

Regulatory Impact Statement

1) **Statutory Authority:**

Section 20(3)(d) of the Social Services Law (SSL) authorizes the Commissioner of the Office of Children and Family Services (Office) to establish rules, regulations, and policies to carry out the Office's powers and duties under the SSL.

Section 34(3)(f) of SSL authorizes the Commissioner of the Office to establish regulations for the administration of public assistance and care within the State.

Section 410(1) of the SSL authorizes a social services official of a county, city, or town to provide day care for children at public expense and authorizes the Office to establish criteria for when such day care is to be provided.

Section 410-w(9) of the SSL requires a social services district to use funds allocated to it from the child care block grant to provide child care assistance to eligible parents and caretaker recipients when necessary to enable them to sleep because they work non-traditional hours and have a child who is under the age of 6 and not in school for a full school day. The authorization for child care assistance shall be sufficient to allow the parent to obtain up to eight hours of sleep, as needed.

2) **Legislative Objectives:**

To provide child care to eligible parents and caretaker recipients in families with a child under the age of 6 not in school for a full school day, and who work non-traditional hours, when necessary to enable them to get up to eight hours of sleep.

3) **Needs and Benefits:**

These changes are necessary to implement the amendment to the social services law, in relation to providing child care to eligible parents and caretaker recipients in families with a child under the age of 6 not in school for a full day, and who work non-traditional hours, when necessary to enable them to get up to eight hours of sleep, as needed. The proposed

changes provide a meaningful benefit to eligible families, as sleep subsidy was previously a district option but is now required for families that meet the criteria.

4) Costs:

The costs associated with the proposed changes in the child care regulations are required under state law and will be allowable expenditures under the child care block grant.

5) Local Government Mandates:

Local social services districts will be responsible for modification of their Child and Family Services Plan and determining eligibility for the required subsidy.

6) Paperwork:

There will be minor adjustments to the eligibility and authorization paperwork associated with implementing the requirements.

7) Duplication:

The new regulations do not duplicate state or federal requirements.

8) Alternatives:

There are no alternatives. The regulations are necessary to implement statute.

9) Federal Standards:

This rule is consistent with applicable federal requirements.

10) Compliance Schedule:

The proposed regulations will become effective upon filing.