STATE OF NEW YORK

9252

IN SENATE

May 12, 2022

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

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to requiring the commissioner of the office for people with developmental disabilities to develop a housing plan to create new housing options and services and evaluate the housing subsidy formula

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

Section 1. The mental hygiene law is amended by adding a new section 13.44 to read as follows:

§ 13.44 Comprehensive housing planning and solutions.

(a) Recognizing that housing options are limited to persons with developmental disabilities:

1. The commissioner, in consultation with the developmental disabilities advisory council and other stakeholders, shall develop a comprehensive housing plan which shall be issued on or before January first, two thousand twenty-four and thereafter on an annual basis. Such plan shall not be limited to existing forms of housing options, but should also include new proposals to create a continuum of housing and housing services, including how services can be provided in the least restrictive setting and regulatory or statutory barriers that may exist to those innovative models.

2. The commissioner shall identify and annually publish information on the office's website regarding residential certified and non-certified housing opportunities, including housing subsidies, including but not limited to the number of such sites by geography, the number of vacancies, the unmet need for housing by type and geography, and the number of closures, conversions, mergers, and auspice changes for such residential opportunities.

3. Beginning April first, two thousand twenty-three, the commissioner shall utilize the most recent federal housing and urban renewal or New York state home and community renewal data in determining rental and/or housing subsidies, and shall publish such information on the office's website, which shall be updated no less than annually.

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

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(b) The commissioner, in consultation with the developmental disabilities advisory council and other stakeholders, shall develop a pilot program to begin no later than April first, two thousand twenty-four that shall expand the scope of who may be paid to provide community habilitation and respite services. Such program shall include metrics to measure quality impacts and cost efficiencies, if any, and the office shall report the results and findings of such program by September thirtieth, two thousand twenty-five to the governor, the director of the division of the budget, the assembly chair of the disabilities committee and the senate chair of the disabilities committee.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.