STATE OF NEW YORK

8861

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

June 9, 2025

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

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to establishing the community accompaniment and post-release support program

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

Section 1. Section 94-b of the executive law is amended by adding a new subdivision 6 to read as follows:

6. Community accompaniment and post-release support program. (a) The office shall establish and administer a community accompaniment and post-release support program to provide grants to qualified community-based organizations for the purpose of offering services to individuals released from immigration detention.

(b) Eligible services under the program shall include, but not be limited to:

(i) Case management and individualized service plans;

(ii) Temporary housing assistance and placement services;

(iii) Mental health and trauma-informed care;

(iv) Legal services related to immigration, housing, and employment;

(v) Job training and employment placement assistance;

(vi) Access to food assistance programs and other essential needs;

(vii) Language access services and English language instruction; and

(viii) Family reunification support and community reintegration assistance.

(c) The office shall establish criteria for awarding grants. Such criteria shall include, but not limited to:

(i) Demonstrated experience serving immigrant populations;

(ii) Capacity to provide culturally and linguistically competent services;

(iii) Geographic diversity to ensure statewide access to services; and

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

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(iv) A demonstrated commitment to providing trauma-informed and gender-responsive care.

(d) The office shall submit an annual report to the governor and the legislature which shall include, but not be limited to, information on: the number of individuals served under the program; the types of services provided; the geographic distribution of services; and outcomes related to housing stability, employment, and legal case resolutions.

§ 2. Paragraph (n) of subdivision 5 of section 94-b of the executive law, as amended by chapter 625 of the laws of 2024, is amended to read as follows:

(n) Beginning in two thousand fifteen, by June fifteenth of each year, produce a report to the governor, the speaker of the assembly, and the temporary president of the senate describing the activities of the office, including but not limited to, summarizing calls received through the hotline and website, information on ESOL training services provided by the office, the number of immigrants assisted through the opportunity centers, or an estimation thereof, the status of any workforce development programs, **information on the community accompaniment and post-release support program established pursuant to subdivision six of this section,** and any other relevant information;

§ 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law; provided, however, that if chapter 625 of the laws of 2024 shall not have taken effect on or before such date then section two of this act shall take effect on the same date and in the same manner as such chapter of the laws of 2024 takes effect. 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.