

# STATE OF NEW YORK

9039

## IN ASSEMBLY

February 5, 2024

Introduced by M. of A. GUNTHER -- read once and referred to the Committee on Mental Health

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to establishing a social worker residency pilot program; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

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

- 1 Section 1. The mental hygiene law is amended by adding a new section  
2 7.49 to read as follows:  
3 § 7.49 Social worker residency pilot program.  
4 (a) Subject to appropriation, the commissioner shall establish up to  
5 three, three-year pilot programs in community behavioral health organ-  
6 izations, as defined in article thirty-one of this chapter, for the  
7 purposes of creating social worker residency pilot programs to support  
8 the ongoing retention and recruitment of licensed clinical social work-  
9 ers licensed by the department.  
10 (b) Such pilot programs shall provide supervised post-graduate clin-  
11 ical social work experience as required by the department of education  
12 pursuant to section seven thousand seven hundred four of the education  
13 law at no cost to the resident.  
14 (c) The commissioner shall establish and develop all other standards  
15 applicable to the program.  
16 (d) The commissioner shall develop evaluation criteria for the pilot  
17 programs, which shall include, but not be limited to:  
18 (1) any improved ability for community behavioral health organizations  
19 to recruit newly licensed clinical social workers as part of the pilot  
20 program;  
21 (2) substantive focus of the pilot program training on evidence based  
22 models with track records of clinical success;  
23 (3) the pilot program providing continuing education for participating  
24 social workers shall provide such continuing education at least one day  
25 per week;

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

LBD14237-01-4

1 (4) the pilot program providing clinical supervision shall provide  
2 hours for the social work graduates which count towards licenses that  
3 increase their scope of practice;

4 (5) the percentage of the pilot program participants who achieve a  
5 full licensed clinical social worker license; and

6 (6) the average length of employment for licensed clinical social  
7 workers employed with community behavioral health organizations hosting  
8 the social worker residency pilot program.

9 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be  
10 deemed repealed six years after such date.