STATE OF NEW YORK

6722--A

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 13, 2021

Introduced by Sens. SALAZAR, BRISPORT, GOUNARDES -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Social Services -- recommitted to the Committee on Social Services 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 mental illness training in temporary housing

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

Section 1. Article 2-A of the social services law is amended by adding a new title 3 to read as follows:

TITLE 3

MENTAL ILLNESS TRAINING IN TEMPORARY HOUSING

Section 47. Training to recognize the signs and symptoms of mental illness.

§ 47. Training to recognize the signs and symptoms of mental illness. 1. The office of temporary and disability assistance, in conjunction with the office of mental health and the office of children and family services, shall develop a training course to be utilized by providers of temporary housing assistance. Such training course shall focus on identifying best practices to recognize the signs and symptoms of mental illness and providing referrals, as appropriate, to individuals who may be suffering from a mental illness.

2. Providers of temporary housing assistance shall include, but are not limited to, a family shelter, a shelter for adults, a hotel, an emergency apartment, a domestic violence shelter, a runaway and homeless youth shelter, or a safe house for refugees operating in the state.

3. Such training shall be provided to all employees and volunteers working or volunteering at a provider of temporary housing assistance.

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

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4. Providers of temporary housing assistance shall ensure at least one employee or volunteer who provides intake services and has received such training is at the facility at all times.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.