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Int. No. 717

By Council Members Schulman, Gutiérrez, Louis, Brewer, Hudson, Avilés, Restler, Brannan and Farías

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to rental assistance eligibility requirements for street homeless individuals

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 by adding a new section 21-151 to read as follows:

§ 21-151 Rental assistance for street homeless individuals. a. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

Street homeless. The term "street homeless" means an individual who (i) is living on the street or in a place not meant for human habitation or (ii) is receiving services from the department of homeless services or the human resources administration because such individual is currently or was formerly living on the street or in a place not meant for human habitation.

Rental assistance program. The term "rental assistance program" means any city rental assistance program that is designed to help homeless individuals by subsidizing rent in which (i) the human resources administration or the department of homeless services determines eligibility and (ii) the program's eligibility requirements do not require approval from an agency of the state of New York.

b. Rental assistance program eligibility. When an applicant's eligibility for a rental assistance program is dependent upon being considered street homeless and having received case management services for a specified amount of time is a factor in such consideration, the department shall not require such applicant to have received case management services for more than 30 days as a precondition to such eligibility.

§ 2. This local law takes effect 120 days after it becomes law, except that the commissioner of social services shall take such measures as are necessary for the implementation of this local law, including the promulgation of rules, before such date.

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