STATE OF NEW YORK

1839--A

Cal. No. 520

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 17, 2023

Introduced by Sens. SANDERS, BROUK, CLEARE, COMRIE, GIANARIS, HOYLMAN-SIGAL, JACKSON, KENNEDY, KRUEGER, MAY, MAYER, MYRIE, ROLISON, SEPULVEDA, SKOUFIS, WEBB -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Health -- reported favorably from said committee, ordered to first and second report, ordered to a third reading, passed by Senate and delivered to the Assembly, recalled, vote reconsidered, restored to third reading, amended and ordered reprinted, retaining its place in the order of third reading

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to sickle cell disease detection and education

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

Section 1. Section 243 of the public health law, as amended by chapter 523 of the laws of 2022, is amended by adding a new subdivision 6 to read as follows:

6. Sickle cell disease. a. The health equity council shall consider, and advise the commissioner regarding sickle cell disease.

b. The council shall issue recommendations to the commissioner to promote screening and detection of sickle cell disease, especially among unserved or underserved populations; to educate the public regarding sickle cell disease and the benefits of early detection; and to provide counseling and referral services. For purposes of this subdivision, "unserved or underserved populations" means people having inadequate access and financial resources to obtain sickle cell disease screening and detection services, including people who lack health coverage or whose health coverage is inadequate or who cannot meet the financial requirements of their coverage for accessing detection services.

c. The council shall consider the feasibility of the following:

(i) the establishment of a statewide public education and outreach campaign to publicize evidence based sickle cell disease screening, detection and education services. The campaign shall include: general

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

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community education, outreach to specific underserved populations, evidence based clinical sickle cell disease screening services, and an informational summary that shall include an explanation of the importance of clinical examinations and what to expect during clinical examinations and sickle cell disease screening services;

(ii) the provision of grants to approved organizations;

(iii) the compilation of data concerning sickle cell disease and dissemination of such data to the public; and

(iv) the development of health care professional education programs including the benefits of early detection of sickle cell disease and clinical examinations, the recommended frequency of clinical examinations and sickle cell disease screening services, and professionally recognized best practices guidelines.

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

(r) Sickle cell disease including but not limited to screening, prevention, and treatment information. The department, through the health equity council pursuant to section two hundred forty-three of this article, or a successor council, shall consult with patients with sickle cell disease and their families and health care providers specializing in treating sickle cell disease, among others, in the production of any such information.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.