STATE OF NEW YORK

5213--A

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 12, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. BUTTENSCHON, SANTABARBARA, SAYEGH, ANDERSON, O'PHARROW, CASHMAN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Mental Health -- recommitted to the Committee on Mental Health in accordance with Assembly Rule 3, sec. 2 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT in relation to establishing a developmental disability, mental health, and behavioral condition community stakeholder committee; 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:

Section 1. Developmental disability, mental health, and behavioral condition community stakeholder committee. 1. The commissioner of mental health, in consultation with the commissioner of the office for people with developmental disabilities, the commissioner of the office of children and family services, and the commissioner of education, shall establish a community stakeholder committee to examine appropriate and effective evidence-based screening methods, and appropriate interventions for children identified with a developmental disability, a mental health or behavioral condition, and educational supports for students in kindergarten through grade five. The community stakeholder committee shall consist of at least ten members. The following four members shall serve as co-chairs of the community stakeholder committee: (a) the commissioner of mental health or their designee; (b) the commissioner for people with developmental disabilities or their designee; (c) the commissioner of children and family services or their designee; and (d) the commissioner of education or their designee. The remaining members shall be appointed in cooperation by the temporary president of the senate, the speaker of the assembly, and in consultation with the minority leaders of the senate and assembly, in such a manner as to ensure that all regions of the state are represented, and shall include:

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

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(a) at least two members who specialize in identifying, evaluating, and diagnosing individuals with a developmental disability, or a mental health or behavioral condition; (b) at least one member who specializes in providing education to individuals with a developmental disability, a mental health or behavioral condition; (c) at least one member who is a parent of a student with a developmental disability, a mental health or behavioral condition; and (d) at least one member who has been identified as an individual with a developmental disability, a mental health or a behavioral condition. All members shall have expertise in fields or disciplines related to the identification of students diagnosed with a developmental disability, a mental health or behavioral condition.

2. The community stakeholder committee shall conduct at least two public hearings for the purpose of obtaining information from stakeholders and other interested parties, including but not limited to social workers licensed under article 154 of the education law, mental health practitioners licensed under article 163 of the education law, behavior analysts licensed under article 167 of the education law, and teachers, school administrators, and parents.

3. The community stakeholder committee shall prepare and submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the governor, temporary president of the senate, speaker of the assembly, the minority leader of the assembly, and the minority leader of the senate eighteen months after the effective date of this act.

§ 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2027 and shall expire and be deemed repealed August 1, 2028.