

# STATE OF NEW YORK

8091

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

September 29, 2023

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

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to defining humanitarian emergency response and relief centers

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

1 Section 1. Section 42 of the social services law is amended by adding  
2 a new subdivision 6 to read as follows:

3 6. "Humanitarian emergency response and relief center" shall mean a  
4 shelter for adults that is: (a) established and operated within the  
5 state by a local government or provider under contract or similar agree-  
6 ment with a state agency or a local government to provide assistance for  
7 arriving asylees. Such assistance may include but is not limited to  
8 respite, food, medical care, case work services, social services and  
9 assistance in accessing a range of settlement options, including through  
10 connections to family and friends within the United States and direct  
11 referrals to alternative emergency supports; and (b) where individuals  
12 and families reside for more than ninety-six hours and where such indi-  
13 viduals and families sleep in a congregate setting with shared facili-  
14 ties, including but not limited to, sleeping quarters and bathrooms.

15 § 2. Subdivision 1 of section 42 of the social services law, as  
16 amended by chapter 458 of the laws of 1986, is amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 1. "Homeless project" shall mean a humanitarian emergency response and  
19 relief center or a specific facility, including lands, buildings and  
20 improvements acquired, constructed, renovated or rehabilitated and oper-  
21 ated by a not-for-profit corporation, charitable organization, wholly  
22 owned subsidiary of a not-for-profit corporation or of a charitable  
23 organization, public corporation or a municipality to increase the  
24 availability of housing for homeless persons, which may include other  
25 non-housing services such as but not limited to dining, recreational,

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

LBD13247-02-3

1 sanitary, social, medical and mental health services as may be deemed by  
2 the commissioner to be essential to such a project.  
3 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately.