STATE OF NEW YORK

5242

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 12, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. SOLAGES -- read once and referred to the Committee on Children and Families

AN ACT authorizing and directing the office of children and family services to conduct a study on the family assessment response program and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

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

Section 1. The office of children and family services, in conjunction with the inspector general, is authorized and directed to conduct a study on the family assessment response program. Such study shall:

(a) determine if the program is accomplishing the program's intended goals;

(b) determine if the program is being operated as designed;

(c) identify areas where the program can be improved;

(d) suggest changes to the program to improve areas where the program needs improvement;

(e) specify why certain areas of the program require changes;

(f) identify if localities should be designing family assessment response programs or following a template that has been vetted and crafted by the state;

(g) determine if the program is worth expanding across the state, making the program either an opt-out or mandatory program; and

(h) examining the expected expansion of the family assessment response program into New York City including, but not limited to:

(i) how has the program worked in New York City prior to the expansion; and

(ii) expected outcomes for child welfare investigations in the city; and

(i) study anything else the office of children and family services or the inspector general determines necessary to determine if the family

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

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assessment response program is working as designed, if it can be improved, and if it is worth expanding and/or mandating state-wide.

§ 2. The office of children and family services, in conjunction with the inspector general, shall publish a report containing the finds of the study. Such report shall be delivered to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly no later than one year after the effective date of this act.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be deemed repealed two years after such effective date.