

STATE OF NEW YORK

1258

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 8, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. HEVESI -- read once and referred to the Committee on Social Services

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to requiring the commissioner to prepare a report of the homeless population during a state disaster emergency in publicly funded shelters, residential programs for victims of domestic violence, and residential programs for runaway and homeless youth

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

Section 1. Subdivision (d-1) of section 17 of the social services law, as added by a chapter of the laws of 2020 amending the social services law relating to requiring the commissioner to prepare a report of the sheltered and unsheltered homeless population during a state disaster emergency, as proposed in legislative bills numbers S. 8643-A and A. 10566-A, is amended to read as follows:

(d-1)(1) in consultation with each local health department and each social services district in the county in which [~~the homeless~~] a publicly funded shelter is located, the commissioner of the department of health, the commissioner of the office of children and family services, the [~~commissioners~~] commissioner of the New York city department of homeless services, and the commissioner of the New York city department of health and mental hygiene, [~~shall collect~~] conduct a review of information, to the extent such information is known and available after making all diligent efforts, regarding the [~~sheltered and unsheltered~~] homeless population in publicly funded shelters, during a state disaster emergency, declared pursuant to executive order two hundred two of two thousand twenty or any extension or subsequent executive order issued in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, including but not limited to, the following information:

- (i) the number of confirmed infected individuals;
- (ii) the number of hospitalizations;

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

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1 (iii) the number of deaths;

2 (iv) information regarding the individual, if known~~[+]~~: (a) age; (b)
3 race; (c) family composition; (d) shelter status; (e) type of shelter
4 including: family shelter, a shelter for adults, a hotel, an emergency
5 apartment, a domestic violence shelter, a runaway and homeless youth
6 shelter, or ~~[as]~~ a safe house for refugees; (f) any known risk factors;
7 and (g) any other information the office deems appropriate;

8 (v) with regard to individuals residing in a residential program for
9 victims of domestic violence or for runaway and homeless youth, informa-
10 tion regarding the average number of individuals reported with a
11 confirmed infection, the number and percentage of programs struggling
12 with an outbreak, and the number and percentage of residents impacted in
13 those programs compared to the program's maximum capacity.

14 (2) in consultation with the commissioner of health, utilizing the
15 information ~~[collected]~~ reviewed pursuant to paragraph (1) of this
16 subdivision and to the extent that confidentiality requirements set
17 forth in law and regulation are maintained~~[, the commissioners shall]~~
18 publish a report containing such information aggregated by county ~~[and~~
19 ~~post it on the website of each respective agency]~~. When confidentiality
20 requirements set forth in law and regulation prevent the publication of
21 information aggregated by county, the report shall contain such informa-
22 tion aggregated for multiple counties and organized by geographic
23 region. Notwithstanding any other provision of this paragraph, for resi-
24 dential programs for victims of domestic violence and runaway and home-
25 less youth, reported information shall be aggregated on a statewide
26 basis.

27 (3) post the report on the office of temporary and disability assist-
28 ance's website within sixty days of the effective date of this paragraph
29 and update the report at least every three months thereafter during the
30 state disaster emergency declared pursuant to executive order two
31 hundred two of two thousand twenty or any extension or subsequent execu-
32 tive order issued in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19)
33 pandemic.

34 § 2. This act shall take effect on the same date and in the same
35 manner as a chapter of the laws of 2020 amending the social services law
36 relating to requiring the commissioner to prepare a report of the shel-
37 tered and unsheltered homeless population during a state disaster emer-
38 gency, as proposed in legislative bills numbers S. 8643-A and A.
39 10566-A, takes effect.