STATE OF NEW YORK

7363--C

R. R. 191

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 25, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. SANTABARBARA, SHIMSKY, BURDICK, RAMOS, ZINERMAN, DE LOS SANTOS, ANDERSON, R. CARROLL, BUTTENSCHON, BENEDETTO, LAVINE, WEPRIN, ZACCARO, WOERNER, KASSAY, LEVENBERG, KAY, BERGER, STIRPE, BRONSON, JONES, TAYLOR, CONRAD, McDONALD, OTIS, SAYEGH, WILLIAMS, P. CARROLL, TAPIA, CLARK, SCHIAVONI, EACHUS -- read once and referred to the Committee on People with Disabilities -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- reported and referred to the Committee on Rules -- ordered to a third reading -- amended on the special order of third reading, ordered reprinted as amended, retaining its place on the special order of third reading -- again amended on special order of third reading, ordered reprinted, retaining its place on the special order of third reading

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to protecting the communication rights of individuals with disabilities

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 13.45 to read as follows:

§ 13.45 New York state communication bill of rights for individuals with disabilities.

In order to ensure that each person with a disability is able to lead a life of dignity, all persons with a disability shall have the right to communicate in their preferred manner and utilize any communication supports that meet their needs, and all staff and providers under this section, shall ensure and acknowledge such rights.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law.

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

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