

2587

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

February 24, 2009

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Introduced by Sens. GOLDEN, DeFRANCISCO, HANNON, LARKIN, MORAHAN, PADAVAN, VOLKER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Crime Victims, Crime and Correction

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to crime victims emergency awards used to replace certain medical equipment

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

1     Section 1. Section 630 of the executive law, as amended by chapter 346  
2 of the laws of 1986, subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 318 of the laws  
3 of 2007, is amended to read as follows:

4     S 630. Emergency awards. 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of section  
5 six hundred twenty-seven of this article, if it appears to the board  
6 member to whom a claim is assigned, that such claim is one with respect  
7 to which an award probably will be made, and undue hardship will result  
8 to the claimant if immediate payment is not made, such board member may  
9 make one or more emergency awards to the claimant pending a final deci-  
10 sion of the board or payment of an award in the case, provided, however,  
11 that the total amount of such emergency awards shall not exceed twenty-  
12 five hundred dollars. The amount of such emergency awards shall be  
13 deducted from any final award made to the claimant, and the excess of  
14 the amount of any such emergency award over the amount of the final  
15 award, or the full amount of any emergency awards if no final award is  
16 made, shall be repaid by the claimant to the board. AN EXCEPTION TO  
17 SUCH LIMITATION SHALL BE MADE WHERE THE CLAIMANT WILL USE THE EMERGENCY  
18 AWARD TO REPLACE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT NOT COVERED BY THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE  
19 PROGRAM OR ANY OTHER INSURANCE COVERAGE, AND SUCH MEDICAL EQUIPMENT IS  
20 NECESSARY FOR THE CONTINUED SURVIVAL OF THE CLAIMANT.

21     2. Notwithstanding the provisions of section six hundred twenty-seven  
22 of this article, local crime victim service programs shall be authorized  
23 to provide emergency awards to crime victims for essential personal  
24 property, medical treatment AND EQUIPMENT, shelter costs, security

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

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1 services, counseling and transportation the total amount of such emer-  
2 gency awards not to exceed five hundred dollars; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT  
3 WHERE THE CLAIMANT WILL USE THE EMERGENCY AWARD TO REPLACE MEDICAL  
4 EQUIPMENT NOT COVERED BY THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OR ANY OTHER  
5 INSURANCE COVERAGE, AND SUCH MEDICAL EQUIPMENT IS NECESSARY FOR THE  
6 CONTINUED SURVIVAL OF THE CLAIMANT, THERE SHALL BE NO LIMITATION ON THE  
7 AMOUNT OF THE EMERGENCY AWARD. These programs shall be reimbursed by  
8 the board, pursuant to the provisions of this article, if it is subse-  
9 quently determined that the victim is an eligible claimant. Local crime  
10 victim service programs shall be authorized to establish special  
11 accounts for this purpose. The board shall initiate a program to assist  
12 local crime victim service programs in establishing special accounts to  
13 provide emergency awards, within amounts designated for that purpose.  
14 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.