STATE OF NEW YORK

5759

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 18, 2021

Introduced by Sen. BRISPORT -- 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 exempting certain income and resources provided to persons enrolled in certain poverty programs and research projects in determining eligibility for public assistance benefits

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 131-y to read as follows:

§ 131-y. Exemption of income and resources received from poverty research. 1. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, and to the maximum extent permitted by federal law and regulations, for the purposes of determining eligibility and calculating the amount of benefits under any program provided under the authority of this chapter, the department shall exempt and disregard from income and resources, for a period of no more than sixty months, any and all income and resources, including but not limited to financial assistance, wages, cash transfers, gifts, or other payments provided to a person who is enrolled in a poverty research program or research project as defined in subdivision two of this section.

2. For the purposes of this section, a "poverty research program or research project" means a program or project that: (a) is not funded by the state, (b) is intended to research or investigate the impacts of policies, programs or initiatives designed to reduce poverty, promote social mobility, or increase financial stability for state residents, (c) has developed an explicit plan to collect data and evaluate such policies, programs or initiatives prior to participants being enrolled in the program, and (d) has identified a research team to oversee the evaluation.

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

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§ 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the adoption, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date is authorized to be made on or before such date.