



2018 New York State YMCA

Youth And Government

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FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 4

Bill #:AF-31

1 **Sponsors:** Sophie Manna, Hamza Hassan, Aubrey Gilbert

2

3 **An Act To**

4 Amend section 7 of the State Finance Law 99-bb to mandate New York State public
5 schools to use the school-based health centers fund to establish outside mental
6 health services in schools.

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 make it mandatory for all public school systems in the state of New York to use
12 funds for mental health resources in the form of an outside professional, not
13 associated with the school and its district or system of schools.

14

15 **Summary of Provisions**

16 **Section 1: Definitions**

17 Outside services: it is a catchall term for tasks you paid independent contractors to
18 perform. The tasks you hire out to independents certainly qualify for this deduction.

19 Mental health: a person's condition with regard to their psychological and emotional
20 well-being.

21 **Section 2:**

22 § 99-bb. School-based health centers fund. 1. There is hereby established in the
23 joint custody of the comptroller and the commissioner of health, a special fund to
24 be known as the "school-based health centers fund".

25 7. Services performed by school-based health centers available for moneys from
26 this fund shall include, but not be limited to:

27 a. comprehensive physical health and mental health assessments;

28 b. diagnosis and treatment of acute illnesses;

29 c. vision, hearing, dental, nutritional, and tuberculosis screenings;

30 d. routine management of chronic diseases;

31 e. health education;

32 f. mental health counseling and referrals;

33 g. immunizations;

34 h. working papers and sports physicals; and

35 i. population-based primary prevention.

36 j. Funding for mandatory outside mental health services in public schools



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37 **Justification**

38 Mental health institutions are necessary for all public schools as a safe passageway
39 for children's mental health. Many students struggle with mental health in their
40 everyday life and do not feel comfortable sharing sensitive information with a
41 school professional. With an outside resource inside the school but not directly
42 affiliated with the school system, there is a chance that more outreach will occur to
43 students for treatment as well as the relationship between the student and the new
44 service solely for the purpose of treatment and support for the student, and no
45 other interests in the situation.

46

47 **Fiscal Implications**

48 This bill will use financial res from the school-based health centers fund as stated in
49 section 4 of the State Finance law 99-bb which states monies of the fund shall be
50 expended to fund the expansion of medical services at existing school-based health
51 centers or to establish new school-based health centers.

52

53 **Environmental Implications**

54 This bill will have no environmental implications.

55

56 **Effective Date**

57 This bill will go into effect 3 academic years after passage, this would give a
58 sufficient amount of time for all public schools to provide an outside resource
59 service.