

4323--A

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

April 22, 2009

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Introduced by Sens. FOLEY, MONSERRATE -- read twice and ordered printed,  
and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Social Services  
-- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended  
and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to requiring the  
office of temporary and disability assistance to ensure that all  
recipients of public assistance reside in housing accommodations that  
are in compliance with all applicable building codes, ordinances and  
regulations of the municipality in which such housing accommodation is  
located

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEM-  
BLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. Subdivisions (g), (h) and (i) of section 17 of the social  
2 services law, subdivision (g) as added by chapter 280 of the laws of  
3 2002, subdivision (i) as amended by chapter 110 of the laws of 1971,  
4 subdivision (h) as added and subdivision (i) as relettered by section 1  
5 of part K3 of chapter 57 of the laws of 2007, are amended to read as  
6 follows:  
7     (g) require participation of all employees of a child protective  
8 service in a training course which has been developed by the office for  
9 the prevention of domestic violence in conjunction with the office of  
10 children and family services whose purpose is to develop an understand-  
11 ing of the dynamics of domestic violence and its connection to child  
12 abuse and neglect. Such course shall:  
13     (i) pay special attention to the need to screen for domestic violence;  
14     (ii) place emphasis on the psychological harm experienced by children  
15 whose environment is impacted by familial violence and accordingly  
16 explore avenues to keep such children with the non-abusive parent rather  
17 than placing them in foster care further traumatizing both the victim  
18 and the children;

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

LBD03915-02-9

1 (iii) provide instruction regarding the scope of legal remedies for  
2 the abused parent;

3 (iv) identify obstacles that prevent individuals from leaving their  
4 batterers and examine safety options and services available for the  
5 victim;

6 (v) provide information pertaining to the unique barriers facing  
7 certain immigrant women and the options available under the federal  
8 Violence Against Women Act;

9 (vi) analyze procedures available to sanction and educate the abusing  
10 partner; and

11 (vii) emphasize the need for the system to hold the abusing partner  
12 responsible by appropriate referrals to law enforcement[.];

13 (h) make available on its website all award allocations for request  
14 for proposals issued by the office of children and family services upon  
15 release of such awards. Such information shall also include all organ-  
16 izations requesting funding and the amounts requested for each request  
17 for proposal. The office of children and family services may also  
18 include any other information related to each program that it deems  
19 appropriate[.];

20 (i) ENSURE THAT ALL RECIPIENTS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE LOCATED WITHIN  
21 SUFFOLK COUNTY RESIDE IN HOUSING ACCOMMODATIONS THAT ARE IN COMPLIANCE  
22 WITH ALL APPLICABLE BUILDING CODES, ORDINANCES AND REGULATIONS OF THE  
23 MUNICIPALITY IN WHICH THE HOUSING ACCOMMODATION IS LOCATED AND UPON  
24 DISCOVERY THAT SUCH HOUSING ACCOMMODATION IS NOT IN COMPLIANCE, WITHIN  
25 TWENTY-FOUR HOURS OF SUCH DISCOVERY, CAUSE SUCH RECIPIENTS TO BE HOUSED  
26 IN EMERGENCY HOUSING UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE INITIAL HOUSING ACCOMMO-  
27 DATION IN WHICH SUCH RECIPIENT OR RECIPIENTS RESIDED IS BROUGHT INTO  
28 COMPLIANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE BUILDING CODES, ORDINANCES AND REGU-  
29 LATIONS OF THE MUNICIPALITY IN WHICH SUCH HOUSING ACCOMMODATION IS  
30 LOCATED OR UNTIL A SUITABLE PERMANENT HOUSING ACCOMMODATION IS LOCATED,  
31 WHICHEVER OCCURS EARLIER; AND

32 (J) exercise such other powers and perform such other duties as may be  
33 imposed by law.

34 S 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after  
35 it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amend-  
36 ment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implemen-  
37 tation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made on or  
38 before such effective date.