

STATE OF NEW YORK

2525--C

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 26, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. HEVESI, JEAN-PIERRE, DICKENS, GONZALEZ-ROJAS, SEPTIMO, SIMON, BRABENEC, DARLING, BURDICK, AUBRY, SHIMSKY, ANDERSON, DeSTEFANO, COLTON, FORREST, GIBBS -- read once and referred to the Committee on Children and Families -- reported and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- again reported from said committee with amendments, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- again reported from said committee with amendments, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to expanding the age range for eligibility for the rent subsidy payable to a foster child living independently

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

1 Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subdivision 5 of section 409-a of the
2 social services law, as amended by section 1 of part BB of chapter 56 of
3 the laws of 2023, is amended to read as follows:
4 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, where a
5 social services official determines that a lack of adequate housing is
6 the primary factor preventing the discharge of a child or children from
7 foster care including, but not limited to, children with the goal of
8 discharge to independent living, preventive services shall include, in
9 addition to any other payments or benefits received by the family,
10 special cash grants in the form of rent subsidies, including rent
11 arrears, or any other assistance, sufficient to obtain adequate housing.
12 Such rent subsidies or assistance shall not exceed the sum of seven
13 hundred twenty-five dollars per month, shall not be provided for a peri-
14 od of more than three years, may be provided up to age twenty-four for
15 youth discharged from foster care, and shall be considered a special
16 grant. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to limit the ability

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

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1 of those using such rent subsidy to live with roommates. The provisions
2 of this paragraph shall not be construed to limit such official's
3 authority to provide other preventive services.

4 § 2. Subdivision 7 of section 409-a of the social services law, as
5 amended by section 2 of part BB of chapter 56 of the laws of 2023, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 7. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, if a social
8 services official determines that a lack of adequate housing is a factor
9 that may cause the entry of a child or children into foster care and the
10 family has at least one service need other than lack of adequate hous-
11 ing, preventive services may include, in addition to any other payments
12 or benefits received by the family, special cash grants in the form of
13 rent subsidies, including rent arrears, or any other assistance, suffi-
14 cient to obtain adequate housing. Such rent subsidies or assistance
15 shall not exceed the sum of seven hundred twenty-five dollars per month,
16 shall not be provided for a period of more than three years, may be
17 provided up to age twenty-four for youth discharged from foster care,
18 and shall be considered a special grant. Nothing in this subdivision
19 shall be construed to limit the ability of those using such rent subsidy
20 to live with roommates. The provisions of this paragraph shall not be
21 construed to limit such official's authority to provide other preventive
22 services.

23 § 3. This act shall take effect on the same date and in the same
24 manner as part BB of chapter 56 of the laws of 2023, takes effect.