

# STATE OF NEW YORK

5505

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

February 24, 2025

Introduced by Sens. SALAZAR, BRISPORT, GOUNARDES -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Social Services

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to mental illness training in temporary housing

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

1 Section 1. Article 2-A of the social services law is amended by adding  
2 a new title 3 to read as follows:

### TITLE 3

#### MENTAL ILLNESS TRAINING IN TEMPORARY HOUSING

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4  
5 Section 47. Training to recognize the signs and symptoms of mental  
6 illness.

7 § 47. Training to recognize the signs and symptoms of mental illness.

8 1. The office of temporary and disability assistance, in conjunction  
9 with the office of mental health and the office of children and family  
10 services, shall develop a training course to be utilized by providers of  
11 temporary housing assistance. Such training course shall focus on iden-  
12 tifying best practices to recognize the signs and symptoms of mental  
13 illness and providing referrals, as appropriate, to individuals who may  
14 be suffering from a mental illness.

15 2. Providers of temporary housing assistance shall include, but are  
16 not limited to, a family shelter, a shelter for adults, a hotel, an  
17 emergency apartment, a domestic violence shelter, a runaway and homeless  
18 youth shelter, or a safe house for refugees operating in the state.

19 3. Such training shall be provided to all employees and volunteers  
20 working or volunteering at a provider of temporary housing assistance.

21 4. Providers of temporary housing assistance shall ensure at least one  
22 employee or volunteer who provides intake services and has received such  
23 training is at the facility at all times, when applicable law, regu-  
24 lation, code, or operating plan approved by a social services district  
25 or the commissioner otherwise requires employees or volunteers to be at  
26 the premises.

27 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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