STATE OF NEW YORK

427

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

(Prefiled)

January 9, 2019

Introduced by Sen. HOYLMAN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Finance

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:

Section 1. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 75 to read as follows:

§ 75. Legal hotline for tenants pilot program. 1. The attorney general shall establish a pilot program to create a legal hotline for tenants. The pilot program shall be administered by the attorney general.

2. The attorney general shall recruit attorneys to participate in the program. Attorneys will not be committed to representing any tenants that they advise through the program.

3. The legal hotline for tenants shall be accessible via a toll-free phone number that operates, at a minimum, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

4. Tenants shall call the hotline and describe their problem to an intake counselor, who shall refer the tenants to an appropriate and available volunteer attorney. After the referral, the attorney shall contact and advise the tenant.

5. All costs of the pilot program shall be paid for by the New York interest on lawyer account fund, pursuant to section ninety-seven-v of the state finance law.

§ 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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