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I N   S E N A T E

May 4, 2010

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Introduced by Sens. DIAZ, FOLEY -- read twice and ordered printed, and  
when printed to be committed to the Committee on Aging

AN ACT to amend the elder law, in relation to creating a shared housing  
program for senior citizens

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

1     Section 1. The elder law is amended by adding a new section 224 to  
2     read as follows:

3     S 224. SHARED HOUSING FOR SENIOR CITIZENS. 1. THE OFFICE SHALL ESTAB-  
4     LISH A PROGRAM, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMU-  
5     NITY RENEWAL, THROUGH WHICH, PERSONS WHO ARE SIXTY YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER  
6     MAY REGISTER WITH THE OFFICE OR DESIGNATED AGENCIES ON AGING INDICATING  
7     THEIR DESIRE TO SHARE THEIR LIVING SPACE OR ARE SEEKING LIVING QUARTERS  
8     WITH ANOTHER ELIGIBLE PERSON.

9     2. THE OFFICE OR DESIGNATED AGENCIES ON AGING SHALL MAINTAIN A REGIS-  
10     TRY OF SENIOR CITIZENS SEEKING TO SHARE THEIR LIVING QUARTERS WITH  
11     ANOTHER SENIOR CITIZEN.

12     (A) INFORMATION SHALL BE COLLECTED ON A FORM DESIGNED BY THE OFFICE,  
13     WHICH SHALL INCLUDE THE NAME, ADDRESS, UP TO THREE PERSONAL REFERENCES  
14     AND A STATEMENT INDICATING WHETHER THE INDIVIDUAL HAS BEEN CONVICTED IN  
15     THE PAST FIVE YEARS OF A CRIME INVOLVING THEFT, ASSAULT, THE THREAT OR  
16     USE OF FORCE, POSSESSION OR SALE OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE, OR  
17     POSSESSION OF A WEAPON OR FIREARM. THE INDIVIDUAL SHALL SPECIFY ON THE  
18     STATEMENT THE CRIME OR CRIMES, IF ANY, FOR WHICH THERE HAVE BEEN  
19     CONVICTIONS. THE STATEMENT SHALL INCLUDE AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT THE  
20     INFORMATION IS TRUE TO THE BEST KNOWLEDGE OF THE SENIOR CITIZEN AND THAT  
21     PROVIDING INFORMATION KNOWN TO BE FALSE IS CAUSE FOR IMMEDIATE REMOVAL  
22     FROM THE REGISTRY.

23     (B) INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE SHARED HOUSING REGISTRY SHALL BE  
24     CONFIDENTIAL AND USED ONLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF CARRYING OUT THE  
25     PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

26     3. THE OFFICE SHALL DEVELOP AND PROMULGATE REGULATIONS, IN CONSULTA-  
27     TION WITH THE DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL, NECESSARY FOR  
28     THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION.

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

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1       4. THE OFFICE MAY IMPOSE A FEE THAT SHALL NOT EXCEED ONE DOLLAR FOR  
2 ENTRY OF A SENIOR CITIZEN'S NAME ONTO THE REGISTRY AND SUCH FEE SHALL BE  
3 COLLECTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTING AND MAINTAINING THE SHARED  
4 HOUSING REGISTRY.

5       S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.