STATE OF NEW YORK

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7048

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

April 21, 2021
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Introduced by M. of A. L. ROSENTHAL -- read once and referred to the
    Committee on Social Services

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to removing the
    requirement that rent arrears be repaid

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1   Section 1. Section 131-w of the social services law, as added by chap-
2 ter 41 of the laws of 1992, is amended to read as follows:
3   § 131-w. Limitations in the payment of [~~rent~~] arrears. Districts shall
4 not provide assistance to pay [~~rent arrears,~~] property taxes or mortgage
5 arrears for persons not eligible for home relief, aid to dependent chil-
6 dren, emergency assistance to needy families with children or emergency
7 assistance for aged, blind and disabled persons, except to persons who
8 are without income or resources immediately available to meet the emer-
9 gency need, whose gross household income does not exceed one hundred
10 twenty-five percent of the federal income official poverty line and who
11 sign a repayment agreement agreeing to repay the assistance in a period
12 not to exceed twelve months. The districts shall enforce the repayment
13 agreements by any legal method available to a creditor, in addition to
14 any rights it has pursuant to this chapter. **Districts shall not require**
15 **that rent arrears be repaid and shall not enforce repayment agreements**
16 **for rent arrears. Any outstanding repayment agreements for rent arrears**
17 **as of the effective date of the chapter of the laws of two thousand**
18 **twenty-one which amended this section shall be forgiven and shall not be**
19 **enforced.** The department shall promulgate regulations to implement this
20 section which shall, among other things, establish standards for the
21 contents of repayment agreements and establish standards to ensure that
22 assistance is provided only in emergency circumstances.
23   § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

                                                    LBD10379-01-1