

5249

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

May 15, 2013

Introduced by Sens. CARLUCCI, KLEIN, SAVINO, VALESKY -- 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, in relation to requiring participants in public assistance employment programs to complete a course in financial literacy and personal finance

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

1 Section 1. Paragraph (f) of subdivision 1 of section 336 of the social
2 services law, as amended by section 148 of part B of chapter 436 of the
3 laws of 1997, is amended and a new paragraph (j-1) is added to read as
4 follows:

5 (f) job search and job readiness assistance, provided that job search
6 is an active and continuing effort to secure employment configured by
7 the local social services official; AND SUCH SOCIAL SERVICES DISTRICT
8 MAY WORK IN COOPERATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR TO PROVIDE WORK-
9 FORCE GUIDANCE AND INFORMATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION TEN-C OF THE
10 LABOR LAW;

11 (J-L) EDUCATION OR A COURSE OF INSTRUCTION IN FINANCIAL LITERACY AND
12 PERSONAL FINANCE THAT INCLUDES INSTRUCTION ON HOUSEHOLD CASH MANAGEMENT
13 TECHNIQUES, CAREER ADVICE TO OBTAIN A WELL PAYING AND SECURE JOB, USING
14 CHECKING AND SAVINGS ACCOUNTS, OBTAINING AND UTILIZING SHORT AND LONG
15 TERM CREDIT, SECURING A LOAN OR OTHER LONG TERM FINANCING ARRANGEMENT
16 FOR HIGH COST ITEMS SUCH AS A MOTOR VEHICLE, HOME OR PARTICIPATION IN A
17 HIGHER EDUCATION COURSE OF INSTRUCTION OR TRADE SCHOOL, OBTAINING AND
18 USING CREDIT AND DEBIT CARDS, INVESTING AND SAVING MONEY, AND PLANNING
19 FOR RETIREMENT.

20 S 2. Subdivision 1 of section 336-a of the social services law, as
21 amended by section 148 of part B of chapter 436 of the laws of 1997, is
22 amended to read as follows:

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

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1 1. Social services districts shall make available vocational educa-
2 tional training and educational activities. Such activities may include
3 but need not be limited to, high school education or education designed
4 to prepare a participant for a high school equivalency certificate,
5 basic and remedial education, education in English proficiency, EDUCA-
6 TION IN FINANCIAL LITERACY AND PERSONAL FINANCE PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH
7 (J-1) OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION THREE HUNDRED THIRTY-SIX OF THIS
8 TITLE, and no more than a total of two years of post-secondary education
9 (or the part-time equivalent if full-time study would constitute an
10 undue hardship) in any of the following providers which meet the
11 performance or assessment standards established in regulations by the
12 commissioner for such providers: a community college, licensed trade
13 school, registered business school, or a two-year college; provided,
14 however, that such post-secondary education must be necessary to the
15 attainment of the participant's individual employment goal as set forth
16 in the employability plan and such goal must relate directly to obtain-
17 ing useful employment in a recognized occupation.

18 S 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after
19 it shall have become a law; provided, however, that the commissioner of
20 temporary and disability assistance is immediately authorized and
21 directed to promulgate, amend and/or repeal any rules and regulations
22 that may be necessary to implement the provisions of this act on its
23 effective date.