

# STATE OF NEW YORK

5083

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

February 7, 2019

Introduced by M. of A. JEAN-PIERRE, VANEL -- read once and referred to the Committee on Mental Health

AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to safeguarding cash accounts for people with developmental disabilities in a facility

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (f) of section 16.11 of the mental hygiene law  
2 is relettered subdivision (g) and a new subdivision (f) is added to read  
3 as follows:

4 (f) The commissioner shall provide for the oversight of facilities and  
5 providers of services holding operating certificates pursuant to section  
6 16.03 of this article by:

7 (1) developing a statewide policy mandating audits for residents' cash  
8 accounts including the frequency of the audits, who is responsible for  
9 conducting the audits, and policies and procedures for how the audits  
10 will be conducted;

11 (2) developing a uniform system for audits of residents' cash accounts  
12 to assist supervisors in audits;

13 (3) providing training directly to anyone required to conduct audits  
14 of residents' cash accounts, including information regarding audit poli-  
15 cies and practices of residents' cash accounts;

16 (4) authorizing the use of bank and debit cards for all residents'  
17 cash accounts;

18 (5) developing a policy on the purchase and use of gift cards by or on  
19 behalf of residents, including, but not limited to, requirements that  
20 supervisory staff include gift cards in residents' personal expenditure  
21 plans and notification to supervisors of the purchase or delivery of a  
22 gift card to a resident; and

23 (6) prohibiting the use of self-generated receipts as evidence of a  
24 meal purchased by cash custodians for meals outside the residence.

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

LBD06816-01-9

1     § 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after  
2     it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amend-  
3     ment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implemen-  
4     tation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and  
5     completed on or before such effective date.