STATE OF NEW YORK

2161

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 15, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. RAJKUMAR, RAGA -- read once and referred to the Committee on Local Governments

AN ACT to amend the general municipal law, in relation to prohibiting municipal corporations from refusing resettlement of asylum seekers from other municipal corporations in the state

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

Section 1. The general municipal law is amended by adding a new section 98-c to read as follows:

§ 98-c. Resettlement of asylum seekers. 1. No municipal corporation in the state shall refuse, prohibit, or otherwise prevent a resettling municipal corporation from resettling asylum seekers into such municipal corporation, provided, however, that:

(a) Such resettling municipal corporation shall cover all costs of such resettlement including, but not limited to, continuing costs of shelter for such asylum seekers; and

(b) No property owned by the municipal corporation into which asylum seekers are being resettled shall be used for such resettlement without the consent of such municipal corporation.

2. For the purposes of this section the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "Asylum seeker" means an individual who changes their country of usual residence to seek temporary or permanent residence in another country, and who has applied for asylum under 8 U.S. Code § 1158 or is eligible to apply; or who is a refugee as defined by section 101(a)(42) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).

(b) "Resettling municipal corporation" means a municipal corporation in the state that is assisting asylum seekers with resettlement into another municipal corporation in the state.

§ 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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