



Legislation Text

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Int. No. 1717

By Council Members Ampry-Samuel, Levin, Chin, Gibson, Ayala, Cornegy, Lander, Brannan, Reynoso, Adams, D. Diaz and Rosenthal

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to information regarding demographic information of parents and children at each step in child welfare system and a plan to address racial and income disparities

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 21-919 to read as follows:

§ 21-919 Demographic reporting and plan to address disparities. a. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

Demographic information. The term “demographic information” means race or ethnicity, gender, income level, and any other category ACS deems relevant.

Step in the child welfare system. The term “step in child welfare system” includes, but is not limited to, when a report is accepted by the state central register and triggers an investigation, when ACS assigns a case to a child protective specialist, when an ACS investigation results in a case being determined indicated, when an ACS investigation results in a case being unfounded, when a child is removed from a home prior to a court hearing, when ACS requires preventive services in a family, and any other instance which ACS deems relevant.

b. Beginning July 1, 2020, and annually on July 1 thereafter, ACS shall submit to the mayor and speaker of the council and post on its website information regarding demographic information of parents and children at every step in the child welfare system. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to:

1. The total number of parents at each step in the child welfare system, disaggregated by race or

ethnicity, gender, income level, and any other category ACS deems relevant; and

2. The total number of children at each step in the child welfare system, disaggregated by race or ethnicity, gender, income level, and any other category ACS deems relevant.

c. Plan to address disparities. Not later than January 1, 2021, ACS shall create a plan to address any disparate outcomes identified based on demographic information reported pursuant to subdivision b of this section and shall submit to the mayor and the speaker of the council such plan.

d. No later than January 1, 2022, and no later than July 1 every two years thereafter, ACS shall report to the mayor and the speaker of the council on efforts it has undertaken to implement the plan created pursuant to subdivision c of this section. Such reports shall be made publicly available on ACS's website.

e. No information that is otherwise required to be collected and reported pursuant to this section shall be collected and reported in a manner that would violate any applicable provision of federal, state or local law relating to the privacy of information or that would interfere with law enforcement investigations or otherwise conflict with the interests of law enforcement.

§ 2. This local law takes effect immediately.

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