Introduced by Sen. HOYLMAN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to directing the division of human rights to promulgate a statement regarding housing discrimination that shall be appended to any form of housing assistance

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 295-a to read as follows:

§ 295-a. Additional powers and duties of the division. In addition to the powers and duties otherwise provided by this article, the division shall:

Create and promulgate a statement that shall be appended to any form of housing assistance administered by any state or municipal agency including, but not limited to, the section eight housing choice voucher program, or any other form of housing assistance, payment, or credit regardless of whether or not such assistance or credit is paid or attributed directly to a landlord. Such statement shall, at a minimum, include:

1. examples of different forms of lawful source of income;
2. examples of phrases that may indicate discrimination based on lawful source of income in violation of section two hundred ninety-six of this article;
3. a statement that it is illegal for landlords, brokers and other housing agents to refuse to accept rental assistance for payment of rent or a security deposit in buildings with six or more units;
4. a statement that it is illegal for landlords, brokers and other housing agents to request additional payments for rent, a security deposit or broker's fee because an individual receives rental assistance;

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.
5. a statement that it is illegal for landlords, brokers and other housing agents to publish any type of advertisement that indicates a refusal to accept rental assistance;

6. a statement that it is illegal for landlords to refuse or delay making repairs to an individual's unit because such individual pays rent with rental assistance;

7. a statement that an individual has the right to be free from discriminatory, harassing or threatening behavior or comments based on such individual's receipt of or application for rental assistance;

8. contact information, including phone numbers, for the appropriate agencies and departments at which to make a complaint if the voucher recipient feels that he or she is a victim of source of income discrimination; and

9. any other information deemed appropriate by the commissioner.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective date.