



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224

APPROVAL # 30
CHAPTER # 661

November 17, 2023

MEMORANDUM filed with Senate Bill 5907, entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the elder law, in relation to the naturally occurring retirement community supportive service program; in relation to authorizing the study of the number of senior citizens residing in naturally occurring retirement communities who are suffering from loneliness and social isolation; and providing for the repeal of certain provisions upon the expiration thereof”

A P P R O V E D

This legislation would require the New York State Office for the Aging to conduct a study on the number of older adults residing in naturally occurring retirement communities who are suffering from social isolation and loneliness, the current programs or services seeking to alleviate these conditions, and additional programs or services that could be implemented. The study's findings and recommendations would be submitted to the Governor and the Legislature.

I support the goals of this legislation and share the concerns related to social isolation and loneliness, which is one reason I was so pleased to appoint Dr. Ruth Westheimer as New York's honorary Ambassador to Loneliness. However, this legislation required certain amendments to address technical and fiscal challenges.

I have reached an agreement with the Legislature to enact those changes. On the basis of this agreement, I am pleased to sign this bill into law.

This bill is approved.

Ruth Hochul