STATE OF NEW YORK

10202

IN ASSEMBLY

May 10, 2024

Introduced by COMMITTEE ON RULES -- (at request of M. of A. Davila) -- read once and referred to the Committee on Mental Health

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to requiring the office of mental health to convene forums and listening sessions in areas with high rates of death by suicide, suicide attempts, or other risk factors associated with suicide, and high risk minority groups or special populations

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

Section 1. Section 7.07 of the mental hygiene law is amended by adding a new subdivision (i) to read as follows:

(i) The office of mental health shall convene statewide forums and listening sessions for the purpose of meeting its statutory responsibilities and duties pursuant to subdivisions (g) and (h) of this section. Such forums and listening sessions shall be conducted in areas of the state which have high rates of death by suicide, suicide attempts, or other risk factors associated with suicide, and high risk minority groups or special populations, including but not limited to Latina and Latino adolescents, black youth, individuals residing in rural communities, veterans, members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community, and any other group deemed high risk or underserved by the office. The office may consult or work collaboratively with any state agency, advocacy group, or association to promote or convene a forum or listening session. The office shall include its findings and any recommendations resulting from a forum or listening session in its report required pursuant to subdivision (g) of this section.

§ 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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