STATE OF NEW YORK

3939

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 30, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. PAULIN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Aging

AN ACT to amend the elder law, in relation to publishing a guide to actions when someone close dies

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

Section 1. The elder law is amended by adding a new section 226 to read as follows:

§ 226. Guide to actions when someone close dies. 1. The office shall publish a "Guide to Actions When Someone Close Dies". This guide shall be available on the official website of the office as well as in paper format.

2. The guide shall provide information in at least the following domains:

(a) Economic security, including but not limited to, pensions, social security, life insurance, health insurance, death benefits as well as tax implications of a death.

(b) Legal, including how to access death certificates, wills, trust documents and other legal information needed to plan for the future.

(c) Mental health assistance, including information on grief, family dynamics, loss and other mental health concerns.

(d) Disposition of remains including funeral and service arrangements and burials. This information shall include average costs by region.

(e) Other information as determined by the office in consultation with the special advisory committee established pursuant to this section.

3. The director shall establish a special advisory committee to help fulfill the requirements of this section. The committee shall be temporary and dissolve thirty days after the guide is posted and distributed. The committee shall contain representatives from the following professions as well as any state agency representatives that are needed at the discretion of the director:

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

LBD04492-02-5

(a) Funeral directors;
(b) Cemeteries;
(c) Mental health professionals with specific knowledge of grief;
(d) Attorneys including the New York state bar association; and
(e) Clergy.
4. The "Guide to Actions When Someone Close Dies" shall be posted and distributed within one year of the effective date of this section.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.