



Legislation Text

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A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring the office to end domestic and gender-based violence to create an online services portal and guide

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Subchapter 8 of chapter 1 of title 3 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new section 3-185 to read as follows:

§ 3-185 Online services portal and guide. a. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

Designated citywide languages. The term “designated citywide languages” means the top six limited English proficiency languages spoken by the population of New York city as determined by the department of city planning and the office of the language services coordinator, based on United States census data; and the top four limited English proficiency languages spoken by the population served or likely to be served by the agencies of the city of New York as determined by the office of the language services coordinator, based on language access data collected by the department of education, excluding the languages designated based on United States census data.

Relevant organization. The term “relevant organization” means an organization that provides services to a survivor, which include, but are not limited to, child, education, employment, health, housing, immigration, income, legal and transportation services.

Survivor. The term “survivor” means an individual who has experienced or reported domestic, gender-

based or intimate partner violence.

b. 1. Within 180 days of the effective date of the local law that added this section, the office, in consultation with relevant agencies and relevant organizations, shall create and maintain on the office's website a publicly accessible online portal of culturally appropriate services for survivors provided by all relevant agencies and relevant organizations in the city. The online portal shall organize such services by service category, which shall include, but not be limited to, child, education, employment, health, housing, immigration, income, legal and transportation services. Information about the services within each such service category shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(a) The name, address, contact information and website of the relevant agency or relevant organization that provides such service;

(b) The specific population of survivors, if any, that such agency or organization serves;

(c) The languages in which such service is provided by such agency or organization;

(d) Whether such agency or organization provides such service in-person or remotely;

(e) Whether such agency or organization and such service is accessible to persons with disabilities, including, but not limited to, providing services in American Sign Language and complying with part 36 of title 28 of the code of federal regulations implementing the Americans with disabilities act of 1990;

(f) How survivors may access such service from such agency or organization;

(g) Any eligibility requirements of such service, including, but not limited to, citizenship status; and

(h) Any additional information that the office deems relevant.

2. The office, in consultation with the mayor's office of information privacy, shall ensure the online portal as required by paragraph 1 of this subdivision is secure to protect the privacy of survivors who access and utilize such portal to obtain information about and apply for services.

c. Within 180 days of the effective date of the local law that added this section, the office, in consultation with relevant agencies and relevant organizations, shall create and publish on its website a

culturally appropriate guide written in plain English of services listed on the portal as required by paragraph 1 of subdivision b of this section, organized by service category. The office, in consultation with relevant agencies, including but not limited to, the mayor's office for people with disabilities, shall translate such guide in the designated citywide languages and in Braille, and distribute it to survivors, relevant agencies and relevant organizations. The office shall publish on its website, and in any hard copy of such guide, information about how such organizations may update the office about any changes in such services.

d. Beginning 180 days after the effective date of the local law that added this section, and continuing thereafter, the office, in consultation with relevant agencies and relevant organizations, shall conduct culturally appropriate outreach to survivors on the online portal as required by paragraph 1 of subdivision b of this section and the written guide as required by subdivision c of this section in the designated citywide languages and in Braille.

§ 2. This local law takes effect immediately.

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