



Legislation Text

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Proposed Int. No. 435-A

By Council Member Sanchez, the Public Advocate (Mr. Williams) and Council Members Restler, Farías, Cabán, Menin, Ossé, Ayala, Louis, Rivera, Salaam, Brewer, Schulman, Hanif, Won, Bottcher, Gennaro, Hudson, Avilés, Krishnan, Nurse, Stevens, Banks, Marte, Gutiérrez, Brannan, Narcisse and Riley

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to expanding availability of rapid testing for sexually transmitted infections

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 1 of title 17 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new section 17-184.2 to read as follows:

§ 17-184.2 Availability of rapid testing for sexually transmitted infections. a. Definitions. For the purposes of this section, the term “rapid testing” means testing for chlamydia, gonorrhea, or HIV utilizing a test that produces results in the same day or within hours.

b. Availability. The department shall make rapid testing sites available in at least 4 boroughs. Three of such sites shall be operational within 1 year after the effective date of the local law that added this section, and the fourth such required site shall be operational within 2 years after the effective date of the local law that added this section. In determining the location of rapid testing sites, the department shall take into consideration community and geographic factors including rates of sexually transmitted infections, availability of other testing services, health equity considerations, and other relevant factors as determined by the department. Upon determining such locations, the commissioner of health and mental hygiene shall provide to the speaker of the council a report detailing the considerations that went into such determination.

c. Outreach. Upon the establishment of any rapid testing site required pursuant to subdivision b of this section, the department shall conduct an education campaign in English and the designated citywide languages

as defined in section 23-1101 to inform communities of the locations and availability of rapid testing services.

d. Disclaimer. Nothing in this section shall require the department to provide rapid testing services to a patient for whom the department or the medical provider administering such services does not find such rapid testing to be clinically appropriate.

§ 2. No later than 180 days after the effective date of this local law and annually thereafter for 3 years, the commissioner of health and mental hygiene shall submit a report to the speaker of the council detailing the availability of rapid testing services throughout the 5 boroughs, including services provided directly by the department and through cooperative agreements or contracts with the department.

§ 3. This local law takes effect 180 days after it becomes law.

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