STATE OF NEW YORK

5437

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 21, 2025

Introduced by Sen. CLEARE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Social Services

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to allowing prospective and current agency personnel complete training through remote training methods

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

Section 1. Section 409-g of the social services law, as added by chapter 611 of the laws of 1979, is amended to read as follows:

§ 409-g. Training of child welfare personnel. **1.** Within the amounts appropriated therefor, including all federal reimbursement received or to be received on account thereof, the department shall develop and implement a plan for the training of social services district and other authorized agency personnel, including caseworkers involved in the provision or supervision of preventive services, foster care services and adoption services. Such training shall include but need not be limited to:

[~~1. Permanence~~] **(a) permanence** casework: casework methodologies focused on activities designed to prevent placement in foster care or to shorten the length of stay in care for those children who can be returned home or freed for adoption;

[~~2. Development~~] **(b) development** of skills to facilitate rehabilitation or restoration of the family unit;

[~~3. Development~~] **(c) development** of knowledge and skills in legally freeing children for adoption and providing adoption services;

[~~4. Development~~] **(d) development** of knowledge and skills to prepare for court processes necessary in foster care and adoption; and

[~~5. Development~~] **(e) development** of case management skills including planning for permanence for each child.

2. The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of the office of children and family services, shall establish rules and regu-

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

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lations for allowing prospective and current agency personnel to complete any required training for certification as agency personnel through remote training methods which evince that all participants are in attendance for the duration of the training and are able to ask questions of the instructor, and for providing certification upon the completion of such training through remote training methods.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such date.