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

7449

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

April 7, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. WRIGHT -- (at request of the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance) -- read once and referred to the Committee on Social Services

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to extending the utility repayment agreements from one year to two years

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

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 131-s of the social services law, as amended by chapter 81 of the laws of 1995, is amended to read as follows:

1. In the case of a person applying for public assistance, supplemental security income benefits or additional state payments pursuant to this chapter, the social services official of the social services district in which such person resides shall, unless alternative payment or living arrangements can be made, make a payment to a gas corporation, electric corporation or municipality for services provided to such person during a period of up to, but not exceeding, four months immediately preceding the month of application for such assistance or benefits if such payment is needed to prevent shut-off or to restore service. Persons whose gross household income exceeds the public assistance standard of need for the same size household must sign a repayment agreement to repay the assistance within [one year] *TWO YEARS* of the date of payment as a condition of receiving assistance, in accordance with regulations established by the department. Such repayment agreement may be enforced in any manner available to a creditor, in addition to any rights the district may have pursuant to this chapter.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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