

2027

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

February 11, 2009

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Introduced by Sens. GOLDEN, GRIFFO, LARKIN, VOLKER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Aging

AN ACT to amend the elder law, in relation to volunteer programs

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. Subdivision 7 of section 203 of the elder law is amended to  
2     read as follows:  
3     7. (A) The director is hereby authorized, within amounts appropriated  
4     therefor, to make grants-in-aid to retired and senior volunteer programs  
5     for the engagement of individuals fifty-five years of age or over to  
6     serve as volunteers for the betterment of their community and them-  
7     selves. Such volunteer activities may include but shall not be limited  
8     to assisting with the preparation of meals at nutrition sites; leading  
9     activities at child care centers; delivering meals to homebound elderly;  
10    providing telephone reassurance and/or friendly visits to the frail  
11    elderly; tutoring adults or children; assisting with services for the  
12    homeless and assisting school districts which request volunteers for the  
13    purpose of notifying a person in parental relation to any elementary  
14    school pupil when such pupil is deemed absent from required attendance  
15    at his or her designated school. The services of these volunteers will  
16    be performed in the community where such individuals reside or in nearby  
17    communities. Up to ten percent of such grants-in-aid may be expended for  
18    the administrative purposes of such programs, with the approval of the  
19    office. Such grants shall be for a period of twelve months or less,  
20    shall not be used to match other state funds, shall not be used as a  
21    substitute for federal allocations, and shall be made in a manner which  
22    does not conflict with federal law, rule or regulation pursuant to title  
23    II of the United States domestic volunteer services act of nineteen  
24    hundred seventy-three, as amended. Grants may be used to match federal  
25    funds, but not as a substitute for presently required non-federal

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

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1 shares. Each grantee shall file reports at such time and containing such  
2 information as the office shall require. For the purpose of administer-  
3 ing such grants-in-aid the office may make such agreements with other  
4 public agencies as are deemed necessary.

5 (B) IN ADDITION TO THE POWERS AND DUTIES CONTAINED IN SUBDIVISION TWO  
6 OF THIS SECTION, THE OFFICE IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO ENTER INTO A  
7 RELATIONSHIP, DEFINED BY CONTRACT, WITH ONE OR MORE STATEWIDE ORGANIZA-  
8 TIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING A DATABANK OF INDIVIDUALS WISHING  
9 TO VOLUNTEER THEIR SERVICES TO PROGRAMS THAT ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF THE  
10 AGING, AND TO ESTABLISH, REPLICATE, OR ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF  
11 TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR SUCH VOLUNTEERS AND PROGRAMS. THE OFFICE SHALL  
12 ESTABLISH GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF ANY SUCH DATABANK, INCLUDING  
13 REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING APPROPRIATE DATA TO BE ENTERED INTO THE DATA-  
14 BANK, CONFIDENTIALITY, SCREENING, ACCESS, CORRECTION OF THE DATA, AND  
15 SUCH OTHER REQUIREMENTS AS THE OFFICE, AFTER CONSULTATION AND WITH THE  
16 ADVICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE AGING AND OTHERS, SHALL ESTAB-  
17 LISH. THE PURPOSE OF THE TRAINING CURRICULUM SHALL BE TO TRAIN, ON A  
18 VOLUNTARY BASIS, VOLUNTEERS FOR THE TASKS THEY ARE INTERESTED IN, AND  
19 INDIVIDUALS IN NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS IN EFFECTIVELY AND EFFI-  
20 CIENTLY USING VOLUNTEERS. IN DEVELOPING THE CURRICULUM THE OFFICE MAY  
21 CONSULT AND WORK WITH INDIVIDUALS AND ENTITIES WITH EXPERTISE IN SUCH  
22 TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT AT THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AND THE  
23 CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK.

24 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately, provided that the powers  
25 and duties established in paragraph (b) of subdivision 7 of section 203  
26 of the elder law as added by this act shall be effective on and after  
27 the first of April occurring at least one year after the date on which  
28 this act shall have become a law.