STATE OF NEW YORK

4465

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 16, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. EPSTEIN, SEAWRIGHT, CLARK, SIMON, COLTON, JACOBSON, GIBBS -- read once and referred to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to tuition assistance program awards for students experiencing homelessness

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

Section 1. The opening paragraph of item 1 of clause (A) of subparagraph (i) of paragraph a of subdivision 3 of section 667 of the education law, as amended by section 1 of part DD of chapter 56 of the laws of 2021, is amended to read as follows:

In the case of students who have not been granted an exclusion of parental income, who have qualified as an orphan, foster child, or ward of the court for the purposes of federal student financial aid programs authorized by Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, *are homeless,* or had a dependent for income tax purposes during the tax year next preceding the academic year for which application is made, except for those students who have been granted exclusion of parental income who have a spouse but no other dependent:

§ 2. Section 661 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 8 to read as follows:

8. Homeless status. The commissioner shall promulgate rules and regulations for a uniform verification method of a student's status as homeless to be used for all awards and loans made pursuant to this article. Such rules and regulations shall utilize the same method of verification of homelessness as federal student financial aid programs authorized by Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended.

§ 3. This act shall take effect on the first of July next succeeding the date on which 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.

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

LBD08641-01-3