

# STATE OF NEW YORK

8247

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

May 27, 2025

Introduced by Sen. HARCKHAM -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs

AN ACT to amend the elder law, the mental hygiene law, and the state finance law, in relation to making technical corrections relating to the title of the commissioner of veterans' services

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision 15 of section 202 of the elder law, as amended  
2 by section 1 of subpart J of part XX of chapter 55 of the laws of 2020,  
3 is amended to read as follows:

4 15. to periodically, in consultation with the state [~~director~~] commis-  
5 sioner of veterans' services, review the programs operated by the office  
6 to ensure that the needs of the state's aging veteran population are  
7 being met and to develop improvements to programs to meet such needs;

8 § 2. Subdivision (i) of section 19.07 of the mental hygiene law, as  
9 amended by section 31-a of part AA of chapter 56 of the laws of 2019, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 (i) The office of [~~alcoholism and substance abuse services~~] addiction  
12 services and supports shall periodically, in consultation with the state  
13 [~~director~~] commissioner of veterans' services: (1) review the programs  
14 operated by the office to ensure that the needs of the state's veterans  
15 who served in the U.S. armed forces and who are recovering from alcohol  
16 and/or substance abuse are being met and to develop improvements to  
17 programs to meet such needs; and (2) in collaboration with the state  
18 [~~director~~] commissioner of veterans' services and the commissioner of  
19 the office of mental health, review and make recommendations to improve  
20 programs that provide treatment, rehabilitation, relapse prevention, and  
21 recovery services to veterans who have served in a combat theatre or  
22 combat zone of operations and have a co-occurring mental health and  
23 alcoholism or substance abuse disorder.

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

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1 § 3. Subdivisions 1 and 5 of section 99-v of the state finance law, as  
2 amended by section 17 of part AA of chapter 56 of the laws of 2019, are  
3 amended to read as follows:

4 1. There is hereby established in the joint custody of the commission-  
5 er of taxation and finance, the New York state [~~director~~] commissioner  
6 of veterans' services and the comptroller, a special fund to be known as  
7 the "homeless veterans assistance fund".

8 5. Moneys shall be paid out of the fund on the audit and warrant of  
9 the comptroller on vouchers approved and certified by the New York state  
10 [~~director~~] commissioner of veterans' services. Any interest received by  
11 the comptroller on moneys on deposit in the homeless veterans assistance  
12 fund shall be retained in and become part of such fund.

13 § 4. This act shall take effect immediately.