STATE OF NEW YORK

2109

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 19, 2021

Introduced by Sen. SEPULVEDA -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Social Services

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to directing the department of social services to establish a centralized homelessness crisis response data system

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

Section 1. Section 20 of the social services law is amended by adding a new subdivision 9 to read as follows:

9. (a) The department shall establish a centralized homelessness crisis response data system through which state agencies, local governmental entities, including law enforcement agencies, court systems, school districts, and emergency service providers, and other relevant persons, as determined by the department, are able to share and access information related to individuals who experience chronic homelessness in order to connect or refer such individuals to services including affordable housing opportunities.

(b) In developing such centralized homelessness crisis response data system the department shall:

(i) consult with the entities described in paragraph (a) of this subdivision to determine the challenges faced by such entities in addressing chronic homelessness and how best to improve the response to those challenges; and

(ii) enter into data sharing agreements as necessary for the exchange of information relating to individuals experiencing chronic homelessness through the centralized homelessness crisis response data system.

(c) The centralized homelessness crisis response data system established under this section shall:

(i) to the extent permitted by a data sharing agreement, collect data from other homeless crisis response systems maintained or operated by other state entities; and

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

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(ii) collect, aggregate, analyze and share homelessness information submitted to the centralized homelessness crisis response data system with entities that have access to the system pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subdivision.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.