

STATE OF NEW YORK

10099

IN ASSEMBLY

May 3, 2024

Introduced by M. of A. BUTTENSCHON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Mental Health

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to establishing the "Mariah N. Lacey-Reid Law" which prohibits designated hotline centers from terminating calls to the suicide prevention and behavioral health crisis hotline

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

1 Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and cited as the
2 "Mariah N. Lacey-Reid Law".

3 § 2. Section 36.03 of the mental hygiene law is amended by adding a
4 new subdivision (g) to read as follows:

5 (g) A designated hotline center shall not terminate a call with any
6 person. If there is no behavioral health professional available to speak
7 with a caller, such caller shall be placed on hold. A designated hotline
8 center shall record a message to be played while a caller is on hold.
9 Such message shall include, but not be limited to coping mechanisms to
10 assist individuals in managing behavioral health issues. If a designated
11 hotline center wishes to play music while a caller is on hold, such
12 designated hotline center shall only play music that is determined by
13 behavioral health professionals to be calming.

14 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

LBD15333-02-4