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

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I N A S S E M B L Y

February 13, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. MOLINARO, RAIA, WALKER, BARCLAY, ERRIGO, DUPREY -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. ALFANO, BACALLES, BARRA, BUTLER, CONTE, CROUCH, FINCH, GIGLIO, HAWLEY, KOLB, P. LOPEZ, MILLER, OAKS, O'MARA, QUINN, REILICH, SALADINO, SAYWARD, SCOZZAFAVA, TEDISCO, THIELE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Children and Families

AN ACT providing for the office of children and family services to undertake a study on the feasibility of implementing a statewide foster care passport program and to establish pilot programs relating thereto

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

Section 1. The office of children and family services shall undertake a study on the feasibility of implementing a statewide foster child passport program.

S 2. 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, during the undertaking of such study, the office of children and family services shall create pilot programs in various regions across the state and then monitor the progress of such pilot programs in order to assess their effectiveness.

2. Such pilot programs shall issue a foster child passport to foster children when they are placed in foster care. The foster child passport shall:

(a) maintain a record of medical care provided to a foster child;

(b) aid a medical professional in giving appropriate care to a foster child; and

(c) allow foster parents to authorize routine and emergency medical care to a foster child.

3. The foster child passport shall remain with a foster child until he or she is:

(a) returned to his or her natural parents;

(b) adopted; or

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

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(c) placed in another permanent plan.

Upon the occurrence of one of the paragraphs of this subdivision, the foster child passport shall be returned to the local social services district.

S 3. The office of children and family services shall submit a report to the governor and the state legislature within one year of the effective date of this act that shall:

(a) detail the cost and effectiveness of such a program; and

(b) make recommendations and policy suggestions as to the expansion and continuance of such a program.

S 4. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law; provided, however, that 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 and directed to be made and completed on or before such effective date.