

# STATE OF NEW YORK

7098

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

April 8, 2019

Introduced by M. of A. REYES -- read once and referred to the Committee on Codes

AN ACT to amend the executive law and the judiciary law, in relation to access to services, law enforcement and counsel in certain immigration related matters; and to amend the judiciary law, in relation to compensation of legal counsel for certain matters

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

Section 1. The executive law is amended by adding a new article 15-AA to read as follows:

### ARTICLE 15-AA

#### ACCESS TO SERVICES AND LAW ENFORCEMENT IN CERTAIN IMMIGRATION RELATED MATTERS

##### Section 319. Definitions.

319-a. Access to services, assistance and eligible benefits.

319-b. Federal agencies to investigate and enforce federal immigration laws.

319-c. Confidentiality of information.

319-d. Custody of certain persons: bail and related pre-trial issues.

319-e. Civil immigration detainers.

319-f. Limitation on use of certain facilities.

319-g. Legal representation.

319-h. Effect on other laws.

§ 319. Definitions. For purposes of this article, the following terms and phrases shall be defined as follows:

1. "Agency" shall mean any state or municipal department, board, bureau, division, commission, committee, public authority, public corporation, council, office or other governmental entity performing a governmental or proprietary function for the state or any one or more municipalities thereof.

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

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1     2. "Agent" shall mean any officer, official, employee or volunteer  
2 working for, employed by or providing assistance to an agency.

3     3. "Civil immigration detainer" shall mean an administrative request  
4 issued pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 287.7 or any similar request issued by an  
5 agency or agent of the United States for the detention of a person  
6 suspected of violating the immigration law of the United States.

7     4. "Family or household member" shall mean a family or household  
8 member, as defined in subdivision two of section four hundred fifty-  
9 nine-a of the social services law.

10    5. "Federal immigration authority" shall mean any officer, employee  
11 or person otherwise paid by or acting as an agent of the United States  
12 immigration and customs enforcement or any division thereof or any other  
13 officer, employee or person otherwise paid by or acting as an agent of  
14 the United States department of homeland security or any other federal  
15 entity who is charged with enforcement of the provisions of any federal  
16 immigration law.

17    6. "Federal law" shall mean a provision of the Constitution of the  
18 United States, or a statute or similar provision approved by the  
19 Congress of the United States that has been enacted and taken effect.

20    7. "Immigration status" or "immigration status information" shall mean  
21 immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of an individual under the laws  
22 and regulations of the United States of America.

23    8. "Judicial warrant" shall mean a warrant based on probable cause and  
24 issued by a judge serving pursuant to article three of the United States  
25 constitution or a federal magistrate judge serving by appointment pursu-  
26 ant to 28 U.S.C. § 631, that authorizes a federal immigration authority  
27 to take into custody a person who is the subject of such warrant.

28    9. "Law enforcement agency" shall mean any agency that is empowered by  
29 law to conduct an investigation or make an arrest for a crime or  
30 offense, or any agency that is authorized by law to prosecute or partic-  
31 ipate in the prosecution of a crime or offense, or any agency authorized  
32 by law to jail, detain or imprison a person under color of law, or any  
33 agency employing a police officer, as defined in subdivision thirty-four  
34 of section 1.20 of the criminal procedure law or peace officer, as  
35 defined in subdivision thirty-three of section 1.20 of the criminal  
36 procedure law.

37    10. "Terrorist screening database" shall mean the United States  
38 terrorist watch list database lawfully maintained by the terrorist  
39 screening center of the government of the United States.

40    § 319-a. Access to services, assistance and eligible benefits. 1.  
41 Except where explicitly required by state or federal law for the purpose  
42 of verifying eligibility, continued eligibility, or upon recertif-  
43 ication, no state or local agency, or agent thereof, may make any  
44 inquiry or record any information concerning the immigration status or  
45 place of birth of a person who is seeking public assistance and care, as  
46 such phrase is defined in subdivision eighteen of section two of the  
47 social services law, or seeking any other benefit, assistance or service  
48 for himself, herself, or on behalf of a family or household member or  
49 any other potential beneficiary. Provided, further, that such informa-  
50 tion shall not be used or disclosed to any state or federal agency for  
51 any purpose other than verifying eligibility, continued eligibility, or  
52 upon recertification.

53    2. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision one of this section,  
54 limited inquiry of such information concerning the relevant person may  
55 be made when such information is requested for the benefit of the person  
56 by the office for new Americans established pursuant to section ninety-

1 four-b of this chapter or any other similar agency that is assisting  
2 such person in matters related to such person's immigration status,  
3 provided that the status of such person shall not be disclosed for any  
4 purpose.

5 3. In addition to any other right to the assistance of interpretation  
6 or translation services, any foreign-born person, or person not profi-  
7 cient in the English language, to whom inquiry is made pursuant to this  
8 section shall be entitled to the assistance of a neutral and qualified  
9 interpreter or translator, as the case may be, with respect to such  
10 inquiry, provided at no cost or expense to such person.

11 § 319-b. Federal agencies to investigate and enforce federal immi-  
12 gration laws. 1. No state or local law enforcement agency, or agent  
13 thereof, shall stop, question, interrogate, investigate or arrest a  
14 person for any of the following:

15 (a) suspected United States immigration or citizenship status  
16 violation;

17 (b) suspected violation of the United States immigration law or  
18 authorized regulations; or

19 (c) a civil immigration detainer.

20 2. No state or local law enforcement agency, nor any agent thereof,  
21 shall make any inquiry or record any information concerning the immi-  
22 gration status or place of birth of a person who: (a) contacts,  
23 approaches or asks for or is in need of assistance of a law enforcement  
24 agency or (b) is stopped, questioned, interrogated, investigated or  
25 arrested; except where such immigration status or place of birth infor-  
26 mation is an element of a criminal offense in a specific, ongoing law  
27 enforcement investigation engaged in by such state or local law enforce-  
28 ment agency, or agent thereof, or where such inquiry or recording of  
29 such information is otherwise authorized by this article.

30 3. No state or local law enforcement agency, or agent thereof, shall  
31 perform the function of or be cross-designated as a federal immigration  
32 officer or otherwise engage or significantly assist in the enforcement  
33 of federal immigration law, pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1357 (g) or any other  
34 federal law, regulation or policy. Nothing in this subdivision shall  
35 prevent detention of a person in accordance with and to the extent  
36 permitted by section three hundred nineteen-e of this article.

37 4. In addition to any other right to the assistance of interpretation  
38 or translation services, any foreign-born person, or person not profi-  
39 cient in the English language, to whom inquiry is made pursuant to  
40 subdivision one or two of this section shall be entitled to the assist-  
41 ance of a neutral and qualified interpreter or translator, as the case  
42 may be, with respect to such inquiry, provided at no cost or expense to  
43 such person.

44 § 319-c. Confidentiality of information. Unless disclosure is required  
45 by a lawful court order, no state or local agency, or agent thereof, or  
46 state or local law enforcement agency, or agent thereof, shall provide  
47 to a federal immigration authority any information collected or obtained  
48 with respect to a person in accordance with this article or otherwise,  
49 including but not limited to home, work or school address, except that:

50 1. providing immigration status information shall not be prohibited if  
51 requested by such federal immigration authority and required to be  
52 provided to it in accordance with 8 U.S.C. § 1373 or another federal  
53 law;

54 2. the division of criminal justice services or a qualified agency, as  
55 defined in subdivision nine of section eight hundred thirty-five of this  
56 chapter, may provide criminal history information, as defined in para-

graph (c) of subdivision one of section eight hundred forty-five-b of this chapter, when lawfully requested about a specific person and such disclosure is permitted by state law; and

3. a state or local agency, or agent thereof, or state or local law enforcement agency, or agent thereof, may provide such information, other than the information described in subdivision one of this section, concerning a person, including but not limited to status as a victim of or witness to suspected criminal activity, home address and/or work address, only with informed written consent of the person and, if represented by counsel, written authorization by such attorney.

§ 319-d. Custody of certain persons: bail and related pre-trial issues. 1. Except as provided in section three hundred nineteen-e of this article, no state or local law enforcement agency, or agent thereof, or court shall delay or deny release of a person on recognizance or bail, pursuant to article five hundred thirty of the criminal procedure law or otherwise, on the basis of the person's immigration status, a civil immigration detainer, or a federal immigration authority's request for notification about, transfer of, detention of, or interview or interrogation of such person.

2. Upon receipt from a federal immigration authority of a civil immigration detainer, or a request for transfer, notification, interview, interrogation or other request, a state or local law enforcement agency, or agent thereof, shall promptly notify the person who is the subject of such detainer or request and such person's counsel, provide a copy of such detainer or request, as the case may be, to such person and counsel, inform such person of the right to counsel pursuant to the provisions of section three hundred nineteen-g of this article, and inform such person and counsel, reasonably in advance of responding to the federal immigration authority, as to whether or not such agency intends to comply with such detainer or request.

3. A person in the custody of a state or local law enforcement agency, or agent thereof, shall be subject to booking, processing, right to counsel, release and transfer procedures, policies and practices of that agency that are at least as protective of individual rights as other persons in such agency's custody, regardless of the person's actual or suspected immigration status.

§ 319-e. Civil immigration detainers. 1. A state or local law enforcement agency, or agent thereof, lawfully holding a person in its custody, may thereafter detain such person solely on the basis of a civil immigration detainer, for a single period not exceeding forty-eight hours excluding weekends and holidays, beyond the time when such person would otherwise have been released from such agency's custody, only if:

(a) an authorized federal immigration agency presents such state or local law enforcement agency with a judicial warrant for the detention of the person who is the subject of such civil immigration detainer at the time such civil immigration detainer is presented; or

(b) notice has been received from a court or any other governmental entity, documenting that the person illegally reentered the United States after a previous removal or return as defined in 8 U.S.C. § 1326, and the person stands convicted of a violent felony offense as defined in subdivision one of section 70.02 of the penal law, or a class A felony offense defined in the penal law, or an offense in any other jurisdiction that has the same essential elements of any such violent felony offense or class A felony offense; or

1 (c) such person is identified by such state or local law enforcement  
2 agency as a likely match with a person listed in the terrorist screening  
3 database.

4 2. Except to the extent that disclosure is required by federal law, no  
5 state or local law enforcement agency, or agent thereof, shall provide  
6 to a federal immigration authority, or another agency, entity or person  
7 on behalf of a federal immigration authority, any information obtained  
8 concerning a person who is in or formerly was in the custody of such  
9 state or local law enforcement agency, or agent thereof, including but  
10 not limited to the person's release date, court appearance date or  
11 dates, home, work or school address.

12 3. Nothing in this section shall be construed to confer any authority  
13 on an entity to detain a person based on a civil immigration detainer  
14 beyond the authority, if any, to do so that existed prior to the enact-  
15 ment of this section.

16 § 319-f. Limitation on use of certain facilities. 1. No state or local  
17 law enforcement agency, or agent thereof, shall provide a federal immi-  
18 gration agency, or agent thereof, with access to an individual in such  
19 law enforcement agency's custody or control.

20 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision one of this section,  
21 a person in the custody of a state or local law enforcement agency may  
22 request to be interviewed by a federal law enforcement agency or an  
23 agent thereof only with knowing and voluntary written consent of the  
24 individual and, if represented by counsel, written authorization by such  
25 counsel, provided that if such individual is not represented and is  
26 entitled to counsel assigned pursuant to section three hundred nine-  
27 teen-g of this article or article eighteen-B of the county law, he or  
28 she shall be notified of such right and provided a reasonable opportu-  
29 nity to obtain such counsel before any such interview.

30 3. In addition to any other right to the assistance of interpretation  
31 or translation services, any foreign-born person, or person not profi-  
32 cient in the English language, to whom inquiry is made pursuant to this  
33 section shall be entitled to the assistance of a neutral and qualified  
34 interpreter or translator, as the case may be, with respect to such  
35 inquiry, provided at no cost or expense to such person.

36 4. Except as provided in subdivision two of this section, federal  
37 immigration authorities shall not be permitted to use or maintain, for  
38 the purpose of interviewing any person or witness or investigating or  
39 adjudicating any alleged violation of federal immigration law, any  
40 office or quarters in any building or facility or any land owned, leased  
41 or operated by a state or local law enforcement agency; provided, howev-  
42 er that the federal Executive Office for Immigration Review, pursuant to  
43 an otherwise lawful agreement with the state department of corrections  
44 and community supervision, may make use of offices in one or more build-  
45 ings or facilities operated as state correctional facilities in this  
46 state for the purpose of conducting adjudicatory hearings involving  
47 alleged violation of federal immigration law.

48 § 319-q. Legal representation. 1. A person unable to afford counsel  
49 against whom a removal proceeding may be or has been commenced, shall be  
50 entitled to representation by assigned counsel and related assistance,  
51 pursuant to subdivision one of section thirty-five of the judiciary law,  
52 when the person:

53 (a) was present in this state when questioned, taken into custody,  
54 charged, summoned or presented with the allegations of the removal  
55 proceedings, and the person resides or is detained in either this state  
56 or an adjoining state; or

1 (b) resided in this state when questioned, taken into custody,  
2 charged, summoned or presented with the allegations of the removal  
3 proceedings, and the person continues to reside in this state or an  
4 adjoining state, or if detained, continues to be detained in either this  
5 state or an adjoining state.

6 2. Representation and related assistance provided in accordance with  
7 subdivision one of this section shall be a state charge, pursuant to  
8 subdivision one of section thirty-five of the judiciary law.

9 § 319-h. Effect on other laws. This article shall supersede conflict-  
10 ing local laws, rules, policies, procedures and practices, except to the  
11 extent that the provisions of any such local law, rule, policy or any  
12 such procedure or practice may provide any additional or greater right  
13 or protection. Nothing in this article shall prohibit any entity from  
14 cooperating with a federal immigration authority to the extent required  
15 by federal law. Nothing in this article shall be interpreted or applied  
16 so as to create any power, duty or obligation in conflict with federal  
17 law.

18 § 2. The opening paragraph of paragraph a of subdivision 1 of section  
19 35 of the judiciary law is designated as subparagraph (i) and a new  
20 subparagraph (ii) is added to read as follows:

21 (ii) Persons providing assigned counsel and related assistance in  
22 immigration-related matters pursuant to section three hundred nineteen-g  
23 of the executive law shall be compensated in accordance with this  
24 section. In any case where a person entitled to assigned representation  
25 pursuant to section three hundred nineteen-g of the executive law  
26 petitions the criminal court of the city of New York, the county court  
27 or district court, with jurisdiction where the person is to be ques-  
28 tioned or detained, or is detained, or was charged in such immigration-  
29 related matter, or most recently resided, the court shall assign coun-  
30 sel, with appropriate expertise and experience in immigration-related  
31 matters, in accordance with this section.

32 § 3. Severability. If any clause, sentence, subdivision, paragraph,  
33 section or other part of this act shall be adjudged by any court of  
34 competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect,  
35 impair or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its  
36 operation to the clause, sentence, subdivision, paragraph, section or  
37 part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment  
38 shall have been rendered.

39 § 4. This act shall take effect immediately.