STATE OF NEW YORK

4597

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 15, 2019

Introduced by Sens. PARKER, BAILEY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Children and Families

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to written notification to schools of a student's placement in foster care

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 405 to read as follows:

§ 405. Notification to schools of foster care placement. 1. Whenever a child placed in foster family care or an agency boarding home or group home who is a public charge in a social services district is admitted to a school, an official within that social services district or an official of the authorized agency acting on the child's behalf in boarding out such child, shall send written notification to the principal or principal's designee of the school in which the child is enrolled that said child is in foster family care or an agency boarding home or group home. Such notification must be received by the principal or principal's designee no later than the first day during which the child is in attendance at school and must include the following:

(a) the name of such child;

(b) the date of birth of such child, if ascertainable, or his or her apparent age;

(c) the names and address of the foster parents or, where applicable, the name of the child care agency and the address of the agency boarding home or group home;

(d) the name and location of the school district in which such child resided at the time he or she became a public charge in foster care;

(e) the name and location of the school last attended by such child prior to his or her current admission; and

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

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(f) the name and location of the local social services commissioner caring for such child, and the name and location of any authorized agency acting on his or her behalf.

2. Any information gathered or disseminated about a child placed in foster family care or an agency boarding home or group home pursuant to this section shall be treated in a confidential manner and shall not be distributed, made available or disclosed by the social services district, authorized agency or school other than as specifically permitted by subdivision one of this section.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after it shall have become a law.