STATE OF NEW YORK

2609--A

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 26, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. HYNDMAN, McDONALD, AUBRY, SAYEGH, DARLING, BENDETT, SLATER, NOVAKHOV, WALKER -- read once and referred to the Committee on Health -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to sickle cell disease detection and education

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

Section 1. Section 243 of the public health law, as amended by chapter 523 of the laws of 2022, is amended by adding a new subdivision 6 to read as follows:

6. Sickle cell disease. a. The health equity council shall consider, and advise the commissioner regarding sickle cell disease.

b. The council shall issue recommendations to the commissioner to promote screening and detection of sickle cell disease, especially among unserved or underserved populations; to educate the public regarding sickle cell disease and the benefits of early detection; and to provide counseling and referral services. For purposes of this subdivision, "unserved or underserved populations" means people having inadequate access and financial resources to obtain sickle cell disease screening and detection services, including people who lack health coverage or whose health coverage is inadequate or who cannot meet the financial requirements of their coverage for accessing detection services.

c. The council shall consider the feasibility of the following:

(i) the establishment of a statewide public education and outreach campaign to publicize evidence based sickle cell disease screening, detection and education services. The campaign shall include: general community education, outreach to specific underserved populations, evidence based clinical sickle cell disease screening services, and an informational summary that shall include an explanation of the impor-

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

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tance of clinical examinations and what to expect during clinical exam-
inations and sickle cell disease screening services;
(ii) the provision of grants to approved organizations;
(iii) the compilation of data concerning sickle cell disease and
dissemination of such data to the public; and
(iv) the development of health care professional education programs
including the benefits of early detection of sickle cell disease and
clinical examinations, the recommended frequency of clinical examina-
tions and sickle cell disease screening services, and professionally
recognized best practices guidelines.

§ 2. Subdivision 1 of section 207 of the public health law is amended by adding a new paragraph (r) to read as follows:

(r) Sickle cell disease including but not limited to screening, prevention, and treatment information. The department, through the health equity council pursuant to section two hundred forty-three of this article, or a successor council, shall consult with patients with sickle cell disease and their families and health care providers specializing in treating sickle cell disease, among others, in the production of any such information.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.