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May 5, 2021

Hon. Andrew Joyce, Chairman
Legislative Clerk's Office
112 State St., Room 710
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Chairman Joyce,

The Department of Social Services respectfully requests legislative approval for the following:

Via Resolution No. 341, Adopted 10/13/2020 authorization was granted to renew agreements with two providers of home establishment furnishing (Bass Furniture and City Discount Furniture) in the amount of $200,000. As the Albany County Department of Social Services (DSS) is always looking for additional vendors we added two more providers via resolution 21 Adopted 2/8/21. We are now requesting to add Mattress And Rug Outlet to the eligible list for Albany County Department of Social Services clients.

Mattress and Rug Outlet would supply strictly new home establishment items. The potential of having an five providers to choose from will benefit DSS clients to better ensure adequate furnishings are available. No additional funding is attached to this requested.

Local Social Services districts are required to provide for the purchase of necessary and essential furniture, furnishings, equipment and supplies required for the establishment of a home for persons in need of public assistance when provision of such cannot otherwise be made. The rule applies when an eligible household or member of such is relocating to permanent housing from an institution, residential program, or other temporary living situation or when an individual or family must be re-housed in unfurnished housing due to health and safety concerns involving their current accommodations.

Sincerely,

Michele G. McClave
Commissioner

cc: Dennis A. Feeney, Majority Leader
        Frank A. Mauriello, Minority Leader
        Rebekah Kennedy, Majority Counsel
        Minority Counsel