



Legislation Text

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Int. No. 9-B

By Council Members Ayala, Louis, Hanif, Hudson, Ung, Sanchez, Brannan, Won, Gutiérrez, Brooks-Powers, Stevens, Brewer, Abreu, Cabán, Narcisse, Rivera, Banks and Mealy

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to providing information about obtaining counsel at the first point of contact during a covered proceeding

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 9 of title 21 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new section 21-925 to read as follows:

§ 21-925 Provision of information about legal services. a. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

Child protective report. The term “child protective report” means a report made to the state central register of child abuse and maltreatment that results in either: an ACS child protective investigation conducted pursuant to section 424 of the social services law, or an ACS child protective response provided pursuant to section 427-a of the social services law, which may include alternative interventions and supportive services in lieu of a formal investigation.

Covered individual. The term “covered individual” means a parent or other person legally responsible for the care of a child, other than a foster parent, or employee, volunteer, owner or operator of a day care facility who is the subject of a child protective report.

Covered proceeding. The term “covered proceeding” means an ACS child protective investigation conducted pursuant to section 424 of the social services law, or an ACS child protective response provided pursuant to section 427-a of the social services law.

Legal services. The term “legal services” means no-cost or low-cost individualized legal assistance provided in a single consultation or provided for a longer period of time by an organization that has the capacity to provide legal services to a covered individual in connection with a covered proceeding.

b. When an ACS child protective caseworker initiates direct engagement with a covered individual at the onset of a covered proceeding, such ACS child protective caseworker shall provide information to such covered individual on where they may obtain legal services.

§ 2. This local law takes effect immediately.

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