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

5373

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

April 27, 2009

Introduced by Sen. HASSELL-THOMPSON -- 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 and the state finance law, in relation to establishing a revolving loan program whereunder short term loans are made available to families receiving public assistance who are threatened with eviction; and making an appropriation therefor

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

Section 1. Article 2-A of the social services law is amended by adding a new title 5 to read as follows:

TITLE 5

REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM

SECTION 53. REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM.

S 53. REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM. 1. THE COMMISSIONER OF THE OFFICE OF TEMPORARY AND DISABILITY ASSISTANCE IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED, WITHIN THE LIMITS OF FUNDS AVAILABLE IN THE REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM FUND ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION NINETY-TWO-H OF THE STATE FINANCE LAW, TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH UP TO TWENTY SOCIAL SERVICES DISTRICTS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN THE FORM OF LOANS TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS WHO ARE IN DANGER OF BECOMING HOMELESS. SUCH GRANTS SHALL BE PROVIDED TO CREATE A REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE LOCAL DISTRICT TO PROVIDE SHORT TERM LOANS TO FAMILIES RECEIVING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PURSUANT TO ARTICLE FIVE OF THIS CHAPTER WHO ARE IN IMMINENT DANGER OF HOMELESSNESS BY REASON OF EVICTION. SUCH LOANS:

(A) SHALL BE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS PER LOAN;

(B) SHALL BE INTEREST FREE AND FIVE YEARS IN DURATION;

(C) SHALL BE LIMITED TO ONE SUCH LOAN PER ELIGIBLE FAMILY; AND

(D) SHALL BE PROVIDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE OFFICE OF TEMPORARY AND DISABILITY SERVICES AND THE SOCIAL SERVICES DISTRICT.

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

LBD06234-01-9

2. FROM TIME TO TIME, THE COMMISSIONER OF THE OFFICE OF TEMPORARY AND DISABILITY ASSISTANCE, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMISSIONER OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL, MAY ISSUE REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS AND APPLICATION FORMS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THIS TITLE. THE SOCIAL SERVICES DISTRICTS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM SHALL BE SELECTED COMPETITIVELY FROM REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS. THE APPLICATION FORMS MAY REQUIRE THE SUBMISSION OF SUCH INFORMATION AS THE COMMISSIONER OF THE OFFICE OF TEMPORARY AND DISABILITY ASSISTANCE DEEMS NECESSARY.

S 2. The state finance law is amended by adding a new section 92-h to read as follows:

S 92-H. REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM FUND. 1. THERE IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED IN THE JOINT CUSTODY OF THE STATE COMPTROLLER AND THE COMMISSIONER OF TAXATION AND FINANCE A SPECIAL FUND TO BE KNOWN AS THE "REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM FUND".

2. THE REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM FUND SHALL CONSIST OF MONEYS APPROPRIATED TO IT FROM THE GENERAL FUND AND ALLOCATED PURSUANT TO A CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL OF AVAILABILITY ISSUED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUDGET AND ALL OTHER MONEYS CREDITED, APPROPRIATED OR TRANSFERRED THERETO FROM ANY OTHER FUND OR SOURCES.

3. MONEYS OF THE FUND, FOLLOWING APPROPRIATION BY THE LEGISLATURE, MAY BE EXPENDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE FIVE OF ARTICLE TWO-A OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES LAW, PURSUANT TO A CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL OF AVAILABILITY ISSUED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUDGET.

4. MONEYS OF THE FUND MAY BE INVESTED BY THE STATE COMPTROLLER AND INCOME FROM SUCH INVESTMENTS SHALL BE CREDITED TO THE GENERAL FUND.

S 3. The sum of three million dollars ($3,000,000), or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to the revolving loan program fund established pursuant to section 92-h of the state finance law from any moneys in the state treasury in the general fund to the credit of the state purposes account not otherwise appropriated for the purposes of making short term loans available to families receiving public assistance who are in imminent danger of homelessness by reason of eviction. Such sum shall be payable on the audit and warrant of the state comptroller on vouchers certified or approved in the manner prescribed by law.

S 4. This act shall take effect January 1, 2010.