

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

**DIGEST OF LAWS OF 2017
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 2017 and to direct interested persons to the appropriate provisions of the law. This Digest is neither designed nor intended to be exhaustive or 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 140 – Relates to Income and Resources Exemptions Provisions

[S.5393/A.7801]

Extends the income and resources exemptions provisions of Social Services Law § 131-n from August 22, 2017 to August 22, 2019.

Statutes involved:

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

Effective date: July 25, 2017

Chapter 275 – Authorizes Social Services Districts to Offer Participants in Public Assistance Employment Programs an Option to Complete a Course of Instruction in Financial Literacy and Personal Finance

[S.1170-A/A.474-A]

Amends the Social Services Law in relation to allowing social services districts to offer participants in public assistance employment programs an option to complete a course in financial literacy and personal finance.

Statutes involved:

Social Services Law
§ 336(1)(f), amended
§ 336-a (1), amended

Effective date: March 11, 2018

Chapter 434 – Relates to Participation in the Targeted Accessibility Fund

[S.5192/A.6964]

Relates to Participation in the Targeted Accessibility Fund established by the Public Service Commission to provide financial support for the provision of Lifeline service.

Statutes involved:

Public Service Law § 92-h, added

Effective date: November 29, 2017

Child Support

Chapter 138 – Relates to the Enforcement of Support Through the Suspension of Driving Privileges

[S.5370/A.7802]

Extends the provisions authorizing the administrative suspension of driving privileges as a result of the non-payment of support from August 31, 2017 to August 31, 2019.

Statutes involved:

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

Effective date: July 25, 2017

Administration

Chapter 17 – Relates to Notification Requirements for the DCJS

[S.976/A.366]

Amends Chapter 456 of the Laws of 2016’s timing requirement for DCJS’s notification of local law enforcement agencies from 48 hours to “no more than two business days” after receipt of information indicating a change of address or of enrollment, attendance, employment, or residence at an institution of higher education by a sex offender, and removes the 48-hour timing requirement for DCJS to notify appropriate out-of-state agencies when a sex offender relocates to another state.

Statutes involved:

Correction Law § 168-j(1), (3)-(4), amended

Effective date: January 27, 2017

Chapter 281 – Relates to Sharing Reports of Child Abuse with Agency Charged with Care of Child

[S.4172/A.2965]

Requires that the authorized agency and any social services district charged with the care, custody or guardianship of a child receive a copy of a report of suspected abuse or maltreatment of the child where the authorized agency is not the social services district in which the home is located.

Statutes involved:

Social Services Law § 424(6), amended

Effective date: September 12, 2017

Chapter 308 – Requires Certification Notice to Tenant when Rent is Paid by HRA

[S.1789-A/A.8166-A]

Amends the Administrative Code of the City of New York in relation to requiring the HRA to make available to public assistance recipients, through an online client portal, certain certifications of payment made by HRA to such recipients' landlords.

Statutes involved:

Administrative Code of the City of New York § 26-1301, added

Effective date: January 11, 2018

Chapter 322 – Relates to Prohibiting Charges for Certain Health Records Needed for Government Benefits or Programs

[S.6078/A.7842]

Amends Public Health Law §§ 17 and 18(2)(e) and Mental Hygiene Law § 33.16(b)(6) to prohibit the imposition of a charge for providing, releasing, or delivering medical records used to support an application for a government benefit or program.

Statutes involved:

Public Health Law
§ 17, amended
§ 18(2)(e), amended

Mental Hygiene Law § 33.16(b)(6), amended

Effective date: September 13, 2017

Chapter 453 – Relates to FOIL Requests and Attorney's Fees

[S.2392-A/A.2750-A]

Relates to a court's assessment of reasonable attorney's fees and other litigation costs reasonably incurred against an agency in FOIL actions in which a person has substantially prevailed and the court finds that the agency had no reasonable basis for denying access.

Statutes involved:

Public Officers Law § 89(4)(c), amended

Effective date: December 13, 2017

Shelter

Chapter 269 – Authorizes the Housing and Shelter of Destitute, Refugee, Delinquent and/or Disabled Persons upon Certain State Land in the Bronx Conveyed to the Catholic Guardian Services in 2004

[S.6632/A.8369]

Amends §§ 1 and 5 of Chapter 243 of the Laws of 2004, relative to the sale and conveyance of certain State lands in the borough and county of Bronx, to be used for housing and shelter for the homeless, destitute, refugee, delinquent and/or disabled persons.

Statutes involved:

Chapter 243 of the Laws of 2004, §§ 1 and 5, amended

Effective date: August 21, 2017

Chapter 459 – Relates to Death and Felony Crime Reports in Adult Care Facilities

[S.787-A/A.2702]

Amends Social Services Law § 461-m to include enriched housing programs among the adult care facilities that must: (1) report any death or attempted suicide of a resident to the Department of Health within 24 hours; (2) report felonies believed to have been committed against residents to appropriate law enforcement authorities; and (3) report deaths, attempted suicides and felonies involving residents who at any time received mental hygiene services to the Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs, and amends the time for reporting of felonies to law enforcement, so that a report is made as soon as possible, but, in any event, within 24 hours of when it is believed that a felony was perpetrated against a resident.

Statutes involved:

Social Services Law § 461-m, amended

Effective date: February 16, 2018