STATE OF NEW YORK

9565--A

IN ASSEMBLY

January 23, 2018

Introduced by M. of A. HEVESI, L. ROSENTHAL, ERRIGO, JEAN-PIERRE, ABINANTI, BLAKE, JOYNER, SIMON, BARRON, GUNTHER, CRESPO, WRIGHT, WILLIAMS, JAFFEE, LUPARDO, B. MILLER, D'URSO, SOLAGES, RIVERA, SEAWRIGHT, DAVILA, FAHY, MORINELLO -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. COOK, WALSH -- read once and referred to the Committee on Children and Families -- reported and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to mandating training of direct care workers in adverse childhood experiences (ACEs)

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The social services law is amended by adding a new section 20-d to read as follows:

§ 20-d. Training of direct care workers in adverse childhood experiences. 1. As used in this section:

(a) "Direct-care employees" means the employees of domestic violence shelters, safe dwellings, and domestic violence programs identified by the certifying organization to receive training, which shall include, but not be limited to, the directors and coordinators of such shelters, dwellings, and programs, and any individual or employee performing or required to perform similar responsibilities.

(b) "Certifying organization" means an organization designated by the federal department of health and human services to coordinate statewide improvements within local communities, social services systems, and programming regarding the prevention and intervention of domestic violence in New York state.

(c) "Adverse childhood experiences" or "ACEs" means stressful or traumatic experiences experienced during childhood, which are strongly related to the development and prevalence of a wide range of health problems throughout a person's lifetime, including, but not limited to physical or sexual abuse; domestic violence; parental mental illness; substance abuse; and incarceration.

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

2. The office of temporary and disability assistance and the office of children and family services shall, within amounts appropriated for such purpose, contract exclusively with an entity, or with entities in partnership, to develop a training program for direct-care employees to identify individuals who have experienced ACEs, develop effective strategies for assisting and interacting with such individuals, and locate programs and services to which such individuals with ACEs may be referred to help build the individual's resilience. Such entity, or entities in partnership, shall be experienced in providing trauma-informed, victim-centered training on domestic violence, child abuse, and ACEs. Such entity, or entities in partnership, shall be responsible for providing such training to direct-care employees.

3. All direct-care employees shall be required to participate in such training program. Such training shall be provided at no cost to such employees.

4. The office of temporary and disability assistance and the office of children and family services shall, within amounts appropriated for such purpose, contract with a certifying organization to provide a certification of completion to each direct-care employee who satisfies the requirements of such training program.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed by the commissioner of the office of children and family services on or before such date.