STATE OF NEW YORK

7247

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 19, 2023

Introduced by Sen. MANNION -- 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 the eating disorders in children task force

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 30.07 to read as follows:

§ 30.07 Eating disorders in children task force.

1. The commissioner shall convene an eating disorders in children task force to study and create a standardized approach to, and develop best practices and guidelines for awareness, recognition, and treatment of eating disorders in children.

2. (a) The task force shall be chaired by the commissioner or by such officer or employee of the department as shall be designated by the commissioner. The task force shall consist of at least eleven members appointed by the commissioner. The membership of the task force shall include: the commissioner of health or their designee, the commissioner of mental health or their designee, the commissioner of education or their designee, one representative from New York chapter one of the American Academy of Pediatrics, one representative from New York chapter two of the American Academy of Pediatrics, one representative from New York chapter three of the American Academy of Pediatrics, physicians, nutritionists and mental health professionals with demonstrated expertise in treating children with an eating disorder, at least one representative from each of the comprehensive care centers for eating disorders established pursuant to this article, advocacy organizations working to prevent and treat eating disorders, one member from the New York state psychiatric association, and other members deemed necessary by the commissioner.

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

LBD08919-01-3

(b) The members of the task force shall receive no compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

3. Such task force shall establish recommendations, for use by pediatric primary care providers, for best practice protocols and guidelines for appropriate screening of children for eating disorders, as defined by subdivision (a) of section 30.02 of this article. Such recommendations shall incorporate the standards and guidelines established by the American Academy of Pediatrics, but shall not be limited to such standards and guidelines.

4. The task force shall further develop recommendations for educational and informational materials for such children, their parents/guardians, and educators regarding awareness, recognition, and treatment of eating disorders.

5. The commissioner shall promulgate any rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

6. The task force shall provide an initial report to the governor, temporary president of the senate, minority leader of the senate, speaker of the assembly, minority leader of the assembly, the chair of the senate committee on health, the chair of the senate committee on mental health, the chair of the senate committee on education, the chair of the assembly committee on health, the chair of the assembly committee on mental health, and the chair of the assembly committee on education of its findings, conclusions, recommendations and activities already undertaken by the task force, not later than one year after the effective date of this section, and shall provide a report every two years thereafter with updated findings, conclusions and recommendations and shall submit with such biennial report legislative proposals as it deems necessary to implement its recommendations.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.