STATE OF NEW YORK

3571

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 28, 2025

Introduced by Sens. CLEARE, WEBB -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Disabilities

AN ACT in relation to naming a certain state facility after Willie Mae "Goody" Goodman

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

Section 1. Legislative intent: The legislature recognizes the contributions of Willie Mae Goodman, a mother and tireless advocate who has devoted her life to ensure that people with developmental disabilities can have "full" lives in the community. Since, 1961, Ms. Goodman's daughter has been under the care of the state department of mental hygiene, first at the Willowbrook State school in Staten Island and then at Gouverneur Hospital in lower Manhattan. Throughout her daughter's life, Ms. Goodman has fought not only for Margaret's rights, but for the rights of other developmentally disabled individuals and their families. At Gouverneur Hospital she led the first group of parents in a court action to block the transfer of their loved ones back to Willowbrook. She then fought to obtain legal affirmation that Gouverneur residents were members of the Willowbrook Class and entitled to the same benefits and protection. Ms. Goodman continues to advocate for people with disabilities as part of the Gouverneur Parents Association. In honor of her tireless work for the developmentally disabled community, the 119th street facilities will bear her name.

§ 2. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the official name of the office for people with developmental disabilities facility located in the borough of Manhattan, Block 1807, Lot 18 fully described as follows BEGINNING at a point on the northerly side of 119th Street, distant 163 feet westerly from the corner formed by the intersection of the northerly side of 119th Street, with the westerly side of Pleasant Avenue, running thence northerly parallel with Pleasant Avenue and part of the way through a party wall 100 feet 11 inches; thence westerly,

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

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parallel with 119th Street, 50 feet, thence southerly, parallel with Pleasant Avenue, 100 feet 11 inches to the northerly side of 119th Street; and thence easterly, along the northerly side of 119th Street, 50 feet to the point or place of beginning shall be the "Willie Mae 'Goody' Goodman Community Facility".

§ 3. The office for people with developmental disabilities shall provide for the installation and maintenance of adequate signing of the facility pursuant to section two of this act.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately.