

STATE OF NEW YORK

2070

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 15, 2025

Introduced by Sen. SCARCELLA-SPANTON -- read twice and ordered printed,
and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Veterans, Home-
land Security and Military Affairs

AN ACT to amend the veterans' services law, in relation to directing the
department of veterans' services to establish and maintain, in consul-
tation and collaboration with other state agencies, a searchable data-
base of resources available in the state for veterans, members of the
uniformed services, and their families

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

1 Section 1. Section 4 of the veterans' services law is amended by
2 adding a new subdivision 40 to read as follows:

3 40. (a) To establish and maintain, in consultation and collaboration
4 with other state agencies including, but not limited to, the office of
5 mental health, the department of health, the office of general services,
6 the department of labor, the department of state, and the department of
7 financial services, a searchable database of resources available in the
8 state for veterans, members of the uniformed services, and their fami-
9 lies. Such database shall include but not be limited to:

10 (1) general information about and contact information for resources
11 available through federal, state, and local government agencies and
12 other organizations including, but not limited to, those relating to
13 veterans' benefits, healthcare, housing, employment, veteran-owned busi-
14 nesses, survivor benefits, substance use disorder treatment, physical
15 disabilities, educational and job benefits, tuition assistance programs,
16 health and mental health referrals, real property tax exemptions,
17 suicide prevention, and peer outreach and support;

18 (2) information about the department's mobile application, established
19 under subdivision twenty-one of this section; and

20 (3) links to the department's small business portal, established under
21 subdivision twelve of this section, the department's veterans' employ-

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

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1 ment portal, established under subdivision thirteen of this section, the
2 department's mental health, substance abuse, and physical disabilities
3 portals, established under subdivision twenty-seven of this section, and
4 the department's military sexual trauma portal, established under subdi-
5 vision thirty-two of this section.

6 (b) The database created pursuant to this subdivision shall be made
7 available on the department's website and shall be reviewed and updated
8 at least annually.

9 § 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after
10 it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amend-
11 ment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implemen-
12 tation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and
13 completed on or before such effective date.