STATE OF NEW YORK

9302

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

December 10, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. TAPIA -- read once and referred to the Committee on Children and Families

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to enacting the "child care for caregivers act"

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

Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "child care for caregivers act".

§ 2. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 2 of section 410-x of the social services law, as amended by section 3 of part U of chapter 56 of the laws of 2023, is amended to read as follows:

(a) **(i)** The office of children and family services may establish priorities for the families which will be eligible to receive funding; provided that the priorities provide that eligible families will receive equitable access to child care assistance funds to the extent that these funds are available. The office of children and family services shall ensure that families in receipt of child care assistance as of September thirtieth, two thousand twenty-three who were identified as a priority population under a local social services district's consolidated services plan shall continue to be eligible for such assistance, provided they meet all other applicable eligibility requirements for such assistance.

(ii) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the office of children and family services shall, consistent with federal law and regulation, designate families in which a parent or caretaker relative is a member of the regulated child care workforce as a top priority population for the receipt of child care assistance under this subdivision.

(iii) For purposes of this subdivision, "regulated child care workforce" shall mean individuals employed by licensed or registered child day care centers, programs operating as group family day care homes or

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

LBD13976-01-5

family day care homes, enrolled legally exempt providers, or school-age child care programs regulated by the office of children and family services, including but not limited to teachers, teaching assistants, and teacher aides.

(iv) The office of children and family services shall ensure that funding is set aside or otherwise reserved for regulated child care workforce populations sufficient to provide child care assistance to eligible families, to the extent of appropriations made available therefor.

(v) The office of children and family services shall conduct, or cause to be conducted, a statewide public education and outreach campaign to inform members of the regulated child care workforce of their eligibility and priority status for child care assistance under subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph. Such campaign shall include, but not be limited to, publication of information on the office of children and family services website, coordination with local social services districts, and collaboration with child care resource and referral agencies and employer networks.

§ 3. Paragraph (e) of subdivision 2 of section 410-x of the social services law, as added by chapter 416 of the laws of 2000, is amended to read as follows:

(e) The commissioner of the office of children and family services shall submit a report to the governor, temporary president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly on or before August thirty-first, two thousand one concerning the implementation of this section. This report shall include information concerning the disbursement of child care assistance funds showing geographic distribution of children receiving assistance within the state. The commissioner of the office of children and family services shall submit an additional report concerning the implementation of this section no later than August thirty-first, two thousand twenty-seven, which shall include, but not be limited to, information concerning the disbursement of child care assistance funds to the regulated child care workforce.

§ 4. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law.