STATE OF NEW YORK

7833

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

April 11, 2025

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

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to providing panic buttons to certain employees of city and county social services districts

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 63 to read as follows:

§ 63. Workplace safety equipment for social services employees. 1. Every city or county social services district, as constituted by section sixty-one of this title, shall be required to provide a panic button to each employee whose job responsibilities necessitate direct interaction with clients in external settings, including but not limited to a client's home, a hospital or medical facility, a school, a childcare center, a community center, or another location where services are provided.

2. Such panic button shall be a wearable or mobile phone-based button. Mobile phone-based panic buttons may only be installed on employer-provided equipment, and wearable and mobile phone-based panic buttons shall not be used to track employee locations except when the panic button is triggered. Employees shall bear no cost for this equipment.

3. For the purposes of this section, "panic button" shall mean a physical button that when pressed immediately contacts the local 9-1-1 public safety answering point ("PSAP"), provides that PSAP with employee location information, and dispatches local law enforcement to that location.

4. The commissioner of the office of children and family services shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

§ 2. This act shall take effect one year after it shall have become a law.

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

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