

# STATE OF NEW YORK

4035

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

January 30, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. EACHUS -- read once and referred to the Committee on Social Services

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to creating caseload standards for adult protective services workers

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

1 Section 1. Section 20-a of the social services law, as added by chap-  
2 ter 107 of the laws of 1971, is amended to read as follows:

3 § 20-a. Local personnel; limitations on department's power. Notwith-  
4 standing any inconsistent provision of this chapter, the board, the  
5 commissioner or the department, acting singly or in unison, shall not  
6 have the power, directly or indirectly to prescribe the number of  
7 persons to be employed in any social services district providing the  
8 district complies with the minimum federal standards relating thereto;  
9 provided, however, that the provisions of this section shall not apply  
10 to the regulations of the office of children and family services estab-  
11 lishing caseload standards for adult protective services workers promul-  
12 gated pursuant to paragraph (a) of subdivision nine of section four  
13 hundred twenty-one of this chapter.

14 § 2. Section 421 of the social services law is amended by adding a new  
15 subdivision 9 to read as follows:

16 9. promulgate regulations, in consultation with local social services  
17 districts, relating to caseload standards for adult protective services  
18 workers. Such standards shall include, but not be limited to:

19 (a) limitations on the number of investigations which can be assigned  
20 to adult protective services workers, provided however, to the extent  
21 possible and within amounts appropriated therefor, a full time equiv-  
22 alent adult protective services worker shall not be assigned:

23 (i) a caseload of more than twenty initial investigations at any given  
24 time; or

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

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- 1 (ii) a caseload of more than thirty ongoing cases at any given time;
- 2 or
- 3 (iii) a total caseload of more than thirty cases.
- 4 (b) guidance as it relates to how such investigations are assigned,
- 5 taking into consideration the adult protective services worker's current
- 6 caseload, as well as the complexity of the particular investigation or
- 7 case, if known. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to
- 8 prohibit the office from prescribing local social services districts
- 9 from establishing caseload standards that are less than what is required
- 10 in this subdivision.

11 § 3. The social services law is amended by adding a new section 473-f  
 12 to read as follows:

13 § 473-f. Annual reports. The commissioner shall prepare for inclusion  
 14 in the annual report required by subdivision (d) of section seventeen of  
 15 this chapter to be filed with the governor and the legislature prior to  
 16 December fifteenth of each year, a report on adult protective services.  
 17 The report shall, at minimum, include a monthly accounting by local  
 18 social services districts of the total number of adult protective  
 19 services workers with an indication of how many hold a supervisory posi-  
 20 tion, as well as the average number of active cases per adult protective  
 21 services worker in the preceding year.

22 § 4. Subdivision (d) of section 17 of the social services law, as  
 23 amended by chapter 749 of the laws of 1989, is amended to read as  
 24 follows:

25 (d) submit an annual report to the governor and the legislature prior  
 26 to the fifteenth day of December of each year. Such annual report shall  
 27 include the following: the affairs of the department and the status of  
 28 welfare programs in the state with recommendations for the improvement  
 29 and development of welfare programs; a report on the department's fair  
 30 hearing system, as required by section twenty-two of this article; a  
 31 written evaluation report on the delivery of child welfare services in  
 32 the state, as required by subdivision five of section four hundred seven  
 33 of this chapter; a report of the operations of the state central regis-  
 34 ter of child abuse and maltreatment and the various local child protec-  
 35 tive services, as required by section four hundred twenty-six of this  
 36 chapter; a report on the number and status and the findings of investi-  
 37 gations of deaths of children pursuant to subdivision five of section  
 38 twenty of this chapter; a report on the progress of the development and  
 39 operation of the child care review system, as required by subdivision  
 40 nine of section four hundred forty-two of this chapter; commencing  
 41 before December fifteenth, nineteen hundred eighty-four and terminating  
 42 on December fifteenth, nineteen hundred eighty-nine, a progress report  
 43 on the planning and implementation of the teenage services act as  
 44 required by the provisions of section four hundred nine-m of title  
 45 four-B of this chapter; an analysis of the information contained in the  
 46 registry of community facilities, as required by paragraph (b) of subdi-  
 47 vision two of section four hundred sixty-three-a of this chapter; ~~and~~  
 48 a report on the operation of the child support enforcement program, as  
 49 required by chapter six hundred eighty-five of the laws of nineteen  
 50 hundred seventy-five; and a report on adult protective services as  
 51 required by section four hundred seventy-three-f of this chapter;

52 § 5. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however,  
 53 sections one and two of this act shall take effect two years after it  
 54 shall have become a law.