STATE OF NEW YORK

6481

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 1, 2021

Introduced by Sens. SKOUFIS, KAVANAGH -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Housing, Construction and Community Development

AN ACT to clarify qualifications for certain supplemental costs associated with an emergency rental assistance program

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

Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, and in furtherance of chapter 53 of the laws of 2021 enacting the aid to localities budget and providing for supplemental costs associated with an emergency rental assistance program, such supplemental costs may also provide assistance for:

(a) Households with incomes that exceed the limitations set forth in the emergency rental assistance program as created by chapter 56 of the laws of 2021, who would otherwise qualify for such program, with priority given to households with a household member in a priority population as provided for in such program;

(b) Assistance to landlords with rental arrears accrued by a tenant who would qualify for assistance under such program or under subdivision (a) of this section if such tenant had applied for assistance while in occupancy, if such landlord has used best efforts to contact and assist such tenant in applying for such program, without success, including instances in which such tenant has vacated while owing such rental arrears; and

(c) To supplement funding, as necessary, for the emergency rental assistance program as created by chapter 56 of the laws of 2021.

§ 2. The commissioner of the office of temporary and disability assistance shall establish procedures that are appropriate and necessary to assure that information necessary to determine eligibility provided by landlords applying for or receiving assistance under subdivision (b) of section 1 of this act is complete and accurate. Additionally, the

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

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commissioner shall establish procedures to ensure flexibility when determining acceptable documentation, including self-attestation or attestation of a person with knowledge of the household's circumstances in a form acceptable to the commissioner.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall be deemed to have been in full force and effect on and after April 1, 2021.