STATE OF NEW YORK

5986

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 4, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. PICHARDO, SAYEGH, DE LA ROSA -- read once and referred to the Committee on Social Services

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to creating a stipend program for students and eligible persons earning less than $100,000 per year

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 98 to read as follows:

§ 98. Stipend program. 1. For purposes of this section:

(a) "student" shall mean a person enrolled for at least six hours, or the equivalent, per semester in the "state university," a "community college," or a "statutory or contract college" as defined in section three hundred fifty of the education law, or enrolled for at least six hours, or the equivalent, per semester in a private university within the state; and

(b) "eligible person" shall mean:

(i) a student or a person who is employed for at least twenty hours per week and such student or person earns less than one hundred thousand dollars per year; and

(ii) a citizen of the United States; and

(iii) an individual not employed by the state, a municipality within the state, or employed as a "state officer" or "local officer" as specified in section two of the public officers law.

2. The department shall develop and implement a stipend program in conjunction with the state comptroller to provide certain eligible persons within the state a stipend of five hundred dollars each month. Each household shall not receive more than one stipend under such program. Funding for such program shall be paid from the state treasury upon the audit and warrant of the comptroller out of funds made available therefor. The department shall create an application process for

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

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such program, which shall include a method for verifying eligibility and a process for annual recertification under this section.

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