

3033

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

January 28, 2013

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

AN ACT to amend the penal law and the criminal procedure law, in relation to criminalizing acting as a runner or soliciting or employing a runner to procure patients or clients

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

- 1     Section 1. Section 176.00 of the penal law is amended by adding four  
2     new subdivisions 6, 7, 8 and 9 to read as follows:
- 3     6. "PROVIDER" MEANS AN ATTORNEY, A HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL, AN OWNER  
4     OR OPERATOR OF A HEALTH CARE PRACTICE OR FACILITY, ANY PERSON WHO  
5     CREATES THE IMPRESSION THAT HE OR SHE, OR HIS OR HER PRACTICE CAN  
6     PROVIDE LEGAL OR HEALTH CARE SERVICES, ANY PERSON EMPLOYED OR ACTING ON  
7     BEHALF OF ANY SUCH PERSON, OR ANY PERSON PROVIDING MANAGEMENT OR  
8     CONSULTING SERVICES TO ANY SUCH PERSON.
- 9     7. "PUBLIC MEDIA" MEANS TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES, PROFESSIONAL DIRECTO-  
10    RIES, NEWSPAPERS AND OTHER PERIODICALS, RADIO AND TELEVISION, BILL-  
11    BOARDS, AND MAILED OR ELECTRONICALLY TRANSMITTED WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS  
12    THAT DO NOT INVOLVE DIRECT CONTACT WITH A SPECIFIC PROSPECTIVE CLIENT,  
13    PATIENT, OR CUSTOMER.
- 14    8. "RUNNER" MEANS A PERSON WHO, FOR A PECUNIARY BENEFIT, PROCURES OR  
15    ATTEMPTS TO PROCURE A CLIENT, PATIENT OR CUSTOMER AT THE DIRECTION OF,  
16    REQUEST OF OR IN COOPERATION WITH A PROVIDER WHOSE PURPOSE IS TO SEEK TO  
17    OBTAIN BENEFITS UNDER A CONTRACT OF INSURANCE OR ASSERT A CLAIM AGAINST  
18    AN INSURED OR AN INSURANCE CARRIER FOR PROVIDING SERVICES TO THE CLIENT,  
19    PATIENT OR CUSTOMER, OR TO OBTAIN BENEFITS UNDER OR ASSERT A CLAIM  
20    AGAINST A STATE OR FEDERAL HEALTH CARE BENEFITS PROGRAM OR PRESCRIPTION  
21    DRUG ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. "RUNNER" SHALL NOT INCLUDE (A) A PERSON WHO  
22    PROCURES OR ATTEMPTS TO PROCURE CLIENTS, PATIENTS OR CUSTOMERS FOR A  
23    PROVIDER THROUGH PUBLIC MEDIA; (B) A PERSON WHO REFERS CLIENTS, PATIENTS  
24    OR CUSTOMERS AS OTHERWISE AUTHORIZED BY LAW; OR (C) A PERSON WHO, AS AN

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

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AGENT, BROKER OR EMPLOYEE OF A HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION AS DEFINED IN SECTION FORTY-FOUR HUNDRED ONE OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH LAW, SEEKS TO SELL HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION COVERAGE OR HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE TO AN INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP.

9. "PECUNIARY BENEFIT" MEANS GOODS, MONEY, PROPERTY, SERVICES OR ANYTHING OF VALUE, OR AN AGREEMENT TO CONFER OR RECEIVE ANY SUCH GOODS, MONEY, PROPERTY, SERVICES, OR THING OF VALUE.

S 2. The penal law is amended by adding three new sections 176.75, 176.80 and 176.85 to read as follows:

S 176.75 UNLAWFUL PROCUREMENT OF CLIENTS, PATIENTS OR CUSTOMERS IN THE THIRD DEGREE.

A PERSON IS GUILTY OF UNLAWFUL PROCUREMENT OF CLIENTS, PATIENTS OR CUSTOMERS IN THE THIRD DEGREE WHEN HE OR SHE KNOWINGLY:

1. ACTS AS A RUNNER ON ONE OR MORE OCCASIONS; OR

2. USES, SOLICITS, DIRECTS, HIRES OR EMPLOYS ANOTHER PERSON TO ACT AS A RUNNER ON ONE OR MORE OCCASIONS.

UNLAWFUL PROCUREMENT OF CLIENTS, PATIENTS OR CUSTOMERS IN THE THIRD DEGREE IS A CLASS A MISDEMEANOR.

S 176.80 UNLAWFUL PROCUREMENT OF CLIENTS, PATIENTS OR CUSTOMERS IN THE SECOND DEGREE.

A PERSON IS GUILTY OF UNLAWFUL PROCUREMENT OF CLIENTS, PATIENTS OR CUSTOMERS IN THE SECOND DEGREE WHEN HE OR SHE KNOWINGLY:

1. ACTS AS A RUNNER ON ONE OR MORE OCCASIONS FOR A PECUNIARY BENEFIT THAT IN THE AGGREGATE EXCEEDS TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS IN VALUE OR ACTS AS A RUNNER ON FIVE OR MORE OCCASIONS; OR

2. USES, SOLICITS, DIRECTS, HIRES OR EMPLOYS ONE OR MORE PERSONS TO ACT AS A RUNNER ON ONE OR MORE OCCASIONS FOR A PECUNIARY BENEFIT THAT IN THE AGGREGATE EXCEEDS TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS IN VALUE OR USES, SOLICITS, DIRECTS, HIRES OR EMPLOYS ONE OR MORE PERSONS TO ACT AS A RUNNER ON FIVE OR MORE OCCASIONS.

UNLAWFUL PROCUREMENT OF CLIENTS, PATIENTS OR CUSTOMERS IN THE SECOND DEGREE IS A CLASS E FELONY.

S 176.85 UNLAWFUL PROCUREMENT OF CLIENTS, PATIENTS OR CUSTOMERS IN THE FIRST DEGREE.

A PERSON IS GUILTY OF UNLAWFUL PROCUREMENT OF CLIENTS, PATIENTS OR CUSTOMERS IN THE FIRST DEGREE WHEN HE OR SHE KNOWINGLY:

1. ACTS AS A RUNNER ON ONE OR MORE OCCASIONS FOR A PECUNIARY BENEFIT THAT IN THE AGGREGATE EXCEEDS FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS IN VALUE OR ACTS AS A RUNNER ON TEN OR MORE OCCASIONS; OR

2. USES, SOLICITS, DIRECTS, HIRES OR EMPLOYS ONE OR MORE PERSONS TO ACT AS A RUNNER ON ONE OR MORE OCCASIONS FOR A PECUNIARY BENEFIT THAT IN THE AGGREGATE EXCEEDS FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS OR USES, SOLICITS, DIRECTS, HIRES OR EMPLOYS ONE OR MORE PERSONS TO ACT AS A RUNNER ON TEN OR MORE OCCASIONS.

UNLAWFUL PROCUREMENT OF CLIENTS, PATIENTS OR CUSTOMERS IN THE FIRST DEGREE IS A CLASS D FELONY.

S 3. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 of section 460.10 of the penal law, as amended by chapter 405 of the laws of 2010, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Any of the felonies set forth in this chapter: sections 120.05, 120.10 and 120.11 relating to assault; sections 121.12 and 121.13 relating to strangulation; sections 125.10 to 125.27 relating to homicide; sections 130.25, 130.30 and 130.35 relating to rape; sections 135.20 and 135.25 relating to kidnapping; section 135.35 relating to labor trafficking; section 135.65 relating to coercion; sections 140.20, 140.25 and 140.30 relating to burglary; sections 145.05, 145.10 and 145.12

1 relating to criminal mischief; article one hundred fifty relating to  
2 arson; sections 155.30, 155.35, 155.40 and 155.42 relating to grand  
3 larceny; sections 177.10, 177.15, 177.20 and 177.25 relating to health  
4 care fraud; article one hundred sixty relating to robbery; sections  
5 165.45, 165.50, 165.52 and 165.54 relating to criminal possession of  
6 stolen property; sections 165.72 and 165.73 relating to trademark coun-  
7 terfeiting; sections 170.10, 170.15, 170.25, 170.30, 170.40, 170.65 and  
8 170.70 relating to forgery; sections 175.10, 175.25, 175.35, 175.40 and  
9 210.40 relating to false statements; sections 176.15, 176.20, 176.25 and  
10 176.30 relating to insurance fraud; SECTIONS 176.80 AND 176.85 RELATING  
11 TO UNLAWFUL PROCUREMENT OF CLIENTS, PATIENTS OR CUSTOMERS; sections  
12 178.20 and 178.25 relating to criminal diversion of prescription medica-  
13 tions and prescriptions; sections 180.03, 180.08, 180.15, 180.25,  
14 180.40, 180.45, 200.00, 200.03, 200.04, 200.10, 200.11, 200.12, 200.20,  
15 200.22, 200.25, 200.27, 215.00, 215.05 and 215.19 relating to bribery;  
16 sections 187.10, 187.15, 187.20 and 187.25 relating to residential mort-  
17 gage fraud, sections 190.40 and 190.42 relating to criminal usury;  
18 section 190.65 relating to schemes to defraud; sections 205.60 and  
19 205.65 relating to hindering prosecution; sections 210.10, 210.15, and  
20 215.51 relating to perjury and contempt; section 215.40 relating to  
21 tampering with physical evidence; sections 220.06, 220.09, 220.16,  
22 220.18, 220.21, 220.31, 220.34, 220.39, 220.41, 220.43, 220.46, 220.55,  
23 220.60 and 220.77 relating to controlled substances; sections 225.10 and  
24 225.20 relating to gambling; sections 230.25, 230.30, and 230.32 relat-  
25 ing to promoting prostitution; section 230.34 relating to sex traffick-  
26 ing; sections 235.06, 235.07, 235.21 and 235.22 relating to obscenity;  
27 sections 263.10 and 263.15 relating to promoting a sexual performance by  
28 a child; sections 265.02, 265.03, 265.04, 265.11, 265.12, 265.13 and the  
29 provisions of section 265.10 which constitute a felony relating to  
30 firearms and other dangerous weapons; and sections 265.14 and 265.16  
31 relating to criminal sale of a firearm; and section 275.10, 275.20,  
32 275.30, or 275.40 relating to unauthorized recordings; and sections  
33 470.05, 470.10, 470.15 and 470.20 relating to money laundering; or

34 S 4. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 8 of section 700.05 of the criminal  
35 procedure law, as amended by chapter 405 of the laws of 2010, is amended  
36 to read as follows:

37 (b) Any of the following felonies: assault in the second degree as  
38 defined in section 120.05 of the penal law, assault in the first degree  
39 as defined in section 120.10 of the penal law, reckless endangerment in  
40 the first degree as defined in section 120.25 of the penal law, promot-  
41 ing a suicide attempt as defined in section 120.30 of the penal law,  
42 strangulation in the second degree as defined in section 121.12 of the  
43 penal law, strangulation in the first degree as defined in section  
44 121.13 of the penal law, criminally negligent homicide as defined in  
45 section 125.10 of the penal law, manslaughter in the second degree as  
46 defined in section 125.15 of the penal law, manslaughter in the first  
47 degree as defined in section 125.20 of the penal law, murder in the  
48 second degree as defined in section 125.25 of the penal law, murder in  
49 the first degree as defined in section 125.27 of the penal law, abortion  
50 in the second degree as defined in section 125.40 of the penal law,  
51 abortion in the first degree as defined in section 125.45 of the penal  
52 law, rape in the third degree as defined in section 130.25 of the penal  
53 law, rape in the second degree as defined in section 130.30 of the penal  
54 law, rape in the first degree as defined in section 130.35 of the penal  
55 law, criminal sexual act in the third degree as defined in section  
56 130.40 of the penal law, criminal sexual act in the second degree as

1 defined in section 130.45 of the penal law, criminal sexual act in the  
2 first degree as defined in section 130.50 of the penal law, sexual abuse  
3 in the first degree as defined in section 130.65 of the penal law,  
4 unlawful imprisonment in the first degree as defined in section 135.10  
5 of the penal law, kidnapping in the second degree as defined in section  
6 135.20 of the penal law, kidnapping in the first degree as defined in  
7 section 135.25 of the penal law, labor trafficking as defined in section  
8 135.35 of the penal law, custodial interference in the first degree as  
9 defined in section 135.50 of the penal law, coercion in the first degree  
10 as defined in section 135.65 of the penal law, criminal trespass in the  
11 first degree as defined in section 140.17 of the penal law, burglary in  
12 the third degree as defined in section 140.20 of the penal law, burglary  
13 in the second degree as defined in section 140.25 of the penal law,  
14 burglary in the first degree as defined in section 140.30 of the penal  
15 law, criminal mischief in the third degree as defined in section 145.05  
16 of the penal law, criminal mischief in the second degree as defined in  
17 section 145.10 of the penal law, criminal mischief in the first degree  
18 as defined in section 145.12 of the penal law, criminal tampering in the  
19 first degree as defined in section 145.20 of the penal law, arson in the  
20 fourth degree as defined in section 150.05 of the penal law, arson in  
21 the third degree as defined in section 150.10 of the penal law, arson in  
22 the second degree as defined in section 150.15 of the penal law, arson  
23 in the first degree as defined in section 150.20 of the penal law, grand  
24 larceny in the fourth degree as defined in section 155.30 of the penal  
25 law, grand larceny in the third degree as defined in section 155.35 of  
26 the penal law, grand larceny in the second degree as defined in section  
27 155.40 of the penal law, grand larceny in the first degree as defined in  
28 section 155.42 of the penal law, health care fraud in the fourth degree  
29 as defined in section 177.10 of the penal law, health care fraud in the  
30 third degree as defined in section 177.15 of the penal law, health care  
31 fraud in the second degree as defined in section 177.20 of the penal  
32 law, health care fraud in the first degree as defined in section 177.25  
33 of the penal law, robbery in the third degree as defined in section  
34 160.05 of the penal law, robbery in the second degree as defined in  
35 section 160.10 of the penal law, robbery in the first degree as defined  
36 in section 160.15 of the penal law, unlawful use of secret scientific  
37 material as defined in section 165.07 of the penal law, criminal  
38 possession of stolen property in the fourth degree as defined in section  
39 165.45 of the penal law, criminal possession of stolen property in the  
40 third degree as defined in section 165.50 of the penal law, criminal  
41 possession of stolen property in the second degree as defined by section  
42 165.52 of the penal law, criminal possession of stolen property in the  
43 first degree as defined by section 165.54 of the penal law, trademark  
44 counterfeiting in the second degree as defined in section 165.72 of the  
45 penal law, trademark counterfeiting in the first degree as defined in  
46 section 165.73 of the penal law, forgery in the second degree as defined  
47 in section 170.10 of the penal law, forgery in the first degree as  
48 defined in section 170.15 of the penal law, criminal possession of a  
49 forged instrument in the second degree as defined in section 170.25 of  
50 the penal law, criminal possession of a forged instrument in the first  
51 degree as defined in section 170.30 of the penal law, criminal  
52 possession of forgery devices as defined in section 170.40 of the penal  
53 law, falsifying business records in the first degree as defined in  
54 section 175.10 of the penal law, tampering with public records in the  
55 first degree as defined in section 175.25 of the penal law, offering a  
56 false instrument for filing in the first degree as defined in section

1 175.35 of the penal law, issuing a false certificate as defined in  
2 section 175.40 of the penal law, UNLAWFUL PROCUREMENT OF CLIENTS,  
3 PATIENTS OR CUSTOMERS IN THE SECOND DEGREE AS DEFINED IN SECTION 176.80  
4 OF THE PENAL LAW, UNLAWFUL PROCUREMENT OF CLIENTS, PATIENTS OR CUSTOMERS  
5 IN THE FIRST DEGREE AS DEFINED IN SECTION 176.85 OF THE PENAL LAW, crim-  
6 inal diversion of prescription medications and prescriptions in the  
7 second degree as defined in section 178.20 of the penal law, criminal  
8 diversion of prescription medications and prescriptions in the first  
9 degree as defined in section 178.25 of the penal law, residential mort-  
10 gage fraud in the fourth degree as defined in section 187.10 of the  
11 penal law, residential mortgage fraud in the third degree as defined in  
12 section 187.15 of the penal law, residential mortgage fraud in the  
13 second degree as defined in section 187.20 of the penal law, residential  
14 mortgage fraud in the first degree as defined in section 187.25 of the  
15 penal law, escape in the second degree as defined in section 205.10 of  
16 the penal law, escape in the first degree as defined in section 205.15  
17 of the penal law, absconding from temporary release in the first degree  
18 as defined in section 205.17 of the penal law, promoting prison contra-  
19 band in the first degree as defined in section 205.25 of the penal law,  
20 hindering prosecution in the second degree as defined in section 205.60  
21 of the penal law, hindering prosecution in the first degree as defined  
22 in section 205.65 of the penal law, sex trafficking as defined in  
23 section 230.34 of the penal law, criminal possession of a weapon in the  
24 third degree as defined in subdivisions two, three and five of section  
25 265.02 of the penal law, criminal possession of a weapon in the second  
26 degree as defined in section 265.03 of the penal law, criminal  
27 possession of a weapon in the first degree as defined in section 265.04  
28 of the penal law, manufacture, transport, disposition and defacement of  
29 weapons and dangerous instruments and appliances defined as felonies in  
30 subdivisions one, two, and three of section 265.10 of the penal law,  
31 sections 265.11, 265.12 and 265.13 of the penal law, or prohibited use  
32 of weapons as defined in subdivision two of section 265.35 of the penal  
33 law, relating to firearms and other dangerous weapons, or failure to  
34 disclose the origin of a recording in the first degree as defined in  
35 section 275.40 of the penal law;

36 S 5. This act shall take effect on the first of November next succeed-  
37 ing the date upon which it shall have become a law.