

# **NYSCADV**

## **NEW YORK STATE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

### **2021 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED LAWS APPROVED BY LEGISLATURE AND SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**

#### **REPORT ON SHELTER POPULATION DURING COVID TO ASSESS FUTURE NEED DURING PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES**

##### **Chapter 12 (A1258 Hevesi/S873 Liu)**

Expands the existing requirement for the NYS Department of Health (NYSDOH) and local social service districts (DSS) to prepare a report of the sheltered and unsheltered homeless population during a state disaster emergency to include DV shelters and shelters for runaways and youth; such report shall be updated every three months during the state disaster emergency; information shall be aggregated on a statewide basis to protect individual resident's confidentiality. *Effective immediately.*

#### **INCREASE FINANCIAL LITERACY AND AWARENESS**

##### **Chapter 14 (A976 Seawright/S876 Comrie)**

Directs the NYS Department of Financial Services (DFS) to provide information on its website to increase financial literacy and consumer awareness such as information on basic banking, personal financial management and best practices for protecting personal information; information will be updated annually. *Effective immediately.*

#### **EXPAND SNAP ONLINE PILOT PROGRAM**

##### **Chapter 15 (A1262 Hevesi/S878 Kaminsky)**

Authorizes SNAP recipients to purchase groceries online using SNAP benefits; requires the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) to seek any necessary approvals from the USDA to maximize and expand retail participation with the SNAP online pilot program, which was launched in 2019. *Effective immediately.*

#### **DATA REGARDING CHILD WELFARE PREVENTIVE SERVICES**

##### **Chapter 16 (A1261 Hevesi/S882 Persaud)**

Extends the time the NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) is required to collect data on child welfare preventive services, such as the total number of children receiving preventive services, the number of new cases opened, a list of services provided and the number of children entering foster care; OCFS will continue to collect data until September 1, 2024. *Effective immediately.*

#### **WALKING WHILE TRANS**

##### **Chapter 23 (S1351 Hoylman/A3355 Paulin)**

Repeals the prohibition against "loitering for the purpose of prostitution" which was enacted in 1976 along with other anti-loitering statutes to curtail the proliferation of prostitution; the statute's vagueness led to arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement, particularly impacting cisgender and transgender women of color, women previously arrested for prostitution offenses and trafficking victims. *Effective immediately.*

**ESTABLISH VETERAN TREATMENT COURTS**

**Chapter 91 (A5719A Galef/S1957A Hoylman)**

Directs the Office of Court Administration (OCA) to establish veterans’ treatment courts and to transfer criminal cases against a veteran to a veterans’ treatment court, except in cases where the accused and victim are family or household members. *Effective immediately.*

**HUMANE ALTERNATIVES TO LONG-TERM (HALT) SOLITARY CONFINEMENT ACT**

**Chapter 93 (A2277A Aubry/S2836 Salazar)**

Limits the time someone can spend in segregated confinement; defines and reduces the number of disciplinary infractions eligible for segregated confinement, and exempts vulnerable populations, including the young, elderly, pregnant women, people with disabilities, and individuals with serious mental illness, from being placed in solitary confinement. *Effective March 31, 2022.*

**ELIMINATE THE TERM INCORRIGIBLE**

**Chapter 97 (A5873 Reyes/S2737 Salazar)**

Amends the Family Court Act to eliminate the use of the label "incorrigible" during Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS) proceedings; the term has been disproportionately applied to girls of color, unfairly labeling them as “uncorrectable” or “unreformable.” *Effective immediately.*

**VOTING RIGHTS NOTIFICATION TO INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS**

**Chapter 103 (A4448A O’Donnell/S830B Comrie)**

Directs the courts to notify defendants prior to receiving a guilty plea that such a conviction will result in the loss of the right to vote during incarceration; provides notice to incarcerated individuals being released of the restoration of their right to vote; ensures that informational materials about voting are provided and provides assistance in registering to vote; develops and implements a program to educate court officials, election officials, and corrections officials of this law. *Fully effective November 4, 2021.*

**EXEMPT COVID-19 STIMULUS RELIEF FROM GARNISHMENT; INCLUDES CRITICAL PROTECTIONS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS**

**Chapter 107 (A6617A Weinstein/S5923A Thomas)**

Clarifies that seizure or garnishment of federal relief payments is not permitted; creates carve out for claims brought by individuals who have an interest in the relief payments based on their status as spouses or dependents, or in situations involving fraud, including actions brought in Family Court for child support, spousal support, or orders of protection, matrimonial actions and civil claims. *Effective immediately.*

**ALLOW PHONE INTERVIEWS FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS**

**Chapter 133 (A5414 Rosenthal/S3223A Persaud)**

Permits local DSS to interview applicants for public assistance by phone as part of the review and certification process. *Effective immediately.*

**ALLOW PHONE AND DIGITAL INTERVIEWS FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS**

**Chapter 144 (A7726 Rosenthal/S7007 Persaud)**

Permits applicants for public assistance to request to be interviewed by phone or digital means as part of the review and certification process. *Effective immediately.*

**GENDER RECOGNITION ACT**

**Chapter 158 (A5465D O'Donnell/S4402B Hoylman)**

Removes excess, discriminatory burdens placed on those petitioning for a change in sex designation on state documents, as well as expand eligibility to have those records sealed for purposes of protection; removes the requirement that applicants for name changes publish their present name and address, as well as their previous name, place of birth and birth date, in a designated newspaper. **Effective December 24, 2021.**

**NOTIFY VICTIMS OF CRIME ELECTRONICALLY**

**Chapter 210 (A7680 Dinowitz/S7099 Salazar)**

Permits Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) from communicating the release or escape of an individual to a victim of crime via email, if preferred by the victim. **Effective August 1, 2021.**

**ELDER ABUSE ENHANCED MULTI-DISCIPLINARY TEAM**

**Chapter 223 (A7634 Cruz/S6528 Persaud)**

Establishes an elder abuse enhanced multi-disciplinary team program under the state Office for the Aging for complex cases of elder abuse, including financial exploitation, physical abuse, psychological abuse, sexual abuse and neglect; team professionals include health/medical, mental health, aging, protective services, human services, social work, banking/financial institutions, legal services, district attorney's offices, law enforcement agencies and forensic accountants. **Effective immediately.**

**EXTEND INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

**Chapter 227 (A7484 Gonzalez-Rojas/S6696 Persaud)**

Extends, for two years, the Interagency Task Force on Human Trafficking, originally established in 2007. **Effective until Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.**

**HOLD GUN MANUFACTURERS ACCOUNTABLE FOR ILLEGAL FIREARMS**

**Chapter 237 (A6762B Fahy/S7196 Myrie)**

Requires gun manufacturers to establish and utilize reasonable controls and procedures to prevent their products from being possessed, used, marketed or sold unlawfully in NYS; declares any violations that result in harm to the public as public nuisances; permits victims to bring an action for recovery or damages against gun manufacturers for violations of this policy. **Effective immediately.**

**INFORM TENANTS OF RIGHT TO LAWFUL SOURCE OF INCOME**

**Chapter 243 (A3112B Epstein/S427A Hoylman)**

Requires the Division of Human Rights (DHR) to develop regulations requiring housing providers to inform housing assistance recipients of their rights to a lawful source of income. **Effective October 16, 2021.**

**PELVIC EXAM INFORMATIONAL PAMPHLET**

**Chapter 272 (A5489B Solages/S210B Persaud)**

Directs NYSDOH to develop an informational pamphlet on pelvic exams, including the proper procedure, privacy and sanitary expectations, and contact information to report any instance of misconduct; requires NYSDOH to consult with medical experts on brochure development, and to make the final brochure available on its website and available to medical providers for distribution. **Effective January 16, 2022.**

**UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS FOR PART-TIME EMPLOYEES**

**Chapter 277 (A2355A Stirpe/S1042A Ramos)**

Allows part-time employees and employees experiencing reduced hours to have access to unemployment insurance benefits. *Effective August 16, 2021.*

**CONTINUE PERMITTING REFEREES TO DETERMINE APPLICATIONS FOR ORDERS OF PROTECTION**

**Chapter 303 (A8019 Wallace/S7103 Ramos)**

Permits referees to continue determining applications for orders of protection while family court is in session until 2023; such authorization was set to expire on Sept. 1, 2021. *Effective immediately.*

**RAISE THE AGE OF MARRIAGE TO 18**

**Chapter 306 (A3891 Ramos/S3086 Salazar)**

Increases the age of consent of marriage to 18 and repeals provisions that currently allow 17-year-olds to marry. *Effective August 22, 2021.*

**DV ADVOCATE-VICTIM PRIVILEGE**

**Chapter 309 (A2520 Weinstein/S1789 Sanders)**

Extends privilege to conversations between DV advocates and survivors; restricts ability of third parties to compel DV advocates to provide client information in court; privilege does not extend to conversations revealing a suspected case of child abuse or maltreatment or conversations that reveal an intent to commit a crime or harmful act. *Effective immediately.*

**EXTEND STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING CIVIL ACTIONS**

**Chapter 311 (A3186 Hevesi/S672 Sanders)**

Lengthens the time for victims of human trafficking to file civil action cases from 10 years to 15 years after victimization to recover actual, compensatory and punitive damages, injunctive relief, and/or reasonable attorney’s fees. *Effective immediately.*

**HOUSING OUR NEIGHBORS WITH DIGNITY ACT**

**Chapter 396 (A6593B Reyes/S5257C Gianaris)**

Provides a mechanism for the state to finance the acquisition of distressed hotels and commercial office properties by appropriate nonprofit organizations for conversion to affordable housing for low-income households and those experiencing homelessness; requires occupancy of resulting units to be limited to those earning up to 80% of Area Median Income, with the average AMI of all households in the project being below 60% and at least 50% of all resulting units being set aside for those experiencing homelessness. *Effective immediately.*

**LESS IS MORE**

**Chapter 427 (A5576A Forrest/S1144A Benjamin)**

Ensures that individuals on parole or probation are not re-incarcerated due to minor technical violations such as violating curfew, alcohol or drug use, failing to notify parole officer of change in employment or failure to pay fines or surcharges; such individuals could be re-incarcerated at a judge’s discretion if they commit new misdemeanors or felonies while on parole or probation. *Effective March 1, 2022.*

**PREVENT EXTORTION AND COERCION THROUGH IMMIGRATION THREATS****Chapter 447 (A3412A Solages/S343A Kaplan)**

Expands the definition of coercion in the second degree to include compelling a person to engage or abstain in conduct by instilling a fear that if the demand is not complied with, they will cause deportation hearings to be instituted; similarly expands the definition of larceny by extortion to include compelling a person to turn over property by instilling a fear that if the demand is not complied with, deportation proceedings will be instituted.

*Effective November 8, 2021.*

**CYBER-BULLYING TASK FORCE****Chapter 483 (A2206 Barrett/S623 Kaminsky)**

Creates a temporary task force to explore the effects of cyber-bullying of young people and potential measures to address the effects; task force members will be experts in the fields of child psychology, technology, law enforcement, mental health or social services. *Effective immediately.*

**END CYBER SEXTORTION****Chapter 484 (A324A Zebrowski/S2986A Brouk)**

Expands the crime of coercion in the third degree to include compelling or inducing a person to produce, disseminate, or otherwise display an image depicting nudity of such person or depicting such person engaged in sexual conduct. *Effective December 20, 2021.*

**EXPAND REPORTING OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE DISORDER IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES****Chapter 494 (A540 Rosenthal/S2209 Sepulveda)**

Expands the NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports' annual report on substance abuse disorder treatment programs in correctional facilities to include data on the types of substances abused, available treatments and how many individuals are receiving such treatment. *Effective immediately.*

**CONSIDER BEST INTERESTS OF PETS****Chapter 509 (A5775 Glick/S4248 Skoufis)**

Directs the courts to consider the best interests of a companion animal when awarding the possession of the pet in a divorce proceeding; previously, pets were treated the same as personal property such as cars and furniture.

*Effective immediately.*

**BREAK UTILITY CONTRACTS****Chapter 517 (A4496 De La Rosa/S1557 Parker)**

Permits DV survivors to break utility contracts without penalty if they provide a valid police report, valid order of protection, DIR or affidavit from an advocate, attorney or healthcare provider. *Effective immediately.*

**CRIMINALIZE SALE OF GHOST GUNS AND REQUIRE REGISTRATION FOR SELF-ASSEMBLED FIREARMS****Chapter 520 (A613A Rosenthal/S14A Hoylman)**

Prohibits the possession of ghost guns, which are unserialized guns made with 3D printers or assembled at home from kits purchased online; prohibits the manufacture and sale of untraceable ghost guns and requires gunsmiths to serialize and register firearms, rifles, and shotguns. *Effective April 28, 2022.*

**PROTECT CONFIDENTIALITY OF DV VICTIMS' VOTER REGISTRATION RECORDS**

**Chapter 521 (A465A Rozic/S1555A Myrie)**

Simplifies the process for DV survivors to ensure the confidentiality of their voter registration information by removing the requirement for a court order and allowing DV survivors to self-attest to their status as a victim; a new application must be made every four years. *Effective immediately.*

**EXPAND WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTIONS**

**Chapter 522 (A5144A Benedetto/S4394A Ramos)**

Expands whistleblower protections to former employees and contractors; expands the definition of retaliatory actions to include actions or threats affecting future employment or immigration status; provides that an individual can disclose information if they have a reasonable belief that the employer is engaging in unlawful behavior. *Effective January 28, 2022.*

**REQUIRES VETERINARIANS TO REPORT SUSPECTED ANIMAL CRUELTY**

**Chapter 546 (A5823A Rosenthal/S5023A Gianaris)**

Requires veterinarians to report suspected animal cruelty to police for them to respond and investigate such claims; previously, vets could report such cases but were not required to do so. *Effective May 16, 2022.*

**EXPAND PAID FAMILY LEAVE ACT TO INCLUDE SIBLINGS**

**Chapter 550 (A6098A Galef/S2928A Addabbo)**

Adds "sibling" to the definition of family member for the purpose of obtaining Paid Family Leave. *Effective January 1, 2023.*

**ESTABLISH COMMISSION ON PRISON EDUCATION**

**Chapter 557 (A2530 Barron/S5468 Parker)**

Establishes a commission on prison education to study and develop a plan for improving education in the state prison system. *Effective immediately.*

**AWARD ATTORNEY AND EXPERT WITNESS FEES**

**Chapter 566 (A1899 Dinowitz/S749 Biaggi)**

Allows DHR and the court to award attorney and expert witness fees in all discrimination cases that fall under the purview of the DHR. *Effective February 3, 2022.*

**EMPLOYER NOTICE OF COMPUTER MONITORING**

**Chapter 583 (A430 Rosenthal/S2628 Sanders)**

Requires employers to provide written notice to employees, upon hiring and annually, regarding computer monitoring practices to protect employee privacy while supporting companies' ability to monitor internet activity within their organization. *Effective May 8, 2022.*

**NOTICE OF EXTREME RISK PROTECTION ORDERS AT DISCHARGE FROM MENTAL HEALTH FACILITIES**

**Chapter 586 (A1005A Paulin/S5434A Harckham)**

Requires mental health facilities to provide materials that inform a patient and their guardian about extreme risk protection orders and how to obtain them. *Effective immediately.*

**PROTECTIONS FROM ECONOMIC ABUSE IN CONSUMER CREDIT FAIRNESS ACT****Chapter 593 (A2382 Weinstein/S153 Thomas)**

Protects consumers by minimizing abusive debt collection practices and ameliorating the impacts of economic abuse by DV perpetrators; reduces the statute of limitations on consumer credit actions from six years to three years; requires creditors to mail notices to borrowers informing them of lawsuits and any additional actions, legal resources and how to oppose motions; requires plaintiffs seeking default judgments to provide basic proof of debt, its entitlement to judgment and the timeliness of the lawsuit. **Fully effective on May 8, 2022.**

**ESTABLISH FIREARM VIOLENCE RESEARCH INSTITUTE****Chapter 595 (A7302 Simon/S2981 Persaud)**

Establishes the NYS Firearm Violence Research Institute to collect data regarding firearm violence in NYS and to evaluate potential prevention efforts; new Institute will be positioned within SUNY at the Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government and will retain flexibility to ensure its research can delve into all aspects of gun violence that may become relevant in the future; funds collected through a new income tax donation will support the Institute's research. **Effective February 8, 2022.**

**PROVIDE PREGNANT INCARCERATED WOMEN WITH NEEDED SUPPORTS****Chapter 621 (A616A Rosenthal/S399A Biaggi)**

Permits pregnant incarcerated women to have at least one support person of their choosing to accompany them through the labor and delivery process; requires DOCCS to provide information regarding their right to receive pregnancy counseling services and the right to abortion services, as well as the ability to apply to any nursery program run by the department and the locality. **Effective May 16, 2022.**

**VACATES CONVICTIONS OF TRAFFICKED INDIVIDUALS****Chapter 629 (A459 Gottfried/S674 Ramos)**

Expands protections for victims of human trafficking by vacating convictions for all offenses related to the trafficking, not just prostitution-related offenses; further provides confidentiality for motions to vacate such convictions and removes language that limits motions to vacate convictions to victims who have already sought services or are no longer victims. **Fully effective on January 16, 2022.**

**INCLUDES IDENTITY THEFT IN DEFINITION OF ELDER ABUSE****Chapter 655 (A1994 Cruz/S1560 May)**

Incorporates identity theft into the definition of elder abuse for purposes of support services and programs for seniors; authorizes not-for-profit agencies and law enforcement to incorporate identity theft information in all the support services that protect seniors. **Effective immediately.**

**INFORM HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS OF RESOURCES****Chapter 658 (A3331 Hevesi/S924 Ramos)**

Requires law enforcement and district attorneys to inform human trafficking victims of available social and legal resources; requires local DSS to maintain a list of established providers of social and legal services to victims; requires law enforcement and district attorneys to contact an appropriate provider at the victim's request. **Effective immediately.**

**EXEMPT SEX TRAFFICKING VICTIMS FROM DNA SAMPLE REQUIREMENT**

**Chapter 715 (A118B Paulin/S6185A Lanza)**

Exempts persons convicted of prostitution and victims of sex trafficking from the requirement to provide a DNA sample for inclusion in the state DNA identification database. *Effective immediately.*

**ENACTS THE ‘HATE CRIMES ANALYSIS AND REVIEW ACT’**

**Chapter 722 (A2230A Reyes/S70A Hoylman)**

Requires New York State to collect and report data on the sexual orientation, gender identity and racial or ethnic identity of victims and alleged perpetrators. *Effective March 22, 2022.*

**APPLY FOR ABSENTEE BALLOTS ONLINE**

**Chapter 746 (A6970A Walker/S6482B Myrie)**

Establishes an online system for voters to apply for absentee ballots; requires applications to be available in any language required by the federal Voting Rights Act and that reasonable accommodations be made for those with disabilities. *Effective January 1, 2022.*

**PUBLISH INFORMATION ON FIREARMS USED IN CRIMES**

**Chapter 764 (A7243 Richardson/S1251 Gianaris)**

Requires the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) and the State Police to publish on their websites quarterly reports on firearms, rifles and shotguns used in the commission of crimes in NYS; information will be used to determine whether guns used in NYS were acquired in states with weaker gun laws. *Effective immediately.*

**ESTABLISH RACIAL EQUITY WORKING GROUP**

**Chapter 775 (A5679A Darling/S2987A Parker)**

Declares racism a public health crisis and establishes a working group within NYSDOH to address issues related to racism as a public health crisis; requires the working group develop a report of its findings, with recommendations for the Legislature on a biennial basis. *Effective January 22, 2022.*

**ESTABLISH 9-8-8 SUICIDE PREVENTION AND MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS HOTLINE**

**Chapter 793 (A7177B Gunther/S6194B Brouk)**

Creates a 9-8-8 suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline to provide suicide prevention and crisis intervention services; callers to the new line will be directed to trained National Suicide Prevention Lifeline counselors to ensure a safer, more equitable response to mental health, substance abuse and suicidal crises. *Effective immediately.*

**PROVIDE FREE FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS IN SHELTERS**

**Chapter 794 (A529A Rosenthal/S6572 Hinchey)**

Requires providers of temporary housing assistance, including DV shelters, to provide feminine hygiene products at no cost to clients; includes but is not limited to sanitary napkins, tampons and panty liners. *Effective immediately.*



**RIGHT TO JURY TRIAL**

**Chapter 806 (A4319 Dinowitz/S689 Hoylman)**

Clarifies that anyone charged with any level of misdemeanor in New York City is entitled to a jury trial, as defendants already are in the rest of the state. *Effective July 1, 2022.*

**FOIL REQUESTS FOR JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS**

**Chapter 808 (A5470 Englebright/S6017 Skoufis)**

Requires that when an agency is considering denying access to records under the state’s Freedom of Information Law on the grounds that such disclosure would interfere with a judicial proceeding, the decision of whether to grant access to the records would be made by the judge presiding over the judicial proceeding; clarifies that access to a record cannot be withheld solely because it relates to an investigation or criminal proceeding; also clarifies that reports that identify a victim of sexual violence will be withheld in their entirety to protect the anonymity of these victims. *Effective immediately.*

**YOUTHFUL OFFENDERS IN FAMILY COURT**

**Chapter 813 (A7706 Davila/S7171 Brisport)**

Prevents 16- and 17-year-olds with proceedings for petty offenses in Family Court from being securely detained, placed on probation or placed out of their homes as a disposition of the case. *Effective immediately.*

**2021 HOUSING RELATED BILLS  
APPROVED BY LEGISLATURE AND SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**

**EXPAND ELIGIBILITY FOR HOUSING VOUCHERS**

**Chapter 666 (A8009 Rosenthal/S6573 Kavanagh)**

Expands eligibility for NYC housing vouchers to include families eligible under the family homelessness and eviction protection supplement program in order to move more families into permanent, stable housing. *Effective immediately.*

**IMPLICIT BIAS TRAINING FOR REAL ESTATE BROKERS AND AGENTS**

**Chapter 686 (A4638A Sillitti/S538B Kaplan)**

Requires real estate brokers and agents to receive two hours of implicit bias training as part of their license renewal process; implicit bias is defined in the bill as the “attitudes or stereotypes that affect an individual’s understanding, actions and decisions in an unconscious manner.” *Effective June 21, 2022.*

**ESTABLISH ANTI-DISCRIMINATION IN HOUSING FUND**

**Chapter 687 (A6866 Jean-Pierre/S945B Gaughran)**

Creates the Anti-Discrimination in Housing Fund for prevention of housing discrimination efforts, funded by fines collected under the real property law; funds will be available to the commissioner of DHR for grants to not-for-profit agencies specializing in anti-housing discrimination. *Effective February 21, 2022.*

**CULTURAL COMPETENCY TRAINING FOR REAL ESTATE BROKERS**

**Chapter 688 (A844A Jean-Pierre/S979A Gaughran)**

Requires real estate brokers to receive at least two hours of cultural competency training as part of their licensing and licensing renewal requirements. *Effective April 21, 2022.*

**HOUSING DISCRIMINATION TRAINING FOR REAL ESTATE BROKERS AND AGENTS**

**Chapter 697 (A5359 Cruz/S2132B Skoufis)**

Requires real estate brokers and agents to receive increased training on fair housing and discrimination; directs the Secretary of State to establish the instruction content; requires testing for real estate broker and agent licenses include an understanding of fair housing and discrimination laws and regulations. *Effective July 1, 2022.*

**FUNDING FOR STATEWIDE FAIR HOUSING TESTING EFFORTS**

**Chapter 698 (A5363 Jean-Pierre/S2133A Skoufis)**

Implements a surcharge on the licensing fees for real estate brokers and agents to fund statewide fair housing testing efforts. *Effective immediately.*

**NYS AFFIRMATION TO FURTHER FAIR HOUSING**

**Chapter 690 (A5428A Cymbrowitz/S1353A Kavanagh)**

Requires state agencies and local government offices involved in housing and community development to affirm that they will administer programs and activities that will further fair housing; requires state agencies and local government offices to take meaningful actions to reduce housing discrimination and disparities. *Effective immediately.*

**2021 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED BILLS  
APPROVED BY LEGISLATURE AND VETOED BY GOVERNOR**

**PREVENT PREMATURE SANCTIONS AGAINST PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS STATEWIDE**

**VETO NO. 59 (A3227 Hunter/S668 May)**

Would have directed local DSS statewide to re-engage with public assistance recipients on work activities when there is non-compliance, such as a missed appointment, instead of prematurely sanctioning recipients, as currently occurs in New York City. Governor Hochul vetoed the legislation, saying more time is needed to evaluate the effect of these changes on New York City’s program and federal work participation rates to ensure federal block grant funding received by New York State is not jeopardized.

**CHILD VISITATION AND/OR CONTACT POST-TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS**

**VETO NO. 84 (A6700 Joyner/S6357 Savino)**

Would have allowed courts to permit visits between biological parents and their children who have been adopted, subject to the best interests of the child; would have given the court the discretion to determine the appropriate type of contact for a given family; if the adoptive parents did not agree, would have required the court to hold a hearing to determine whether such order is in the child’s best interest. Governor vetoed bill to preserve the rights of adoptive parents and ensure the process for adoption is not made more difficult.

**2021 DV-RELATED ARTICLE VII MEASURES IN FY'21-'22 NYS BUDGET  
APPROVED BY LEGISLATURE AND SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**

**TWO YEAR EXTENSION OF MANDATORY ARREST LAW**

**Public Protection and General Government Budget Part A Section 17 (Chapter 55)**

Extends mandatory arrest law for two additional years, through September 1, 2023. *Effective immediately.*

**TWO YEAR EXTENSION OF CLOSED CIRCUIT TV TESTIMONY FOR CHILD VICTIMS**

**Public Protection and General Government Budget Part A Section 18 (Chapter 55)**

Extends for two additional years, through September 1, 2023, the ability for children to testify via closed circuit TV, if there is clear and convincing evidence the child will suffer serious mental or emotional harm if required to testify without the use of CCTV. *Effective immediately.*

**TWO YEAR EXTENSION OF MAXIMUM LENGTHS FOR CRIMINAL ORDERS OF PROTECTION**

**Public Protection and General Government Budget Part A Section 19 (Chapter 55)**

Extends for two additional years, through September 1, 2023, the increased maximum length of Orders of Protection (e.g., eight years for a felony conviction; five years for a misdemeanor conviction; two years for other offenses or violations). *Effective immediately.*

**SHIFT SEXUAL ASSAULT PROGRAMMING AND POLICY TO OPDV**

**Public Protection and General Government Budget Part B (Chapter 55)**

Permits the state Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV) to administer federal Enough Is Enough grants; permits the director of OPDV to accept federal grants, gifts and donations as an agent of the state. *Effective immediately.*

**2021 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED BILLS  
PASSED BY THE ASSEMBLY**

**INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR PRE- AND POST-PROPHYLAXIS**

**A807 O'Donnell/S688 Hoylman**

Would require insurance companies that provide coverage for medications to include coverage for the cost of pre- and post-prophylaxis coverage to prevent HIV infection.

**UNLAWFUL DISSEMINATION OF A PERSONAL IMAGE**

**A1121A Buttenschon/S7211 Savino**

Would create a crime of unlawful dissemination or publication of images of crimes being committed against a victim, without the victim's consent; would provide victims and their family members the right to pursue a civil action against perpetrators and to pursue court orders to require websites to remove the images.

**DV TRAINING REQUIREMENT FOR CHILD CUSTODY FORENSIC EVALUATORS**

**A2375B Dinowitz/S6385A Hoylman**

Would require court ordered child custody forensic evaluators to be a licensed psychologist, social worker or psychiatrist, and to receive biennial training on DV developed by NYSCADV.

**PERMITS DV VICTIMS TO PROVIDE ALTERNATE CONTACT INFO FOR HEALTH INSURANCE**

**A2519 Cymbrowitz/S7263 Liu**

Would require health insurers/HMOs to provide DV victims with the option of providing alternative contact information so they can access claims information and benefits in a manner that shields them from abusers.

**NEW YORK STATE COMMUNITY COMMISSION ON REPARATIONS REMEDIES**

**A2619A Barron/S7215 Brisport**

Would establish a community commission to examine the institution of slavery and racial and economic discrimination against African Americans, and to provide recommendations for remedies.

**LICENSED PROFESSIONALS TO REPORT CONDUCT TO STATE ED DEPT**

**A5495 Glick/S4780 Stavisky**

Would require licensed professionals to report any conviction of a crime, professional misconduct, or employment termination to the NYS Department of Education within 30 days and allow the Department to temporarily suspend a professional license if found to be necessary for the public's health, safety or welfare.

**BAN VIRGINITY EXAMS**

**A5517B Solages/S104B Persaud**

Would ban physical examinations for the purposes of determining virginity in NYS.

**CHILD-SENSITIVE ARREST POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

**A6283 Vanel/S4053 Bailey**

Would direct the State Police to develop and institute child-sensitive arrest policies and procedures for instances where police are arresting individuals who are parents/guardians of a child to ensure the child's well-being.

**REMOVE PENETRATION REQUIREMENT FROM RAPE STATUTE**

**A6319 Cruz/S1075 Hoylman**

Would remove the penetration requirement from rape statutes and redefine rape to include oral and anal sexual conduct.

**WEBSITES PROVIDING INMATE INFORMATION**

**A7247 Abinanti/S4812 Reichlin-Melnick**

Would require websites that provide inmate information be searchable by the inmate's name, former name or alias.

**EXPAND EVIDENCE TO SHOW IDENTITY THEFT**

**A7487 Fall/No Same As**

Would remove requirement for victims of identity theft to report such crime to law enforcement in order for collection activities against them to be suspended; a signed federal trade commission identity theft victim's

report, a self-attestation that the victim was coerced to authorize the use of their name or personal information for incurring the debt, or criminal or family court documents supporting the statement of identity theft would be permitted.

**VICTIM COMPENSATION FOR UNLAWFUL SURVEILLANCE CRIMES**

**A7489 Wallace/No Same As**

Would permit victims of the crime of unlawful dissemination or publication of an intimate image crimes to obtain victim compensation.

**PERMIT ADJOURNMENTS IN CONTEMPLATION OF DISMISSAL IN FAMILY COURT**

**A7683 Lavine/No Same As**

Would permit family courts to authorize adjournments in contemplation of dismissal both before or upon a finding that a family offense has occurred; would require the consent of both the respondent and petitioner, as well as the approval of family court and an attorney for the child, if one is appointed.

**FIREARMS SEARCH AND SEIZURE WITH ORDER OF PROTECTION**

**A7957 Richardson/No Same As**

Would align the Domestic Relations Law with recent changes to the Criminal Procedures Law and Family Court Act which authorize courts to issue firearms search and seizure orders in connection with Orders of Protection.

**COMPREHENSIVE INCARCERATION DISCHARGE PLAN FOR SUCCESSFUL RE-ENTRY**

**A8022 Davila/S7229 Bailey**

Would require DOCCS to prepare a comprehensive discharge plan for individuals upon release or discharge from state correctional facilities to ensure successful re-entry into communities.

**2021 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED BILLS  
PASSED BY THE SENATE**

**EXTEND STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION**

**A233A Rosenthal/S849A Gounardes**

Would extend the statute of limitations for harassment in the workplace to six years.

**PREVENT ABUSERS FROM USING TECH TO HARASS VICTIMS**

**A544A Braunstein/S1477A Krueger**

Would expand the definition of the offense of aggravated harassment in the second degree to include contacts via text, private message, e-mail or other electronic communication.

**INDIVIDUALS ON PROBATION INCAPABLE OF CONSENT**

**A607 Rosenthal/S403 Biaggi**

Would protect individuals from sexual assault by their probation officer by deeming individuals who are on probation cannot consent to sexual conduct with a supervising probation officer.

**REIMBURSEMENT FOR TELEHEALTH SERVICES**

**A645A Rosenthal/S2998A Harckham**

Would allow certified peer recovery advocates and credentialed family peer advocates to be eligible for reimbursement by insurance, including services available via telehealth.

**ADULT SURVIVORS ACT**

**A648 Rosenthal/S66 Hoylman**

Would create a one-year window to allow adult survivors of sexual assault to pursue civil actions against their abusers.

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRAINING FOR HOTEL STAFF**

**A887A Paulin/S244A Mayer**

Would require lodging facilities such as hotels and motels to require all employees who are likely to come into contact with guests to undergo training on human trafficking; the training program would be established or approved by DCJS and OTDA with assistance from the NYS interagency task force on human trafficking.

**ANTI-BIAS TRAINING FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS**

**A1401 Reyes/S3077 Salazar**

Would require medical students, residents and physician assistants in NYS to receive NYSDOH-approved training on anti-bias awareness and elimination practices for both implicit and explicit practices.

**LGBT YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT SUICIDE PREVENTION TASK FORCE**

**A1548 Reyes/S3083 Salazar**

Would establish an LGBT youth and young adult suicide prevention task force to study how to improve mental health and suicide prevention for New York's LGBT youth up to age 24.

**BLACK YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION TASK FORCE**

**A1716 Jean-Pierre/S3408 Brouk**

Would establish a Black youth suicide prevention task force to study how to improve mental health and suicide prevention for Black New York residents aged 5-18.

**ELDER ABUSE SHELTER AFTERCARE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM**

**A1872 Dinowitz/S1065 Biaggi**

Would create the nation's first temporary elder abuse shelter in New York City to provide individuals that have experienced elder abuse a safe, comfortable space to regain their dignity, re-assert control, and develop the resilience they need to return to the community.

**NEW YORK STATE PHOENIX ACT**

**A1966A Cruz/S3020A Parker**

Would extend the statute of limitations for felony family offenses to 10 years and misdemeanor family offenses to five years; also would require the State Police and OPDV to develop, maintain and distribute policies and procedures regarding the investigation and intervention of family offenses to new and veteran police officers.

**WORKPLACE SEXUAL HARASSMENT HOTLINE**

**A2035A Niou/S812A Biaggi**

Would establish a toll-free, confidential hotline for reporting workplace sexual harassment which would be staffed by pro bono attorneys.

**BAN "NO-REHIRE" CLAUSES IN SETTLEMENT CONTRACTS**

**A2079 Cruz/S766 Gounardes**

Would prohibit "no rehire" clauses in settlement agreements for employees or independent contractors that have filed a claim against their employers, and would render settlement contracts unenforceable if they contain "no rehire" clauses.

**RAISES AGE FOR YOUTH TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR HOMELESS SHELTER**

**A2263 Fernandez/S813 Biaggi**

Would increase the age at which homeless youth can continue to receive shelter services at an independent living program from 21 to 24, which is already permitted in NYC shelters.

**ESTABLISH PEEPING TOM CRIME WITHOUT USE OF IMAGING DEVICE**

**A2386 Fahy/S1053 Mayer**

Would create the crime of voyeurism when an individual intentionally views a person dressing or undressing or view a person's sexual or other intimate parts, without the use of an imaging device; currently, an individual can only be charged with a crime if an imaging device is used.

**ENSURES STATE EMPLOYEES CAN BE SUED FOR HARASSMENT**

**A2483B Niou/S3395A Gounardes**

Would clarify that the State's 2019 anti-harassment regulations apply to both public and private employees.

**EXPAND RIGHT TO COUNSEL TO INDIGENT KINSHIP CAREGIVERS**

**A2581 Hevesi/S6074 Salazar**

Would expand the right to assistance of counsel to indigent kinship caregivers in custody and guardianship proceedings.

**NEW YORK STATE TRANSPARENCY IN SUPPLY CHAINS ACT**

**A3328 Hevesi/S748 Biaggi**

Would require large businesses in NYS to disclose their efforts to eradicate human trafficking by requiring them to conduct an audit of human trafficking within their supply chains and to ensure that information is available to the public.

**PROSECUTOR ACCESS TO ORDERS OF PROTECTION**

**A3422 Rosenthal/S404 Biaggi**

Would allow prosecutors to have access to Orders of Protection issued in association with sealed prior DV cases if the offender commits a new DV offense, so they can be charged with criminal contempt if they violated a past Order of Protection.

**ASSIST DV SURVIVORS WITH GETTING HOUSING**

**A3534 Stirpe/S1681 Bailey**

Would require statewide housing authorities, when reviewing applicants, to grant DV survivors the same preference granted to other prioritized populations.

**ESTABLISH VISITING PROGRAM IN STATE, LOCAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES**

**A4250A Weprin/S2841A Sepulveda**

Would require state and local correctional facilities to create visiting programs to give incarcerated individuals the opportunity to meet with relatives, children, friends, clergy, etc.; also would require such programs to have reasonable visiting hour durations, as well as allow for video conference to supplement in-person visits.

**EXPAND INFORMATION PROVIDED TO PROSPECTIVE MATERNITY PATIENTS**

**A4598A Sillitti/S534A Kaplan**

Would expand the information hospitals and birth centers are required to provide to prospective maternity patients to include information on safety drills, quality improvement initiatives, emergency transfer policies, whether a facility has a written community needs assessment plan to reduce racial disparities and address community needs, whether an autopsy is available upon request for stillbirth, and if bereavement services are offered.

**ANNUAL FAIR HOUSING TESTING**

**A4665 Sillitti/S112 Kaplan**

Would require the NYS Attorney General to conduct an annual covert housing investigation to compare practices with the requirements of fair housing laws and an analysis of any publicly available data to identify discriminatory fair housing practices.

**IDENTIFICATION CARD PROGRAM**

**A4905 Weprin/S1149 Benjamin**

Would require DOCCS to provide an ID card to incarcerated individuals upon release from custody at no charge.

**24-HOUR DETENTION AND DETAINED PERSONS REGISTRY**

**A5264C Richardson/S1184A Gianaris**

Would ensure an individual's pre-arraignment detention does not exceed 24 hours without individualized explanations for why such a delay in release was unavoidable and actually necessary; would require NYC to create a detained persons registry for authorized users (i.e., defender organizations contracted with NYC to represent criminal defendants) to be able to locate individuals.

**PROHIBIT CONSIDERATION OF DV STATUS IN CIVIL DAMAGE AWARDS**

**A5376A Quart/S1068A Biaggi**

When assessing damages in civil cases, would prohibit the court from basing determinations on race, creed, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, sex, familial status, marital status or status as a victim of DV.



**ENFORCEMENT OF FAIR HOUSING**

**A5480 Solages/S715 Thomas**

Would authorize DHR to award damages to aggrieved parties in cases of housing discrimination and increase penalties for violations of fair housing; would allow courts, in actions filed by the Attorney General, to impose penalties on individuals who violate fair housing laws.

**PROHIBIT SEXUAL HARASSMENT VICTIMS FROM PAYING DAMAGES FOR DISCLOSURE**

**A5580 Rozic/S738 Biaggi**

Would prohibit settlement agreements involving sexual harassment from including requirements a victim forfeit compensation for violating a nondisclosure agreement or requiring the victim to sign a statement stating they were not subject to discrimination or retaliation to receive compensation.

**PROVIDE NOTICE OF BASIC RIGHTS**

**A5817 Hunter/S3178 Sanders**

Would require local DSS to post a notice of public assistance recipients' basic rights, including rights to a fair hearing, emergency assistance, childcare, free language services, etc.

**STATEWIDE CAMPAIGN ON DIVERSITY**

**A5913 Lavine/S123 Kaplan**

Would direct DHR to develop and implement a statewide campaign to increase acceptance, inclusion, tolerance and understanding of diversity to respond to the recent increase in crimes of hate.

**MAKE IT EASIER FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS TO CANCEL PHONE, CABLE CONTRACTS**

**A6207A Rosenthal/S7157 Parker**

Would simplify the process for DV victims to cancel telephone and cable family plan contracts by allowing them to provide a self-attestation in writing of their eligibility as a victim of domestic violence.

**DV GOOD CAUSE EXEMPTION FOR KINSHIP CAREGIVER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

**A6266 Hevesi/S2586 Brisport**

Would encourage more kinship caregivers to receive TANF non-parent grants by prohibiting local DSS from enforcing child support collection enforcement actions when good cause exemptions are claimed; good cause exemptions include DV and/or the emotional harm to children and caregivers that could occur if support is pursued.

**TASK FORCE TO STUDY NEEDS OF MOTHERS**

**A6567A Niou/S5488A Biaggi**

Would establish an inter-agency task force to study how to provide payments to mothers and other caregivers and address the intersecting policy areas that disproportionately impact women, including childcare, paid family leave, family supportive policies, etc.

**EXEMPT DIRECT CASH ASSISTANCE FOR HOMELESS YOUTH TO BE CONSIDERED AS INCOME**

**A6709B Rosenthal/S5759B Brisport**

Would exempt direct cash assistance provided to run-away and homeless youth from being considered as income for the purposes of determining eligibility for public assistance benefits.

**PROHIBIT PUBLIC SERVANTS FROM DISSEMINATING CRIME VICTIM IMAGES**

**A6783 Cusick/S7180 Savino**

Would create the crime of dissemination of an image of a crime victim when a public servant intentionally broadcasts or publishes images of a crime victim that were obtained in their official duties; the crime would be a class A misdemeanor.

**ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION TRAINING**

**A7312A Frontus/S5196B Sanders**

Would direct the NYS Office for the Aging, in collaboration with OCFS, to develop an elder abuse awareness and prevention training program for senior services providers in the detection and reporting of elder abuse; supplemental refresher training would be required at least once every three years; senior centers also would be required to hold at least two educational sessions each year for guests and members of the senior center to receive counseling regarding elder abuse prevention and awareness.

**EXPAND RESOURCE EXEMPTIONS FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY**

**A7672 Hevesi/S5574 Persaud**

Exempts certain resources (e.g., savings accounts, primary residence, one automobile, burial plots and funder agreements, retirement accounts and 529 college savings plans) when determining eligibility to receive public assistance.

**CONFIDENTIALITY OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE VICTIMS' VOTER REGISTRATION RECORDS**

**A7748 Thiele/S3855 Kennedy**

Would permit sexual violence victims to petition the Supreme Court to keep their voter registration records confidential; accommodation is already available for victims of DV.

**ABILITY TO FILE OBJECTIONS ELECTRONICALLY IN CHILD SUPPORT CASES**

**A7795 Wallace/S6824 Persaud**

Would permit parties in civil child support proceedings to electronically file objections to determinations by support magistrates, where orders are transmitted electronically to the parties; parties would have up to 35 days from when the order was transmitted to file an objection.

**VICTIMS OF REVENGE PORN TO BE INCLUDED IN ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM**

**A7845 Walker/S2789 Sepulveda**

Would expand the definition of a victim of a sexual offense to include victims of revenge porn, enabling such victims to be included in the State Address Confidentiality Program

**MODERNIZE NYS LAWS ON COMPUTER CRIMES**

**A7983 Abbate/S5186 Sanders**

Would expand and strengthen NYS laws regarding computer tampering; would create a crime of unlawful computer access assistance, and unauthorized use of internet domain name or profile, unlawful introduction of a computer contaminant; would provide an avenue for victims to seek civil remedies.

**EXTEND STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR DISCRIMINATION CLAIMS****A8053 Rozic/S566A Hoylman**

Would extend the statute of limitations for filing discrimination claims to DHR from one year to three years.

**COURT-ORDERED WEAPONS SEARCH AND SEIZURE WHEN ORDER OF PROTECTION IS ISSUED****A8102 Clark/S6363 Mayer**

Upon the issuance of an Order of Protection, would require the court to order the search and seizure of firearms, rifles, and shotguns when a defendant willfully refuses to surrender them; currently, the court has the discretion to order a search and seizure, but is not required to do so.

**ASK PARTIES TO ORDER OF PROTECTION ABOUT EXISTENCE, LOCATION OF WEAPONS****A8105 Clark/S6443 Mayer**

Would require the court to ask the petitioner and respondent about the existence and location of any firearm owned or possessed by the respondent whenever an Order of Protection is issued.

**ELIMINATE COLLECTION OF INCARCERATION FEES****A8215 Meeks/S5981 Myrie**

Would repeal provisions in NYS law that allow DOCCS to collect incarceration fees from compensation paid to incarcerated people for work performed while incarcerated to offset the cost of incarceration.

**PROHIBITS VICTIM INTOXICATION AS A DEFENSE IN SEX CRIMES****S452A Biaggi/No Same As**

Would prohibit the use of intoxication of a victim as a defense to a criminal charge for sex crimes; would create an affirmative defense for such criminal charges.

**NEW YORK'S DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENSION PROGRAM HARDSHIP EXEMPTION****S936 Krueger/No Same As**

Would provide for a hardship exemption from the NYS Driver's license suspension program for those who receive public assistance or whose income does not exceed 250% of the poverty level.

**NO CONSIDERATION OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY IN CUSTODY DECISIONS****S996 Hoylman/No Same As**

Would prevent courts from considering a party's sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression when determining the best interests of a child in child custody proceedings; would prohibit the court from preventing a parent's gender reassignment surgery during custody proceedings.

**ENSURE STATE CONTRACT BIDDERS ARE NOT ENGAGING IN HUMAN TRAFFICKING****S1216 Benjamin/No Same As**

Would require bidders for state procurement contracts to affirm under penalty of perjury that the goods, work or services will be supplied or performed without doing business with entities engaging in human trafficking.

**ASSESS FAIR HOUSING OBLIGATIONS OF REAL ESTATE AGENTS**

**S2525A Kavanagh/No Same As**

Would require the Secretary of State to collect demographic information from real estate brokers and agents regarding services provided to clients in order to ensure they are meeting their fair housing obligations.

**LATINA SUICIDE PREVENTION TASK FORCE**

**S2877 Ramos/No Same As**

Would establish a Latina suicide prevention task force to study and provide recommendations on how to improve mental health and suicide prevention for Latina New Yorkers.

**REMOVE REFERENCE TO ILLEGAL CONDUCT FROM STATUTORY DEFINITION OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION**

**S4609 Hoylman/No Same As**

Would amend the definition of sexual orientation in Executive Law by removing the unnecessary disclaimer that the definition does not include illegal conduct; this conflation of homosexuality with criminality is rooted in antiquated laws that criminalized consensual sexual acts between adults.

**RACIAL EQUITY, SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND IMPLICIT BIAS TRAINING IN THE WORKPLACE**

**S5055A Kennedy/No Same As**

Would direct the NYS Department of Labor and DHR to create a model racial equity, social justice, and implicit bias training program that would be made available to employers upon request.

**TRANSGENDER AND NON-BINARY PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM**

**S5938 Parker/No Same As**

Would direct the NYS Office of Mental Health to establish a regional or county-based peer support services program to provide peer counseling and services for transgender and non-binary individuals; services would include alcohol and substance abuse counseling, family support services, DV, mental health and physical health.

**OPDV STUDY ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY**

**S5940 Parker/No Same As**

Would direct OPDV to conduct a study on DV in the transgender community with a focus on DV against Black transgender women; the study is intended to examine, evaluate and make recommendations concerning the prevalence, causes, effects, risks and costs of DV on the transgender community and find ways to reduce DV in the transgender community.

**PROVIDE UNPAID SICK LEAVE FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

**S6708 Parker/No Same As**

Would require employers to provide up to 10 additional days of unpaid sick leave for absences due to DV, family offenses, sexual offenses, stalking or human trafficking, at the request of the employee.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT COOPERATION WITH OVS ON COMPENSATION CLAIMS**

**S7011 Sepulveda/No Same As**

Would clarify that law enforcement agencies must work with the NYS Office of Victim Services (OVS) to investigate whether a crime has been committed, for the purposes of approving compensation claims; would also

clarify that if two or more agencies provide conflicting information, OVS will consider the totality of the circumstances in determining eligibility for compensation.