STATE OF NEW YORK

593--A

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 5, 2023

Introduced by Sens. ORTT, BORRELLO, OBERACKER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Mental 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 Down syndrome diagnosis awareness

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

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

(h)(i) A Down syndrome awareness program shall be created to provide up-to-date and evidence-based information about Down syndrome, in a written or alternative format to health care providers who order tests for a pregnant woman or an infant to screen for Down syndrome that shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) expected physical, developmental, educational, and psychosocial outcomes;

(2) life expectancy;

(3) the clinical course description;

(4) expected intellectual and functional development;

(5) available intervention or treatment options;

(6) information hotlines specific to Down syndrome;

(7) relevant resource centers or clearinghouses;

(8) national and local Down syndrome organizations; and

(9) any other information the department deems necessary.

(ii) The commissioner shall (1) examine and utilize existing practices to ensure that the information provided under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph is culturally and linguistically appropriate for all recipients; and (2) meet annually with representatives from the Down syndrome community to ensure such information is current.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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