S6528 PERSAUD Same as A7634 Cruz Chapter 223 of 2021 Chap Eff Date Voting
Text Versions: S 6528
S6528 PERSAUD Same as A7634 Cruz

Departmental Bill # 5
Office for the Aging (Internal # 4 - 2021)
ON FILE: 05/05/21 Elder Law
TITLE....Relates to establishing an elder abuse enhanced multidisciplinary team program under the office for the aging
05/05/21 REFERRED TO AGING
05/11/21 REPORTED AND COMMITTED TO FINANCE
05/19/21 1ST REPORT CAL.1211
05/20/21 2ND REPORT CAL.
05/24/21 ADVANCED TO THIRD READING
06/01/21 PASSED SENATE
06/01/21 DELIVERED TO ASSEMBLY
06/01/21 referred to codes
06/09/21 substituted for a7634
06/09/21 ordered to third reading rules cal.681
06/09/21 passed assembly
06/09/21 returned to senate
06/24/21 DELIVERED TO GOVERNOR
07/01/21 SIGNED CHAP.223

PERSAUD, O'MARA, SERINO
Add §225, Eld L
Establishes an elder abuse enhanced multidisciplinary team program under the office for the aging consisting of professionals for complex cases of elder abuse, including financial exploitation, physical abuse, psychological abuse, sexual abuse, and neglect.
EFF. DATE 07/01/2021
Office for the Aging

A7634 Cruz Same as S 6528 PERSAUD
Text Versions: A 7634
A7634 Cruz Same as S 6528 PERSAUD

Departmental Bill # 5
Office for Aging (Internal # 4 - 2021)
Elder Law
TITLE....Relates to establishing an elder abuse enhanced multidisciplinary team program under the office for the aging
05/19/21 referred to aging
05/24/21 reported referred to codes
06/07/21 reported referred to ways and means
06/09/21 reported referred to rules
06/09/21 reported
06/09/21 rules report cal.681
CRUZ
Add §225, Eld L
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Office for the Aging

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STATE OF NEW YORK

6528
2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 5, 2021

Introduced by Sen. PERSAUD -- (at request of the Office for the Aging) -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Aging

AN ACT to amend the elder law, in relation to establishing an elder abuse enhanced multidisciplinary team program under the auspices of the New York state office for the aging
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 225 to read as follows:

§ 225. Elder abuse enhanced multidisciplinary team program. 1. The office is hereby authorized, subject to appropriation of funds for the program, to establish an elder abuse enhanced multidisciplinary team program consisting of teams at the regional or county level for complex cases of elder abuse, including but not limited to financial exploitation, physical abuse, psychological abuse, sexual abuse, and neglect, involving a victim sixty years of age or older.

2. Such elder abuse enhanced multidisciplinary teams shall consist of representation by professionals generally authorized to make decisions on behalf of their agency from public, private, and voluntary agencies. Represented professions may include, but are not limited to, health/medical, mental health, aging, protective services, human services, social work, banking/financial institutions, legal services, district attorney's offices, law enforcement agencies, and forensic accounting.

3. Teams will also consist of a coordinator who will provide case consultation, triage cases, facilitate elder abuse enhanced multidisciplinary team meetings, monitor progress, and facilitate coordination and cooperative action in the provision of appropriate services to an individual identified as being a victim of elder abuse, as well as other duties associated with the role.

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

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

NEW YORK STATE SENATE
INTRODUCER'S MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT
submitted in accordance with Senate Rule VI. Sec 1

BILL NUMBER: S6528

SPONSOR: PERSAUD

TITLE OF BILL:

An act to amend the elder law, in relation to establishing an elder abuse enhanced multidisciplinary team program under the auspices of the New York state office for the aging

1. PURPOSE: This bill would authorize the New York State Office for the Aging to establish the Elder Abuse Enhanced Multidisciplinary Team Program, with teams consisting of representatives from a wide range of
professions for the purpose of responding to complex cases of elder abuse.

2. **SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:**

Section 1 of the bill would create a new section 225 of the Elder Law authorizing the establishment of the Elder Abuse Enhanced Multidisciplinary Team Program. The program would consist of teams across the State established to provide a coordinated response to complex cases of elder abuse. Section 225 would provide for and identify the role of a coordinator for each such team. Lastly, Section 225 would allow for the sharing among team members of client-identifiable information regarding victims of elder abuse for purposes of facilitating team activities.

Section 2 of the bill would provide that the bill become effective immediately.

3. **EXISTING LAW:**

There is no existing law that relates to multidisciplinary teams established for the purpose of responding to cases of elder abuse.

4. **LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:**

No similar proposals have been previously submitted.

5. **STATEMENT IN SUPPORT:**

The Elder Abuse Interventions and Enhanced Multidisciplinary Team (E-MDT) Initiative has become a critical part of New York State's response to elder abuse. During the COVID-19 public health crisis, there has been a surge in instances of abuse and financial exploitation reported. The crisis has simultaneously created many obstacles in addressing these instances. E-MDTs have continued to meet virtually, ensuring continued interventions in elder abuse cases and protections for New York's older adults during a time when many other programs have been forced to pause. However, E-MDTs currently lack the statutory authorization, protections, and clarifications such as those afforded to child abuse MDTs under Section 423(6) of the Social Services Law. In particular, local organizations have noted potential legal issues around the sharing of victim information during case discussions, especially in light of the recent revisions to New York State's discovery laws. This has created uncertainties that make it difficult for local E-MDT Coordinators to recruit and onboard new team members representing county Adult Protective Services, District Attorney's offices, law enforcement, etc. Legislation would address these issues by establishing a statutory basis for the program and clarifying these issues, thereby allowing the E-MDT Initiative to continue operating in the most effective and efficient manner.

6. **POSSIBLE OBJECTIONS:**

No objections to this bill are known or anticipated.

7. **OTHER STATE AGENCIES INTERESTED:**
8. **KNOWN POSITION OF OTHERS:**

NYSOFA has no knowledge of the positions of others regarding this proposal.

9. **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no fiscal implications associated with this bill.

10. **LOCAL IMPACT:** There is no expected impact on local governments associated with this bill.