STATE OF NEW YORK

4903

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 24, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. KELLES -- read once and referred to the Committee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to accessing substance use disorder services based on the individual's gender identity, gender expression and/or sexual orientation

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

Section 1. Subdivision (c) of section 19.07 of the mental hygiene law, as amended by chapter 281 of the laws of 2019, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The office of [~~alcoholism and substance abuse services~~] **addiction services and supports** shall have the responsibility for seeing that persons who suffer from [~~an addictive disorder~~] **a substance use disorder** and their families are provided with addiction services, care and treatment, and that such services, care, treatment and rehabilitation is of high quality and effectiveness, and that the personal and civil rights of persons seeking and receiving addiction services, care, treatment and rehabilitation are adequately protected**, including that patients have the right to access services based on their gender identity, gender expression and/or sexual orientation. For the purposes of this subdivision, gender identity or gender expression means a person's actual or perceived gender related identity, appearance, behavior, expression, or other gender related characteristic regardless of the sex assigned to that person at birth**.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the thirtieth day after it shall have become a law.

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

LBD04075-03-3