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I N A S S E M B L Y

January 12, 2016

Introduced by M. of A. THIELE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to agreements to provide county, city and town social services departments with access to death certificates

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision 5 of section 4174 of the public health law, as
2 amended by chapter 170 of the laws of 1994, is amended to read as
3 follows:
4 5. (a) The United States social security administration OR A COUNTY
5 COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES, CITY COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES,
6 TOWN SOCIAL SERVICES OFFICER OR CITY SOCIAL SERVICES OFFICER AS DEFINED
7 IN SUBDIVISION FOURTEEN OF SECTION TWO OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES LAW may
8 obtain information from death certificates needed in the administration
9 of old-age and survivors insurance benefits laws AND THE ADMINISTRATION
10 OF ASSISTANCE OR CARE AS REFERENCED IN SECTION ONE HUNDRED SIX OF THE
11 SOCIAL SERVICES LAW, subject to the provisions of any contract entered
12 into pursuant to paragraph (b) of this subdivision.
13 (b) In addition, the commissioner or any person authorized by the
14 commissioner is authorized and directed to enter into [a contract]
15 CONTRACTS to furnish the federal secretary of health and human services,
16 A COUNTY COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES, CITY COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL
17 SERVICES, TOWN SOCIAL SERVICES OFFICER OR CITY SOCIAL SERVICES OFFICER
18 AS DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION FOURTEEN OF SECTION TWO OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES
19 LAW WITH information concerning individuals with respect to whom death
20 certificates have been officially filed with the commissioner. Such
21 [contract] CONTRACTS shall not include any restriction on the use of
22 information obtained by such secretary, COMMISSIONERS OR OFFICERS pursu-
23 ant to such [contract] CONTRACTS, except that such [contract] CONTRACTS
24 may provide that such information is only to be used by the secretary
25 (or any other federal agency), COMMISSIONERS OR OFFICERS (OR ANY OTHER
26 COUNTY AGENCIES OR TOWN OFFICES) for purposes of ensuring that federal
27 benefits or other payments are not erroneously paid to deceased individ-
28 uals OR TO ENABLE SUCH COMMISSIONERS OR OFFICERS TO PERFORM THEIR DUTIES
29 PURSUANT TO SECTION ONE HUNDRED SIX OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES LAW.
30 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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