STATE OF NEW YORK

7155

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 18, 2023

Introduced by Sen. PARKER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Mental Health

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to establishing a transgender and non-binary peer support grant program

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

Section 1. The mental hygiene law is amended by adding a new section 7.51 to read as follows:

§ 7.51 Transgender and non-binary peer support grant program.

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Program" shall mean the "transgender and non-binary peer support grant program" established by this section.

(2) "Eligible entities" shall mean entities which submit to the commissioner an application, in a form prescribed by the commissioner, containing such information and assurances as the commissioner may require to provide initial and continued training in mental illness, including but not limited to post-traumatic stress disorder and suicide prevention.

(b) The commissioner shall, subject to appropriation, establish a grant program to be known as the "transgender and non-binary peer support grant program".

(c) The program shall award grants, with appropriations therefor, to eligible entities for the purpose of establishing peer-to-peer mental health programs for transgender and non-binary individuals.

(d) The commissioner shall develop and establish standards applicable to the program. Such standards shall include, but not be limited to, initial and continued training for transgender and non-binary volunteers, administrative staffing needs, and best practices for addressing the needs of the community to be served.

§ 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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