S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

5562

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

February 13, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. V. LOPEZ, GANTT -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. BRODSKY, CLARK, GOTTFRIED, GREENE, LENTOL -- read once and referred to the Committee on Social Services

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to providing public assistance to persons attending a four-year university

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

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 336-a of the social services law, as amended by section 148 of part B of chapter 436 of the laws of 1997, is amended to read as follows:

1. Social services districts shall make available vocational educational training and educational activities. Such activities may include but need not be limited to, high school education or education designed to prepare a participant for a high school equivalency certificate, basic and remedial education, education in English proficiency and no more than a total of two years of post-secondary education (or the part-time equivalent if full-time study would constitute an undue hardship) in any of the following providers which meet the performance or assessment standards established in regulations by the commissioner OF LABOR for such providers: a community college, licensed trade school, registered business school, [or] a two-year college, OR A FOUR-YEAR UNIVERSITY TO THE EXTENT THAT FEDERAL PARTICIPATION IN SUCH PROGRAM IS AVAILABLE AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDARDS SPECIFIED IN THE FEDERAL WAIVER OBTAINED THEREFOR; provided, however, that such post-secondary education must be necessary to the attainment of the participant's individual employment goal as set forth in the employability plan and such goal must relate directly to obtaining useful employment in a recognized occupation.

S 2. Subdivision 6 of section 336-a of the social services law is renumbered subdivision 7 and a new subdivision 6 is added to read as follows:

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

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6. THE COMMISSIONER OF LABOR SHALL SEEK AND OBTAIN ANY WAIVERS REQUIRED BY FEDERAL LAW AND REGULATIONS NECESSARY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SERVICES TO PERSONS PARTICIPATING IN AN APPROVED PROGRAM OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING OR REHABILITATION WHICH INCLUDES FULL-TIME ATTENDANCE AT A FOUR-YEAR UNIVERSITY.

S 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after it shall have become a law. Effective immediately any rules and regulations necessary for the timely implementation of this act on its effective date may be promulgated on or before such date.