STATE OF NEW YORK

1782--A

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 13, 2025

Introduced by Sens. HINCHEY, ROLISON -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Aging -- recommitted to the Committee on Aging in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- reported favorably from said committee and committed to the Committee on Finance -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the elder law, in relation to dementia care navigators and coordinator

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 227 to read as follows:

§ 227. Dementia care navigators and coordinator. 1. As used in this section "designated agency" shall mean any agency which is either a unit of county government, the city of New York, or the governing body or council of an Indian tribal reservation, or a private not-for-profit agency organized or existing pursuant to the not-for-profit corporation law, which has been designated as an area agency on aging by the office pursuant to the federal older Americans act of 1965, as amended.

2. Each designated agency shall employ a dementia care navigator to provide support for caregivers of individuals with dementia and to assist individuals with dementia in accessing appropriate services. A dementia care navigator shall:

(a) provide information and referrals to individuals with dementia and their caregivers regarding available community-based services and programs;

(b) assist caregivers with care planning and navigation of long-term services and support groups;

(c) facilitate access to cognitive health resources, including information regarding available screening services;

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

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(d) coordinate, as appropriate, with health care providers, community-based organizations, and other service providers to improve access to dementia-related services;

(e) provide guidance and resource information to designated agency staff regarding dementia-related best practices; and

(f) support outreach and education efforts that promote dementia awareness and dementia-friendly community initiatives.

3. The office shall establish the position of dementia care coordinator. The dementia care coordinator shall manage the work of dementia care navigators employed pursuant to this section.

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