



**ALLIANCE OF NEW YORK STATE YMCAs
YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT
Legislative Bill**

Bill # 7

Referred to Committee:
1

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Action on the Bill

Assembly

Senate

___ ☐ Passed

___ ☐ Passed

___ ☐ Defeated

___ ☐ Defeated

AN ACT TO: Refurbish abandoned properties and aid in opioid treatment

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

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bill is to use at least four million dollars from money collected in drug raids and other asset forfeiture to refurbish foreclosed buildings and properties. These properties shall be given to treatment centers that specialize in treating opioid overdose, and other buildings will be put on the market for potential buyers and renovators.

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:

Section 1:

Zombie Properties: An abandoned property or building that was forgotten or abused by its owner, without any care given.

Opioid: Possessing some properties and characteristics of opiate narcotics but not derived from opium.

Opiate: Something that induces rest, inaction, and quiets uneasiness.

Section 2:

a) The foreclosed buildings in more densely populated areas shall be turned into medical treatment centers for people who have suffered from overdose or are living with addiction.

b) The ideal concept is that the sale of zombie properties in less densely populated areas is expedited, so that a tax break is given to willing buyers, who will take care of the property.

c) The buyer shall be exempt from New York State property tax for ten years, and then their tax situation will be reviewed by the town assessor.

d) The estimated cost will be about 3.85 million dollars total for eleven centers. There shall be one center per region. The estimated cost is three hundred thousand dollars.

e) The funding for this will come directly from the first 3.85 million that is in the New York State asset forfeiture fund. As of January first, twenty eighteen.

JUSTIFICATION:

Recently, the opioid and zombie property epidemics have been heightening at an alarming rate. According to Realtytrac, New York has the second highest market in the country with the most zombie foreclosures, with 3,352 as of 2016. Their research shows that metropolitans, like New York State have the highest number of zombie properties. The New York State Health Department, as of May, 2017, published statistics on death rates from opioid overdose. The results are very alarming, from 2013-2015, there were 1,423,124.9 million deaths involving all opioid overdoses in New York State. The regions with the highest number of deaths are the New York City, Long Island, and Western New York areas.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

This will have a minimal impact on the New York State Budget.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

The effective date will be January 1, 2018.