



**Department
of Health**

FY 2020 Executive Budget

Overview of Health Provisions

January 25, 2019
10AM

General Public Health Work

Local Assistance Appropriation Bill

Health and Mental Hygiene Article VII Bill, Part O

- This proposal will amend Public Health Law Article VI to change the reimbursement formula for New York City.
- The proposal recognizes that NYC is eligible to receive other forms of funding for public health from multiple federal sources including direct grants totaling \$ 80 million in 2017 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- In order to better utilize resources, this proposal limits Article VI reimbursement for NYC to 20% after spending the base grant.
- All other local health departments will continue to receive their base grant and 36% reimbursement above the base grant.
- NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene currently receives 62% of the State Aid paid through the Article VI program, although it is the home to only 43% of the New York State population. Under this proposal NYC will receive 51% of the State Aid paid through the program to ensure greater equity with the remaining local health departments.
- This proposal will result in \$27M in savings in the first year and \$54M when fully annualized.

Early Intervention Program (EIP)

Increase EI rates by 5 percent for services provided by licensed physical therapists, occupational therapists, and speech-language pathologists

- Increase reimbursement rates for services furnished to eligible infants and toddlers in the Early Intervention Program and their families by licensed physical therapists (PT), occupational therapists (OT), and speech-language pathologists (SLP) by 5 percent.
- The rate increase also applies to reimbursement for supplemental evaluations furnished by these practitioners.
- The increase is intended to help attract providers to begin providing EI services and to retain current EI providers, with the goals of decreasing provider capacity concerns, improving timeliness and quality of service delivery in the EIP, and recognizing the specialized education and training of these service providers.

Protect Children from Lead Exposure

Health and Mental Hygiene Article VII Bill, Part P

- The proposal has two objectives intended to protect children from lead exposures. The first objective provides for prompt medical care and environmental intervention when lead is identified in a child's blood at a lower level than currently required and the second protects children from exposure to lead hazards in residential rental housing.
 - Specifically, the proposal lowers the definition in PHL 1370 of "an elevated blood lead level" in children to 5 mcg/dL. The new definition would require interventions at a lower blood lead level resulting in initiation of medical care coordination services and home/dwelling (child care) based interventions earlier to protect children from further harm. This will increase the required services for thousands of children annually.
- The proposal would also require the Department to develop statewide standards for the maintenance of lead-based paint in residential rental housing to *prevent* exposures from occurring. This proactive proposal is intended to eliminate the potential for exposures to lead-based paint hazards in residential rental settings. Statewide, 46% of housing is rental housing, and those properties built prior to 1978 may contain lead-based paint. This proposal would allow coordination with local housing code enforcement agencies for administration.

Maternal Mortality

Aid to Localities Appropriation Bill

Health and Mental Hygiene Bill, Part R

Based on recommendations of the Maternal Mortality Taskforce DOH will engage in a series of initiatives including:

- Statewide education and training to reduce implicit bias in health care
- Expand access to Community Health Workers to help address racial disparities through social support, information, and advocacy
- Convene a Maternal Mortality Review Board (MMRB) to review maternal deaths (deaths that occur while pregnant or within 1 year of the end of a pregnancy), assess cause of death, and identify clinical and social strategies to decrease maternal mortality and reduce racial disparities
- Create a data warehouse to support State quality improvement efforts, and hospitals and health providers access to real-time data related to maternal mortality and morbidity as well as racial disparities
- Engage with ACOG an expert workgroup on postpartum care

Promote Rural Telehealth Services, Including Perinatal Care

Capital Projects Appropriation Bill

To address access to specialty services, including perinatal care and maternal fetal medicine, the DOH will:

- Make up to \$5 million available to regional perinatal centers, as well as other service providers, to expand their telehealth services in rural communities;
- Engage hospitals already participating in Rural Health Care Access Development Program to encourage the expansion of telehealth services, including perinatal services; and

Other Initiatives

- Form a Perinatal Telehealth Workgroup with national leaders to outline key strategies and barriers to expanding telehealth services and consultations
- Create a project pilot to establish Project ECHO tele-mentoring initiative to support and enhance the skill of obstetric providers in rural areas

Other Women's Health Justice Agenda

- Continue the Know Your Rights, Get the Facts Campaign
- Launch Uterine Fibroids and Endometriosis Research and Public Outreach Campaign
- Statewide Safe Sleep Campaign to Prevent Infant Deaths

Tobacco Control (Tobacco and Electronic Cigarettes)

Revenue Article VII Part UU

Public Health Law Amendments

- Raise the minimum legal sales age for all tobacco and electronic cigarette products from 18 to 21
- Prohibit the sale of tobacco and electronic cigarette products in licensed pharmacies
- Restrict the display of tobacco and electronic cigarette products in all non-adult-only retail stores
- Clarify that the Health Department has the authority to ban the sale of certain flavored e-liquid (vapor) products
- Restrict discounts and coupons that lower the retail price of tobacco and electronic cigarette products

Tax Law Amendments

- Requires that e-cigarettes be sold only through retailers registered by the Department of Taxation and Finance
- Create a tax on liquid used in vaping products equal to 20 percent of the retail price, to be paid by the consumer at time of purchase

Questions and Answers