STATE OF NEW YORK

7048

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

April 21, 2021

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:

§ 131-w. Limitations in the payment of [rent] arrears. Districts shall 4 not provide assistance to pay [rent arrears,] property taxes or mortgage arrears for persons not eligible for home relief, aid to dependent children, emergency assistance to needy families with children or emergency 7 assistance for aged, blind and disabled persons, except to persons who are without income or resources immediately available to meet the emergency need, whose gross household income does not exceed one hundred 10 twenty-five percent of the federal income official poverty line and who 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 enforced. The department shall promulgate regulations to implement this 19 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