



Legislation Text

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Int. No. 209

By Council Members Hanif, Ayala, Restler, Brewer, Marte and Hudson

A Local Law to amend the New York city charter, in relation to reporting on emergency congregate housing

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 1 of the New York city charter is amended by adding a new section 18-a to read as follows:

§ 18-a Report on emergency congregate housing for asylum seekers. a. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the term “emergency congregate housing” means any location operated by an agency or provider under contract or similar agreement with an agency, including large-scale locations known as humanitarian emergency response and relief centers, where individuals and families reside for more than 96 hours and such individuals and families sleep in a congregate setting with shared facilities, including but not limited to, sleeping quarters and bathrooms.

b. On or before November 1, 2023, and weekly thereafter, the mayor or the mayor’s designee shall provide to the council and post on the city’s website a report on all emergency congregate housing locations. The report shall include a table in which each separate row references a location used for emergency congregate housing. Each such row shall include the following information, as well as any additional information the commissioner deems appropriate, set forth in separate columns:

1. The address and primary function of the location;
2. The capacity of emergency congregate housing at the location;
3. Demographic information of the individuals residing in emergency congregate housing at the

location;

4. The number of families residing in emergency congregate housing at the location and, for each, the number of family members and the age of each family member;

5. The average length of stay in emergency congregate housing at the location, disaggregated by the average length of stay for families and the average length of stay for individuals who are not residing in emergency congregate housing with a family;

6. The number of individuals discharged from emergency congregate housing at the location, and, for each individual discharged to a known location, the type of location to which the individual is discharged;

7. The number of individuals involuntarily discharged from emergency congregate housing at each location;

8. The 5 most common reasons for involuntary discharge from emergency congregate housing at the location; and

9. Whether the emergency congregate housing at the location meets the standards set forth in parts 491 and 900 of title 18 of the New York codes, rules and regulations, regarding shelter operations, or any successor provisions, and, if it does not, the specific standards that the emergency congregate housing has failed to meet.

c. For any emergency congregate housing location that is identified as not meeting standards pursuant to paragraph 9 of subdivision b of this section, the mayor or the mayor's designee shall submit to the council a plan, including a timeline, to bring the emergency congregate housing into compliance. Such plan shall be submitted no more than 2 weeks after the emergency congregate housing is first identified as failing to meet standards. The mayor or the mayor's designee shall submit to the council a monthly written update detailing the steps that have been taken to bring the emergency congregate housing location into compliance.

d. No information that is otherwise required to be reported pursuant to this section shall be reported in a manner that would violate any applicable law relating to the privacy of individual information.

§ 2. This local law takes effect immediately.

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