



Legislation Text

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Int. No. 1219

By Council Members Dromm, Yeger and Dinowitz

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to providing assistance to seniors with bed bugs in their homes

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 1 of title 21 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended to add a new section 21-139 to read as follows:

§21-139 Definitions. a. For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meaning:

Dwelling. The term “dwelling” means an individual’s place of residence.

Income-eligible individual. The term “income-eligible individual” means a covered individual who is a resident of the city and whose annual gross household income is not in excess of 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines as updated periodically in the federal register by the United States department of health and human services pursuant to subsection (2) of section 9902 of title 42 of the United States code.

b. The department, in consultation with the department of health and mental hygiene, shall establish a program to provide effective assistance and support to income-eligible individuals over the age of 60 with bed bug infestations in their dwelling. Such assistance shall include, but is not limited to, laundry and cleaning services, de-cluttering, removal of objects from walls, bagging of personal items, trash removal, and the moving of furniture and heavy equipment so that the bed bug infestation may be successfully eradicated.

d. The department, in coordination with the department for the aging, shall engage in outreach and education efforts to inform income-eligible individuals over the age of 60 of the availability of the program.

Such efforts shall include the distribution of written materials regarding the program to senior centers and naturally occurring retirement communities and to any individual requesting such materials. Electronic versions of such materials shall be placed in a conspicuous location on the department's website and on the website of the department for the aging. These materials shall be made available in the top ten languages most commonly spoken within the city as determined by the department of city planning.

§ 2. This local law takes effect 120 days after its enactment into law, provided that the commissioner shall promulgate any rules necessary for implementing and carrying out the provisions of this local law prior to such effective date.

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