STATE OF NEW YORK

5507

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 9, 2021

Introduced by Sen. COMRIE -- 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 creating NYCHA-based health centers

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

Section 1. The public health law is amended by adding a new section 411 to read as follows:

§ 411. NYCHA-based health centers. 1. The department shall establish health centers on campuses for residents living on such campuses.

2. For purposes of this section:

(a) "campus" shall refer to an individual development owned by the New York city housing authority;

(b) "health center" shall mean an area located within a campus designated by the New York city housing authority for the purpose of providing basic health services, such area shall be located on the first floor in a designated community space accessible to all; and

(c) "basic health services" shall mean primary care and preventative health services, including prenatal care; screenings for vision, hearing, asthma, tuberculosis and other medical conditions as determined by the commissioner; medical care and treatment for illnesses, including the prescribing of medication; and specialty care and testing for lead poisoning and mold exposure, and specifically respiratory related illnesses.

3. The department shall provide the resources necessary to establish such health centers. Such resources shall include, but not be limited to, materials used to perform screenings and diagnostic blood tests, materials used to maintain a safe and sanitary health center, and personnel to provide primary health care services and assist in the administration of such health centers.

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

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4. The department shall establish at least one health center at a campus within each borough in the city of New York. The location of such health centers shall be based on the need and reported health disparities within each borough.

5. The department shall allocate such resources in a manner determined by the department for the purposes of this section.

6. The department shall evaluate the effectiveness of such health centers and prepare a report on the performance of such health centers, the manner in which each health center's resources were allocated, the number of primary care visits, the number of persons tested for lead and respiratory illnesses, the frequency of such testing and the number of persons testing positively for lead poisoning and/or mold exposure, and the health outcomes and improvements associated with such individuals. Such performance report shall be delivered to the governor, the temporary president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly by December first, two thousand twenty-three, and every year thereafter.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately; provided that such health centers, as added by section one of this act, shall be established by the department of health no later than the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law.