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August 4, 2020

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:

Authorization is requested to renew agreements with Albany County Department of Social Services (DSS) approved providers of moving and storage services, for eligible Temporary Assistance recipients, when relocation and/or storage of household belongings are necessary.

Department procedures require recipients to contact both providers to obtain the lowest quote for their moving and/or storage services. DSS is also required to issue an allowance for storage of furniture and personal belongings when it is essential for circumstances such as relocation, eviction or temporary shelter, so long as eligibility for public assistance continues and the circumstances necessitating the storage continue to exist.

DSS contracts with all willing and authorized providers, thus an RFP is not required. In order to be a qualified bidder for moving services, the firm must possess a certificate as a common carrier of household goods by motor vehicle, issued by the New York State Department of Transportation.

Sincerely,

Michele G. McClave
Commissioner

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