

# STATE OF NEW YORK

3758

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

January 30, 2021

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

AN ACT to amend the elder law, in relation to the interagency coordinating committee for streamlined services for the aging

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

1 Section 1. Article 2 of the elder law is amended by adding a new title  
2 2 to read as follows:

### TITLE 2

#### NEW YORK STATE INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR STREAMLINED SERVICES FOR THE AGING

6 Section 230. New York State interagency coordinating committee for  
7 streamlined services for the aging.

8 § 230. New York State interagency coordinating committee for stream-  
9 lined services for the aging. 1. There is hereby created a committee to  
10 be known as "the interagency coordinating committee for streamlined  
11 services for the aging," to be comprised of seventeen members. The  
12 director for the state office for the aging or his or her designee shall  
13 serve as chairperson. The members shall be the following, or a duly  
14 designated representative: the commissioner of health; the commissioner  
15 of transportation; the commissioner of housing and community renewal;  
16 the commissioner of the office of mental health; the commissioner of the  
17 office for people with developmental disabilities; the commissioner of  
18 the office of children and family services; the commissioner of the  
19 office of temporary and disability assistance; secretary of state; the  
20 director of the office of information technology services; and the  
21 commissioner of taxation and finance. Six additional members, all of  
22 whom shall be aging not-for-profits, organizations, or service providers  
23 and consumers representing the aging community shall be appointed to  
24 serve a term of three years as follows: two by the temporary president  
25 of the senate, two by the speaker of the assembly, one by the minority

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

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1 leader of the senate, and one by the minority leader of the assembly.  
2 Such additional members shall be broadly representative of consumers and  
3 providers when making such appointments. Members of the committee shall  
4 receive no salary.

5 2. The committee shall have the following powers and duties:

6 (a) Develop a statewide survey to identify where there are gaps and  
7 barriers to access to services for the elderly. The committee shall  
8 develop recommendations for the distribution of the survey to reach a  
9 representative sample of the senior population in New York to identify  
10 trends in areas including, but not limited to, mental health services,  
11 transportation, public health and housing.

12 (b) Develop a simplified senior application for need-based programs in  
13 the state that seniors may qualify for.

14 (c) Coordinate with local offices for the aging to supplement the  
15 simplified senior application as articulated in paragraph (b) of this  
16 subdivision to create regional specific addendums including applications  
17 for public transportation, wellness programs, emergency contact forms,  
18 and other regionally-specific programs.

19 (d) Develop an online application tool to be utilized by a designated  
20 lead agency to supply the simplified senior application as articulated  
21 in paragraph (b) of this subdivision for consumers on the internet.

22 (e) Make recommendations to the office for data sharing across agen-  
23 cies with the intent to track enrollment and identify trends in service  
24 needs.

25 (f) Develop a standard medical expense deduction worksheet for seniors  
26 as well as informational materials regarding qualifying expenses for  
27 certain needs-based programs.

28 (g) Make recommendations regarding simplified certification and  
29 re-certification procedures across programs to establish eligibility.

30 (h) Develop informational materials and a public awareness campaign to  
31 disseminate general information about the availability of services for  
32 the elderly, including recommendations for distributing information to  
33 families or caregivers.

34 (i) Develop recommendations to target and distribute simplified appli-  
35 cations to New York seniors.

36 3. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the committee or its members  
37 from pursuing federal funding to implement any of the provisions in this  
38 section.

39 4. The committee shall meet as necessary to carry out its functions,  
40 powers, and duties, but such meetings shall occur at least once each  
41 quarter.

42 5. The committee shall provide a report to the governor, the temporary  
43 president of the senate, the speaker of the assembly, and the chairs of  
44 the aging committees in the senate and the assembly on or before Septem-  
45 ber first of each year, beginning in two thousand twenty-two. Such  
46 report shall summarize the committee's activity during the preceding  
47 year and shall detail legislative recommendations appropriate to effec-  
48 tuate the purposes of this section, and any other recommendations for  
49 improving the provision of services. It shall include information  
50 detailing increases in enrollment in needs based programs for seniors  
51 administered by the agencies listed in subdivision one of this section.  
52 Such report shall also include a proposed agenda consisting of specific  
53 issues that the committee plans to address during the following fiscal  
54 year.

55 6. Members of the committee shall be appointed within ninety days  
56 after the effective date of this section, however, the committee may

1 proceed with their business and effectuating the duties of this section  
2 in ninety days without regard to the completion of the appointment proc-  
3 ess.

4 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.