STATE OF NEW YORK

222--C

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

(Prefiled)

January 9, 2019

Introduced by Sens. BENJAMIN, ADDABBO, BAILEY, BIAGGI, BRESLIN, BROOKS, CARLUCCI, COMRIE, GAUGHRAN, GIANARIS, GOUNARDES, HARCKHAM, HOYLMAN, JACKSON, KAMINSKY, KAPLAN, KAVANAGH, KENNEDY, KRUEGER, LIU, MAY, MAYER, METZGER, MONTGOMERY, MYRIE, PARKER, PERSAUD, RAMOS, RIVERA, SALAZAR, SANDERS, SAVINO, SEPULVEDA, SERRANO, SKOUFIS, STAVISKY, THOMAS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Children and Families -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- recommitted to the Committee on Children and Families in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- reported favorably from said committee and committed to the Committee on Finance -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to reporting of youth placed in foster care settings and recruitment of foster parents

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

Section 1. Section 17 of the social services law is amended by adding a new subdivision (l) to read as follows:

(l) submit a report to the governor, the speaker of the assembly and the temporary president of the senate beginning December thirty-first, two thousand twenty, and quarterly thereafter, regarding youth placed in foster care settings and the recruitment of foster parents. Such report shall be made publicly available online and shall provide information, as required pursuant to this subdivision, aggregated by local social services districts and foster care settings. For the purposes of this subdivision, foster care settings shall include, but not be limited to, foster boarding homes, approved relative homes, group homes, group residences, agency operated boarding homes, supervised independent living

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

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arrangements, therapeutic foster care and child care institutions. The report shall include, but not be limited to, the following information:

(i) the total number of youth placed in a foster care setting at the time of the report, as well as a comparison to the total number of youth in care since the previous report was submitted;

(ii) the reasons why such youth have been placed in a foster care setting, with the total number of youth per category at the time of the report. Such reasons shall include, but not be limited to, voluntary placement pursuant to section three hundred fifty-eight-a of this chapter, a termination of parental rights pursuant to section three hundred eighty-four-b of this chapter, placements pursuant to articles ten and ten-C of the family court act, or pursuant to a contract, grant or other agreement with the federal government;

(iii) to the extent such information is available, the total number of youth placed in a foster care setting at the time of the report that are in need of or receiving specialized services, either due to a mental health illness or another disorder that may require additional supports and services, including specialized educational services;

(iv) to the extent such information is available, how many youth at the time of the report have been previously placed in a foster care setting in the state;

(v) the total number of foster families that are currently certified in the state at the time of the report and whether that number has increased or decreased since the previous report was submitted;

(vi) how many children and/or families have received preventive services through a local social services district, and of those children and/or families, how many youth were successfully kept out of foster care due to such services within the last calendar year for the initial report, and then since the previous report was submitted for all subsequent reports;

(vii) the total number of placement options that have been certified as a qualified residential treatment program, as defined by 42 USCS § 672; and

(viii) the efforts the state has taken to recruit and retain foster parents in the state.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.