STATE OF NEW YORK

10292

IN ASSEMBLY

February 20, 2026

Introduced by M. of A. SEAWRIGHT -- read once and referred to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to establish a pilot program for schools with active aging programs or specializations in place; and providing for the repeal of such provisions on expiration thereof

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

Section 1. 1. There is hereby established a pilot program and curriculum for schools with active aging programs or specializations in place. The director of the office for the aging, in conjunction with the commissioner of education and the commissioner of health, shall identify faculty and project directors who shall serve as the curriculum team, using their expertise in identified specialty topics, including but not limited to, primary care, specialty medicine (i.e., infectious disease, nephrology, etc.), trauma-informed practice, sexual health, healthy aging, aging in place, end-of-life and palliative care, serving diverse populations, etc. Such curriculum team shall identify areas that are most relevant to persons working with older adults currently, and/or represent emerging and evidenced-based practices and create a suggested syllabus template for an advanced-year practice class in the field of aging.

2. During the first 2 years, the pilot program shall track and benchmark learning opportunities for continued expansion while exploring other schools' interests in participation. In the third year, such pilot program shall identify additional schools able to participate.

3. A workforce development center for professional development in gerontological/geriatric education funded by multiple state agencies, including, but not limited to, the office for the aging, the department of health and the department of education, is established. The curriculum team shall further identify support from public/private partnerships to engage emerging professionals. The workforce development center shall provide a base to recruit and coordinate schools, provide incentive awards for students, provide faculty honoraria to teach courses and hold seminars, collect performance data regarding implementation and

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

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outcomes, hold schools accountable, utilize opportunities offered by the 1115 Medicaid workforce initiatives, and collaborate with Workforce Investment Organizations, and identify and develop additional educational and training resources. Set forth in the agreement with the schools for the identification of a faculty project director to participate in the development, implementation, and coordination of the project, offer an aging-focused course at least once per year based on the project syllabus template, recruit students to participate in the project, and identify and develop possible internships for students to reflect innovative approaches and a breadth of aging services and learning opportunities which may lead to employment opportunities.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall have become a law and shall expire and be deemed repealed three years after such effective date.