STATE OF NEW YORK

1279

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 14, 2019

Introduced by M. of A. QUART, BICHOTTE, JEAN-PIERRE -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. SIMON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to establishing a pilot program to create a legal hotline for tenants

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

| 1 | Section 1. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 75 to |
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| 2 | read as follows: |
| 3 | § 75. Legal hotline for tenants pilot program. 1. The attorney general |
| 4 | shall establish a pilot program to create a legal hotline for tenants. |
| 5 | The pilot program shall be administered by the attorney general. |
| б | 2. The attorney general shall recruit attorneys to participate in the |
| 7 | program. Attorneys will not be committed to representing any tenants |
| 8 | that they advise through the program. |
| 9 | 3. The legal hotline for tenants shall be accessible via a toll-free |
| 10 | phone number that operates, at a minimum, from 9 a.m5 p.m. Monday |
| 11 | <u>through Friday.</u> |
| 12 | 4. Tenants shall call the hotline and describe their problem to an |
| 13 | intake counselor, who shall refer the tenants to an appropriate and |
| 14 | available volunteer attorney. After the referral, the attorney shall |
| 15 | contact and advise the tenant. |
| 16 | 5. All costs of the pilot program shall be paid for by the New York |
| 17 | interest on lawyer account fund, pursuant to section ninety-seven-v of |
| 18 | the state finance law. |

19 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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