their answers at any point in order to be prompted to the next menu; and

3. videos for auditory learners. Such videos shall include closed captions and a full transcript of such videos for review of references or information mentioned in such videos.

§ 2. Subdivisions 20 and 21 of section 103 of the state technology law are renumbered subdivisions 21 and 22, and a new subdivision 20 is added to read as follows:

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

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20. To advise and assist the department of health, the office for people with developmental disabilities and the office of mental health in developing multi-formatted services menus for persons who suffer from a disability arising from a cognitive impairment pursuant to section one hundred seventy-d of the executive law.

§ 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law.