



2018 New York State YMCA

Youth And Government

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FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #: AL-15

1 **Sponsors:** Madison Whitney, Julianna Uglialoro

2

3 **An Act To**

4 To Amend § 903.00 subdivision 1 of New York State Education Law to mandate the
5 offering of a web based depression and anxiety test when getting a school physical
6 at ages eleven and eighteen years old.

7

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

9

10 **Purpose**

11 To help people recognize they might have anxiety and/or depression so they can
12 get the help they need and if found at a younger age it will be easier to help
13 someone from suffering from anxiety and/or depression.

14 **Summary of Provisions**

15 **Section 1: Definitions**

16 **Anxiety:** a nervous disorder characterized by a state of excessive uneasiness and
17 apprehension, typically with compulsive behavior or panic attacks.

18 **Depression:** mood disorder that causes a persistent feeling of sadness and loss of
19 interest. Also called major depressive disorder or clinical depression, it affects how
20 you feel, think and behave and can lead to a variety of emotional and physical
21 problems.

22 **Mental Illness:** a wide range of mental health conditions — disorders that affect
23 your mood, thinking and behavior. Examples of mental illness include depression,
24 anxiety disorders, schizophrenia, eating disorders and addictive behaviors.

25 **Psychiatrist:** a physician who specializes in the prevention, diagnosis, and
26 treatment of mental illness. A psychiatrist must receive additional training and
27 serve a supervised residency in his or her specialty. ... Psychiatrists can prescribe
28 medication; which psychologists cannot do.

29 **Psychology:** the study of the mind and mental processes, especially in relation to
30 behavior. Clinical psychology is concerned with diagnosing and treating disorders of
31 the brain, emotional disturbances, and behavior problems.

32 **Test:** a procedure intended to establish the quality, performance, or reliability of
33 something, especially before it is taken into widespread use.

34 **Web-based depression and anxiety test:** a test to determine anxiety and/or
35 depression.

36 **Section 2:**

37 § 903.00. 1.) A health certificate shall be furnished by each student in the public
38 schools upon his or her entrance in such schools and upon his or her entry into the
39 grades prescribed by the commissioner in regulations, provided that such
40 regulations shall require such certificates at least twice during the elementary
41 grades and twice in the secondary grades. An examination and health history of any
42 child may be required by the local school authorities at any time in their discretion
43 to promote the educational interests of such child. Each certificate shall be signed
44 by a duly licensed physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner, who is
45 authorized by law to practice in this state, and consistent with subdivision three of

46 section six thousand nine hundred two of this chapter, or by a duly licensed
47 physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner, who is authorized to practice in
48 the jurisdiction in which the examination was given, provided that the
49 commissioner has determined that such jurisdiction has standards of licensure and
50 practice comparable to those of New York. Each such certificate shall describe the
51 condition of the student when the examination was made, which shall not be more
52 than twelve months prior to the commencement of the school year in which the
53 examination is required, and shall state whether such student is in a fit condition of
54 health to permit his or her attendance at the public schools. The examination may
55 include a diabetes risk analysis. Each such certificate shall also state the student's
56 body mass index (BMI), ~~and~~ weight status category, and proof of the offering of a
57 mental illness examination for Anxiety and Depression for ages 11 to 18 years of
58 age with the Web-Based Depression and Anxiety (WB-DAT) test, this test will be
59 10\$ if someone decides to take the test.

60 **Justification**

61 This bill will make it mandatory that the physician has to offer a mental illness
62 exam to anyone who is taking a physical but does not require a student to take this
63 exam. Children ages eleven through fourteen starts to develop Mental illnesses and
64 most mental illnesses go unrecognized and untreated, if you are diagnosed at a
65 young age at it is easier to treat anxiety or depression however the test does not
66 fully diagnose you but after taking the test you have the decision to further
67 investigate their mental state.

68 **Fiscal Implications**

69 The fiscal implications of this bill will be free of charge for the test if decided.
70 Psychiatrists will then evaluate said test.

71 **Effective Date**

72 This bill will go into effect one year after its passage.