

**DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY ASSISTANCE
OFFICE OF TEMPORARY AND DISABILITY ASSISTANCE
40 NORTH PEARL STREET
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12243**

**DIGEST OF LAWS OF 2011
RELATING TO PROGRAMS OF THE
OFFICE OF TEMPORARY AND DISABILITY ASSISTANCE**

NOTICE

The purpose of this digest is to highlight provisions of the Laws of 2011 and to direct interested persons to the appropriate provisions of the law. This Digest is neither designed nor intended to be used as a substitute for the law itself nor is it intended to be considered as the Office's interpretation of these laws for the purposes of implementation.

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PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

Chapter 11 – Domestic Violence Definition

[A. 627]

Expands the illustrative list of acts of criminal offenses in the definition of “victim of domestic violence.” Amends the definition of “family or household members” to be consistent with similar definitions in Article 8 of the Family Court Act and the Criminal Procedure Law, as amended by Chapter 326 of the Laws of 2008.

Statutes involved:

Social Services Law
Section 459-a (1) and (2), amended

Effective date: April 13, 2011.

Chapter 163 – Extend the Income and Resource Exemption Provisions

[A. 6331]

Extends the income and resource exemption provisions of section 131-n of the Social Services Law from August 22, 2011 to August 22, 2013.

Statutes involved:

Chapter 436 of the Laws of 1997, Part B, section 153 (c), amended

Effective date: July 20, 2011.

Chapter 388 – Power NY Act of 2011

[A. 8510]

Establishes the Power NY Act of 2011. Among other things, creates a mechanism, referred to as “on-bill recovery,” for recovering, through a charge on a customer’s electric or gas utility bill, loans by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) to such customer for qualified energy efficiency services pursuant to the Green Jobs – Green New York Act. The failure of customers to pay back such loans could result in the termination of electric or gas service.

Statutes involved:

Public Service Law
Section 18-a (2) (h), added

- Section 42 (3), added
- Section 65 (6) (d), amended
- Section 66-m, added
- Article 10, added
- Public Authorities Law
 - Section 1014, amended
 - Section 1020-c (8) (c), amended
 - Section 1020-s, amended
 - Sections 1020-hh, 1020-ii and 1020-jj, renumbered and a new section 1020-hh, added
 - Section 1891 (5), amended
 - Section 1894 (4), added
 - Section 1896, amended
 - Section 1897 (7), added
 - Section 1899 (3), amended
- Real Property Law
 - Section 242 (4), added
- State Finance Law
 - Section 97-kkkk, added
- Environmental Conservation Law
 - Section 8-0111 (5), amended
 - Section 17-0823, amended
 - Section 19-0305 (2) (j), amended
 - Section 49-0307 (3) (e), amended
 - Section 19-0312, added

Effective date: August 4, 2011; provided that nothing in this act shall be construed to limit any administrative authority, with respect to matters included in this act, which authority existed prior to the effective date of this act. Within twelve months of the effective date of this act, all rules and regulations required pursuant to this act shall be adopted. Prior to the adoption of such rules and regulations by the New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment and the Department of Environmental Conservation required under this act, nothing in this act shall affect the right to apply for a permit pursuant to the Environmental Conservation Law including article 8 therein, or other applicable laws, to operate an electric generating facility with a nameplate generating capacity of twenty-five thousand kilowatts or more.

**Chapter 502 – Establishes an Address Confidentiality Program for Victims of Domestic
Violence**
[A. 628-A]

Authorizes the Secretary of State to accept service of process and receive mail on behalf of victims of domestic violence for the purpose of maintaining the confidentiality of the location of such victims.

Statutes involved:

Executive Law
Section 108, added

Effective date: June 23, 2012.

CHILD SUPPORT

Chapter 101 – Extends the Drivers’ License Suspension Process

[S. 4071]

Extends the drivers’ license suspension process from June 30, 2011 to June 30, 2013.

Statutes involved:

Chapter 81 of the Laws of 1995, section 246 (19), amended

Effective date: June 30, 2011.

Chapter 436 – Child Support Obligation of Indigent Non-Custodial Parents

[A. 7520]

Modifies provisions relating to the child support obligation of indigent non-custodial parents.

Statutes involved:

Domestic Relations Law

Section 240 (1-b) (d), (g) and (i), amended

Family Court Act

Section, 413 (1) (d), (g) and (i), amended

Effective date: November 15, 2011.

Chapter 592 – Orders for Child Support Obligor to Seek Employment

[A. 7794-A]

Modifies provisions relating to orders for child support obligors to seek employment or participate in job training, employment counseling or other available programs designed to lead to employment.

Statutes involved:

Family Court Act

Section 437-a, amended

Section 454 (2) (i), added

Social Services Law

Section 111-h (20), amended

Effective date: January 12, 2012.

SPECIALIZED SERVICES

Chapter 24 – Extends the Authorization for the Interagency Task Force on Human Trafficking
[A. 6800]

Extends the authorization for the interagency task force on human trafficking for two years until September 1, 2013.

Statutes involved:

Chapter 74 of the Laws of 2007, section 14, amended

Effective date: May 17, 2011.

Chapter 549 – Permits Electronic Recording of Instruments Affecting Real Property
[S. 2373-A]

Permits the electronic recording of instruments affecting real property.

Statutes involved:

State Technology Law
Section 307 (3) and (4), amended
Real Property Law
Section 290, amended
Section 291-i, added
Section 317, amended

Effective date: September 22, 2012.

ADMINISTRATION

Chapter 95 – Marriage Equality Act

[A. 8354]

Establishes the ability of same-sex couples to enter into civil marriages.

Statutes involved:

Domestic Relations Law

Sections 10-a and 10-b, added

Section 11 (1), amended

Section 11 (1-a), added

Section 13, amended

Effective date: July 24, 2011.

Chapter 152 – Protection of Public Employees Absent on Military Duty

[A. 1428-B]

Relates to the protection of public employees absent on military duty when their positions are abolished.

Statutes involved:

Military Law

Section 243 (10-b), added

Section 243 (11), amended

Civil Service Law

Section 81 (1), amended

Section 88, added

Effective date: July 20, 2011.

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