STATE OF NEW YORK

4971

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 19, 2021

Introduced by Sen. KENNEDY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to directing the division of veterans' services to provide information to veterans who experience post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury

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

Section 1. Subdivision 21 of section 353 of the executive law, as added by chapter 48 of the laws of 2013, is amended to read as follows:

21. To provide information regarding resources that are available to assist veterans who experience mental health or substance abuse problems, and veterans with physical disabilities, by maintaining mental health, substance abuse and physical disabilities portals on the division's internet website. Such portals shall provide virtual links to appropriate governmental programs on the federal and state levels and information on suicide prevention, **traumatic brain injury (TBI), post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD),** peer outreach and support, and services that address the special needs of physically disabled veterans. The division may consult with the office of mental health, the office of alcoholism and substance abuse services, the department of health and the department of labor. The division shall make reference to this information provided pursuant to subdivisions four-a and four-b of this section and in the annual report to the governor and the legislature required pursuant to subdivision eleven of this section. Such information required under this subdivision shall be maintained and updated annually.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall have become a law.

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

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