## STATE OF NEW YORK

11102--A

## IN ASSEMBLY

June 5, 2018

Introduced by COMMITTEE ON RULES -- (at request of M. of A. Ortiz) -read once and referred to the Committee on Children and Families -committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to expanding the duties of the office of children and family services concerning youth who are disproportionately likely to be runaway and/or homeless youth

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

Section 1. Section 532-e of the executive law, as amended by chapter 182 of the laws of 2002, is amended to read as follows:

§ 532-e. Powers and duties of the office of children and family services. The office of children and family services shall: visit, inspect and make periodic reports on the operation and adequacy of approved runaway programs and transitional independent living support programs;

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[(b)] 2. certify residential facilities providing care to runaway and/or homeless youth, provided, however, that no certification shall be 10 issued or renewed until it can be demonstrated that a program operated 11 pursuant to this article has consistent with appropriate collective 12 bargaining agreements and applicable provisions of the civil service 13 law, developed and implemented a procedure for reviewing and evaluating 14 the backgrounds of and the information supplied by any person applying 15 to be an employee, volunteer or consultant, which shall include but not 16 be limited to the following requirements: that the applicants set forth his or her employment history, provide personal and employment references and sign a sworn statement indicating whether the applicant, to the best of his or her knowledge, has ever been convicted of a crime in this state or any other jurisdiction;

21 [(c)] 3. maintain a register of approved runaway programs, transi-22 tional independent living support programs and runaway and homeless 23 youth service coordinators;

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

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[(d)] 4. submit to the governor and legislature an annual report detailing the numbers and characteristics of runaway and otherwise homeless youth throughout the state and their problems and service needs;

[(e)] 5. develop and promulgate in consultation with county youth bureaus and organizations or programs which have had past experience dealing with runaway and homeless youth, regulations concerning the coordination and integration of services available for runaway and otherwise homeless youth and prohibiting the disclosure or transferal of any records containing the identity of individual youth receiving services pursuant to this section, without the written consent of the youth; [and]

 $\left(\frac{\{\mathbf{f}\}}{\mathbf{f}}\right)$  6. develop and promulgate regulations in consultation with the office of temporary and disability assistance concerning the provision of services by transitional independent living support programs consistent with the provisions of this article[-];

[(g)] 7. require all employees of approved programs providing care to runaway and/or homeless youth to complete training as set forth in requlations promulgated by the office. Such training shall require all employees of such residential facilities to receive instruction as specified by the office in the regulations and shall, at a minimum, include instruction in issues pertaining to demographics of youth who are disproportionately likely to be runaway and/or homeless youth, with particular emphasis on:

- (a) challenges faced by runaway and/or homeless youth;
- (b) how to address various forms of discrimination at the residential facilities;
  - (c) maintaining confidentially in sensitive matters;
  - (d) how to address the families of such youths; and
- (e) how to communicate effectively in a manner that demonstrates sensitivity to the particular background and identities of the affected 30 youths.
  - 8. in conjunction with the commissioner of education, develop and annually review a plan to ensure coordination and access to education for homeless children, in accordance with the provisions of section thirty-two hundred nine of the education law, and monitor compliance of residential programs for runaway and homeless youth with such plan.
- 37 § 2. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeed-38 ing the date upon which it shall have become a law.