

STATE OF NEW YORK

6523--A

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

April 25, 2023

Introduced by Sens. SCARCELLA-SPANTON, ASHBY, HARCKHAM, STEC, WEBB -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs -- recommitted to the Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- reported favorably from said committee and committed to the Committee on Finance -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the veterans' services law, in relation to directing the department of veterans' services to establish and maintain, in consultation and collaboration with other state agencies, a searchable database of resources available in the state for veterans, members of the uniformed services, and their families

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

1 Section 1. Section 4 of the veterans' services law is amended by
2 adding a new subdivision 39 to read as follows:

3 39. (a) To establish and maintain, in consultation and collaboration
4 with other state agencies including, but not limited to, the office of
5 mental health, the department of health, the office of general services,
6 the department of labor, the department of state, and the department of
7 financial services, a searchable database of resources available in the
8 state for veterans, members of the uniformed services, and their fami-
9 lies. Such database shall include but not be limited to:

10 (1) general information about and contact information for resources
11 available through federal, state, and local government agencies and
12 other organizations including, but not limited to, those relating to
13 veterans' benefits, healthcare, housing, employment, veteran-owned busi-
14 nesses, survivor benefits, substance use disorder treatment, physical
15 disabilities, educational and job benefits, tuition assistance programs,

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

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1 health and mental health referrals, real property tax exemptions,
2 suicide prevention, and peer outreach and support;

3 (2) information about the department's mobile application, established
4 under subdivision twenty-one of this section; and

5 (3) links to the department's small business portal, established under
6 subdivision twelve of this section, the department's veterans' employ-
7 ment portal, established under subdivision thirteen of this section, the
8 department's mental health, substance abuse, and physical disabilities
9 portals, established under subdivision twenty-seven of this section, and
10 the department's military sexual trauma portal, established under subdi-
11 vision thirty-two of this section.

12 (b) The database created pursuant to this subdivision shall be made
13 available on the department's website and shall be reviewed and updated
14 at least annually.

15 § 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after
16 it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amend-
17 ment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implemen-
18 tation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and
19 completed on or before such effective date.