STATE OF NEW YORK

2466

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 21, 2025

Introduced by Sens. SEPULVEDA, MYRIE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Finance

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to guidance to facilities and programs overseen by state agencies on interactions with Federal immigration authorities

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

Section 1. Paragraphs (o) and (p) of subdivision 5 of section 94-b of the executive law, as added by chapter 625 of the laws of 2024, are amended and a new paragraph (q) is added to read as follows:

(o) Encourage the development of and provide for the establishment of a state military immigrant family legacy program liaison, as provided in section twenty-nine-b of the veterans' services law; [~~and~~]

(p) Request individuals seeking assistance from the office answer the following questions: "Have you served in the United States military?" "Has someone in your family served in the United States military?" Individuals identifying themselves or a family member as "intended recipients" of the staff sergeant Alex R. Jimenez New York state military immigrant family legacy program as such term is defined in paragraph (e) of subdivision one of section twenty-nine-b of the veterans' services law, shall be advised of such program. In addition, such individuals shall be informed that the department of veterans' services and local veterans' service agencies established pursuant to section seventeen of the veterans' services law provide assistance to uniformed service members, veterans and their families regarding benefits available under federal and state law. Information regarding veterans and military status provided by assisted individuals shall be protected as personal confidential material, and used only to identify such individuals as "intended recipients" of the staff sergeant Alex R. Jimenez New York State military immigrant family legacy program, and to assist such individuals in matters relating to immigration status and citizenship,

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

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and in referring such individuals to the department of veterans' services or local veterans' service agencies for information and assistance with regard to benefits and entitlements under federal and state law[.]; and

(q) Assist state agencies in the preparation of guidance to be disseminated to facilities and programs overseen by such agencies concerning inquiries from Federal immigration authorities seeking access to individuals residing or participating in such facilities or programs, or to records or other information regarding such persons.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, if chapter 625 of the laws of 2024 has not yet taken effect then the amendments to paragraphs (o) and (p) of subdivision 5 of section 94-b of the executive law made by section one 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.