

4323

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

April 22, 2009

Introduced by Sen. FOLEY -- 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 requiring the office of temporary and disability assistance to ensure that all recipients of public assistance reside in housing accommodations that are in compliance with all applicable building codes, ordinances and regulations of the municipality in which such housing accommodation is located

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

1 Section 1. Subdivisions (g), (h) and (i) of section 17 of the social
2 services law, subdivision (g) as added by chapter 280 of the laws of
3 2002, subdivision (i) as amended by chapter 110 of the laws of 1971,
4 subdivision (h) as added and subdivision (i) as relettered by section 1
5 of part K3 of chapter 57 of the laws of 2007, are amended to read as
6 follows:
7 (g) require participation of all employees of a child protective
8 service in a training course which has been developed by the office for
9 the prevention of domestic violence in conjunction with the office of
10 children and family services whose purpose is to develop an understand-
11 ing of the dynamics of domestic violence and its connection to child
12 abuse and neglect. Such course shall:
13 (i) pay special attention to the need to screen for domestic violence;
14 (ii) place emphasis on the psychological harm experienced by children
15 whose environment is impacted by familial violence and accordingly
16 explore avenues to keep such children with the non-abusive parent rather
17 than placing them in foster care further traumatizing both the victim
18 and the children;
19 (iii) provide instruction regarding the scope of legal remedies for
20 the abused parent;

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

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1 (iv) identify obstacles that prevent individuals from leaving their
2 batterers and examine safety options and services available for the
3 victim;
4 (v) provide information pertaining to the unique barriers facing
5 certain immigrant women and the options available under the federal
6 Violence Against Women Act;
7 (vi) analyze procedures available to sanction and educate the abusing
8 partner; and
9 (vii) emphasize the need for the system to hold the abusing partner
10 responsible by appropriate referrals to law enforcement[.];
11 (h) make available on its website all award allocations for request
12 for proposals issued by the office of children and family services upon
13 release of such awards. Such information shall also include all organ-
14 izations requesting funding and the amounts requested for each request
15 for proposal. The office of children and family services may also
16 include any other information related to each program that it deems
17 appropriate[.];
18 (i) ENSURE THAT ALL RECIPIENTS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RESIDE IN HOUSING
19 ACCOMMODATIONS THAT ARE IN COMPLIANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE BUILDING
20 CODES, ORDINANCES AND REGULATIONS OF THE MUNICIPALITY IN WHICH THE HOUS-
21 ING ACCOMMODATION IS LOCATED AND UPON DISCOVERY THAT SUCH HOUSING ACCOM-
22 MODATION IS NOT IN COMPLIANCE, WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS OF SUCH DISCOV-
23 ERY, CAUSE SUCH RECIPIENTS TO BE HOUSED IN EMERGENCY HOUSING UNTIL SUCH
24 TIME AS THE INITIAL HOUSING ACCOMMODATION IN WHICH SUCH RECIPIENT OR
25 RECIPIENTS RESIDED IS BROUGHT INTO COMPLIANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE BUILD-
26 ING CODES, ORDINANCES AND REGULATIONS OF THE MUNICIPALITY IN WHICH SUCH
27 HOUSING ACCOMMODATION IS LOCATED OR UNTIL A SUITABLE PERMANENT HOUSING
28 ACCOMMODATION IS LOCATED, WHICHEVER OCCURS EARLIER; AND
29 (J) exercise such other powers and perform such other duties as may be
30 imposed by law.
31 S 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after
32 it shall have become a law; provided, however, that effective immediate-
33 ly, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation
34 necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are
35 authorized and directed to be made and completed on or before such
36 effective date.