

4558--A

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

February 3, 2015

Introduced by M. of A. GOTTFRIED, GLICK, O'DONNELL, TITONE, BRONSON, MORELLE, BRENNAN, ROSENTHAL, DINOWITZ, CLARK, COOK, HEVESI, SCHIMEL, KAVANAGH, CAHILL, ENGLEBRIGHT, PAULIN, RYAN, ABINANTI, MOYA, SEPULVEDA, MOSLEY, ARROYO, ROBERTS, PICHARDO, DAVILA, ORTIZ, ROZIC, WEPRIN, MAYER, KAMINSKY, BLAKE -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. AUBRY, BENEDETTO, BRAUNSTEIN, BUCHWALD, DenDEKKER, FAHY, FARRELL, GUNTHER, HOOPER, JAFFEE, LAVINE, LIFTON, LUPARDO, MAGNARELLI, MARKEY, McDONALD, OTIS, PEOPLES-STOKES, PERRY, PRETLOW, QUART, RAMOS, RIVERA, ROBINSON, SCARBOROUGH, SEAWRIGHT, SIMON, SIMOTAS, SKARTADOS, SKOUFIS, SOLAGES, STECK, THIELE, WRIGHT -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the executive law, the civil rights law and the education law, in relation to prohibiting discrimination based on gender identity or expression; and to amend the penal law and the criminal procedure law, in relation to including offenses regarding gender identity or expression within the list of offenses subject to treatment as hate crimes

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

1 Section 1. Legislative findings and intent. The legislature reaffirms
2 that the state has the responsibility to act to assure that every indi-
3 vidual within this state is afforded an equal opportunity to enjoy a
4 full and productive life, and that the failure to provide such equal
5 opportunity, whether because of discrimination, prejudice, intolerance
6 or inadequate education, training, housing or health care not only
7 threatens the rights and proper privileges of its inhabitants, but
8 menaces the institutions and foundation of a free democratic state and
9 threatens the peace, order, health, safety and general welfare of the
10 state and its inhabitants.
11 The legislature further finds that many residents of this state have
12 encountered prejudice on account of their gender identity or expression,
13 and that this prejudice has severely limited or actually prevented
14 access to employment, housing and other basic necessities of life, lead-

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

LBD00167-02-5

ing to deprivation and suffering. The legislature further recognizes that this prejudice has fostered a general climate of hostility and distrust, leading in some instances to physical violence against those perceived to live in a gender identity or expression which is different from that traditionally associated with the sex assigned to that person at birth.

In so doing, the legislature makes clear its action is not intended to promote any particular attitude, course of conduct or way of life. Rather its purpose is to ensure that individuals who live in our free society have the capacity to make their own choices, follow their own beliefs and conduct their own lives as they see fit, consistent with existing law.

The legislature further finds that, as court decisions have properly held, New York's sex discrimination laws prohibit discrimination based on gender stereotypes or because an individual has transitioned or intends to transition from one gender to another. This legislation is intended to codify this principle and to ensure that the public understands that discrimination on the basis of gender identity and expression is prohibited.

S 2. Subdivisions 1 and 2 of section 291 of the executive law, as amended by chapter 196 of the laws of 2010, are amended to read as follows:

1. The opportunity to obtain employment without discrimination because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, sex, marital status, or disability, is hereby recognized as and declared to be a civil right.

2. The opportunity to obtain education, the use of places of public accommodation and the ownership, use and occupancy of housing accommodations and commercial space without discrimination because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, sex, marital status, or disability, as specified in section two hundred ninety-six of this article, is hereby recognized as and declared to be a civil right.

S 3. Section 292 of the executive law is amended by adding a new subdivision 35 to read as follows:

35. THE TERM "GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION" MEANS A PERSON'S ACTUAL OR PERCEIVED GENDER-RELATED IDENTITY, APPEARANCE, BEHAVIOR, EXPRESSION, OR OTHER GENDER-RELATED CHARACTERISTIC REGARDLESS OF THE SEX ASSIGNED TO THAT PERSON AT BIRTH, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE STATUS OF BEING TRANSGENDER.

S 4. Subdivisions 8 and 9 of section 295 of the executive law, as amended by chapter 106 of the laws of 2003, are amended to read as follows:

8. To create such advisory councils, local, regional or state-wide, as in its judgment will aid in effectuating the purposes of this article and of section eleven of article one of the constitution of this state, and the division may empower them to study the problems of discrimination in all or specific fields of human relationships or in specific instances of discrimination because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, sex, disability or marital status and make recommendations to the division for the development of policies and procedures in general and in specific instances. The advisory councils also shall disseminate information about the division's activities to organizations and individuals in their localities. Such advisory councils shall be composed of representative citizens, serving without pay, but with reimbursement for

1 actual and necessary traveling expenses; and the division may make
2 provision for technical and clerical assistance to such councils and for
3 the expenses of such assistance.

4 9. To develop human rights plans and policies for the state and assist
5 in their execution and to make investigations and studies appropriate to
6 effectuate this article and to issue such publications and such results
7 of investigations and research as in its judgement will tend to inform
8 persons of the rights assured and remedies provided under this article,
9 to promote good-will and minimize or eliminate discrimination because of
10 age, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER
11 IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, sex, disability or marital
12 status.

13 S 5. Paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d) of subdivision 1 of section 296
14 of the executive law, paragraph (a) as amended by chapter 80 of the laws
15 of 2009 and paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) as amended by chapter 75 of the
16 laws of 2005, are amended to read as follows:

17 (a) For an employer or licensing agency, because of an individual's
18 age, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER
19 IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, sex, disability, predisposing
20 genetic characteristics, marital status, or domestic violence victim
21 status, to refuse to hire or employ or to bar or to discharge from
22 employment such individual or to discriminate against such individual in
23 compensation or in terms, conditions or privileges of employment.

24 (b) For an employment agency to discriminate against any individual
25 because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation,
26 GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, sex, disability, predis-
27 posing genetic characteristics, or marital status, in receiving, classi-
28 fying, disposing or otherwise acting upon applications for its services
29 or in referring an applicant or applicants to an employer or employers.

30 (c) For a labor organization, because of the age, race, creed, color,
31 national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION,
32 military status, sex, disability, predisposing genetic characteristics,
33 or marital status of any individual, to exclude or to expel from its
34 membership such individual or to discriminate in any way against any of
35 its members or against any employer or any individual employed by an
36 employer.

37 (d) For any employer or employment agency to print or circulate or
38 cause to be printed or circulated any statement, advertisement or publi-
39 cation, or to use any form of application for employment or to make any
40 inquiry in connection with prospective employment, which expresses
41 directly or indirectly, any limitation, specification or discrimination
42 as to age, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation,
43 GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, sex, disability, predis-
44 posing genetic characteristics, or marital status, or any intent to make
45 any such limitation, specification or discrimination, unless based upon
46 a bona fide occupational qualification; provided, however, that neither
47 this paragraph nor any provision of this chapter or other law shall be
48 construed to prohibit the department of civil service or the department
49 of personnel of any city containing more than one county from requesting
50 information from applicants for civil service examinations concerning
51 any of the aforementioned characteristics, other than sexual orientation
52 OR GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, for the purpose of conducting studies
53 to identify and resolve possible problems in recruitment and testing of
54 members of minority groups to insure the fairest possible and equal
55 opportunities for employment in the civil service for all persons,
56 regardless of age, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orien-

1 tation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, sex, disability,
2 predisposing genetic characteristics, or marital status.

3 S 6. Paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) of subdivision 1-a of section 296 of
4 the executive law, as amended by chapter 106 of the laws of 2003, are
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (b) To deny to or withhold from any person because of race, creed,
7 color, national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR
8 EXPRESSION, military status, sex, age, disability, or marital status,
9 the right to be admitted to or participate in a guidance program, an
10 apprenticeship training program, on-the-job training program, executive
11 training program, or other occupational training or retraining program;

12 (c) To discriminate against any person in his or her pursuit of such
13 programs or to discriminate against such a person in the terms, condi-
14 tions or privileges of such programs because of race, creed, color,
15 national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION,
16 military status, sex, age, disability or marital status;

17 (d) To print or circulate or cause to be printed or circulated any
18 statement, advertisement or publication, or to use any form of applica-
19 tion for such programs or to make any inquiry in connection with such
20 program which expresses, directly or indirectly, any limitation, spec-
21 ification or discrimination as to race, creed, color, national origin,
22 sexual orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, sex,
23 age, disability or marital status, or any intention to make any such
24 limitation, specification or discrimination, unless based on a bona fide
25 occupational qualification.

26 S 7. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 2 of section 296 of the executive
27 law, as amended by chapter 106 of the laws of 2003, is amended to read
28 as follows:

29 (a) It shall be an unlawful discriminatory practice for any person,
30 being the owner, lessee, proprietor, manager, superintendent, agent or
31 employee of any place of public accommodation, resort or amusement,
32 because of the race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation,
33 GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, sex, [or] disability or
34 marital status of any person, directly or indirectly, to refuse, with-
35 hold from or deny to such person any of the accommodations, advantages,
36 facilities or privileges thereof, including the extension of credit, or,
37 directly or indirectly, to publish, circulate, issue, display, post or
38 mail any written or printed communication, notice or advertisement, to
39 the effect that any of the accommodations, advantages, facilities and
40 privileges of any such place shall be refused, withheld from or denied
41 to any person on account of race, creed, color, national origin, sexual
42 orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, sex, [or]
43 disability or marital status, or that the patronage or custom thereat of
44 any person of or purporting to be of any particular race, creed, color,
45 national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION,
46 military status, sex or marital status, or having a disability is unwel-
47 come, objectionable or not acceptable, desired or solicited.

48 S 8. Paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (c-1) of subdivision 2-a of section
49 296 of the executive law, paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) as amended and
50 paragraph (c-1) as added by chapter 106 of the laws of 2003, are amended
51 to read as follows:

52 (a) To refuse to sell, rent or lease or otherwise to deny to or with-
53 hold from any person or group of persons such housing accommodations
54 because of the race, creed, color, disability, national origin, sexual
55 orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, age, sex,
56 marital status, or familial status of such person or persons, or to

1 represent that any housing accommodation or land is not available for
2 inspection, sale, rental or lease when in fact it is so available.

3 (b) To discriminate against any person because of his or her race,
4 creed, color, disability, national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER
5 IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, age, sex, marital status, or
6 familial status in the terms, conditions or privileges of any publicly-
7 assisted housing accommodations or in the furnishing of facilities or
8 services in connection therewith.

9 (c) To cause to be made any written or oral inquiry or record concern-
10 ing the race, creed, color, disability, national origin, sexual orien-
11 tation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, membership in the reserve armed
12 forces of the United States or in the organized militia of the state,
13 age, sex, marital status, or familial status of a person seeking to rent
14 or lease any publicly-assisted housing accommodation; provided, however,
15 that nothing in this subdivision shall prohibit a member of the reserve
16 armed forces of the United States or in the organized militia of the
17 state from voluntarily disclosing such membership.

18 (c-1) To print or circulate or cause to be printed or circulated any
19 statement, advertisement or publication, or to use any form of applica-
20 tion for the purchase, rental or lease of such housing accommodation or
21 to make any record or inquiry in connection with the prospective
22 purchase, rental or lease of such a housing accommodation which
23 expresses, directly or indirectly, any limitation, specification or
24 discrimination as to race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orien-
25 tation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, sex, age, disa-
26 bility, marital status, or familial status, or any intent to make any
27 such limitation, specification or discrimination.

28 S 9. Subdivision 3-b of section 296 of the executive law, as amended
29 by chapter 106 of the laws of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

30 3-b. It shall be an unlawful discriminatory practice for any real
31 estate broker, real estate salesperson or employee or agent thereof or
32 any other individual, corporation, partnership or organization for the
33 purpose of inducing a real estate transaction from which any such person
34 or any of its stockholders or members may benefit financially, to repre-
35 sent that a change has occurred or will or may occur in the composition
36 with respect to race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation,
37 GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, sex, disability, marital
38 status, or familial status of the owners or occupants in the block,
39 neighborhood or area in which the real property is located, and to
40 represent, directly or indirectly, that this change will or may result
41 in undesirable consequences in the block, neighborhood or area in which
42 the real property is located, including but not limited to the lowering
43 of property values, an increase in criminal or anti-social behavior, or
44 a decline in the quality of schools or other facilities.

45 S 10. Subdivision 4 of section 296 of the executive law, as amended by
46 chapter 106 of the laws of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

47 4. It shall be an unlawful discriminatory practice for an education
48 corporation or association which holds itself out to the public to be
49 non-sectarian and exempt from taxation pursuant to the provisions of
50 article four of the real property tax law to deny the use of its facili-
51 ties to any person otherwise qualified, or to permit the harassment of
52 any student or applicant, by reason of his race, color, religion, disa-
53 bility, national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR
54 EXPRESSION, military status, sex, age or marital status, except that any
55 such institution which establishes or maintains a policy of educating
56 persons of one sex exclusively may admit students of only one sex.

1 S 11. Subdivision 5 of section 296 of the executive law, as amended by
2 chapter 106 of the laws of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

3 5. (a) It shall be an unlawful discriminatory practice for the owner,
4 lessee, sub-lessee, assignee, or managing agent of, or other person
5 having the right to sell, rent or lease a housing accommodation,
6 constructed or to be constructed, or any agent or employee thereof:

7 (1) To refuse to sell, rent, lease or otherwise to deny to or withhold
8 from any person or group of persons such a housing accommodation because
9 of the race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER
10 IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, sex, age, disability, marital
11 status, or familial status of such person or persons, or to represent
12 that any housing accommodation or land is not available for inspection,
13 sale, rental or lease when in fact it is so available.

14 (2) To discriminate against any person because of race, creed, color,
15 national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION,
16 military status, sex, age, disability, marital status, or familial
17 status in the terms, conditions or privileges of the sale, rental or
18 lease of any such housing accommodation or in the furnishing of facili-
19 ties or services in connection therewith.

20 (3) To print or circulate or cause to be printed or circulated any
21 statement, advertisement or publication, or to use any form of applica-
22 tion for the purchase, rental or lease of such housing accommodation or
23 to make any record or inquiry in connection with the prospective
24 purchase, rental or lease of such a housing accommodation which
25 expresses, directly or indirectly, any limitation, specification or
26 discrimination as to race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orien-
27 tation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, sex, age, disa-
28 bility, marital status, or familial status, or any intent to make any
29 such limitation, specification or discrimination.

30 The provisions of this paragraph (a) shall not apply (1) to the rental
31 of a housing accommodation in a building which contains housing accommo-
32 dations for not more than two families living independently of each
33 other, if the owner resides in one of such housing accommodations, (2)
34 to the restriction of the rental of all rooms in a housing accommodation
35 to individuals of the same sex or (3) to the rental of a room or rooms
36 in a housing accommodation, if such rental is by the occupant of the
37 housing accommodation or by the owner of the housing accommodation and
38 the owner resides in such housing accommodation or (4) solely with
39 respect to age and familial status to the restriction of the sale,
40 rental or lease of housing accommodations exclusively to persons sixty-
41 two years of age or older and the spouse of any such person, or for
42 housing intended and operated for occupancy by at least one person
43 fifty-five years of age or older per unit. In determining whether hous-
44 ing is intended and operated for occupancy by persons fifty-five years
45 of age or older, Sec. 807(b) (2) (c) (42 U.S.C. 3607 (b) (2) (c)) of the
46 federal Fair Housing Act of 1988, as amended, shall apply.

47 (b) It shall be an unlawful discriminatory practice for the owner,
48 lessee, sub-lessee, or managing agent of, or other person having the
49 right of ownership or possession of or the right to sell, rent or lease,
50 land or commercial space:

51 (1) To refuse to sell, rent, lease or otherwise deny to or withhold
52 from any person or group of persons land or commercial space because of
53 the race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER
54 IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, sex, age, disability, marital
55 status, or familial status of such person or persons, or to represent

1 that any housing accommodation or land is not available for inspection,
2 sale, rental or lease when in fact it is so available;

3 (2) To discriminate against any person because of race, creed, color,
4 national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION,
5 military status, sex, age, disability, marital status, or familial
6 status in the terms, conditions or privileges of the sale, rental or
7 lease of any such land or commercial space; or in the furnishing of
8 facilities or services in connection therewith;

9 (3) To print or circulate or cause to be printed or circulated any
10 statement, advertisement or publication, or to use any form of applica-
11 tion for the purchase, rental or lease of such land or commercial space
12 or to make any record or inquiry in connection with the prospective
13 purchase, rental or lease of such land or commercial space which
14 expresses, directly or indirectly, any limitation, specification or
15 discrimination as to race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orien-
16 tation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, sex, age, disa-
17 bility, marital status, or familial status; or any intent to make any
18 such limitation, specification or discrimination.

19 (4) With respect to age and familial status, the provisions of this
20 paragraph shall not apply to the restriction of the sale, rental or
21 lease of land or commercial space exclusively to persons fifty-five
22 years of age or older and the spouse of any such person, or to the
23 restriction of the sale, rental or lease of land to be used for the
24 construction, or location of housing accommodations exclusively for
25 persons sixty-two years of age or older, or intended and operated for
26 occupancy by at least one person fifty-five years of age or older per
27 unit. In determining whether housing is intended and operated for occu-
28 pancy by persons fifty-five years of age or older, Sec. 807(b) (2) (c)
29 (42 U.S.C. 3607(b) (2) (c)) of the federal Fair Housing Act of 1988, as
30 amended, shall apply.

31 (c) It shall be an unlawful discriminatory practice for any real
32 estate broker, real estate salesperson or employee or agent thereof:

33 (1) To refuse to sell, rent or lease any housing accommodation, land
34 or commercial space to any person or group of persons or to refuse to
35 negotiate for the sale, rental or lease, of any housing accommodation,
36 land or commercial space to any person or group of persons because of
37 the race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER
38 IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, sex, age, disability, marital
39 status, or familial status of such person or persons, or to represent
40 that any housing accommodation, land or commercial space is not avail-
41 able for inspection, sale, rental or lease when in fact it is so avail-
42 able, or otherwise to deny or withhold any housing accommodation, land
43 or commercial space or any facilities of any housing accommodation, land
44 or commercial space from any person or group of persons because of the
45 race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER IDENTITY
46 OR EXPRESSION, military status, sex, age, disability, marital status, or
47 familial status of such person or persons.

48 (2) To print or circulate or cause to be printed or circulated any
49 statement, advertisement or publication, or to use any form of applica-
50 tion for the purchase, rental or lease of any housing accommodation,
51 land or commercial space or to make any record or inquiry in connection
52 with the prospective purchase, rental or lease of any housing accommo-
53 dation, land or commercial space which expresses, directly or indirect-
54 ly, any limitation, specification, or discrimination as to race, creed,
55 color, national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR
56 EXPRESSION, military status, sex, age, disability, marital status, or

1 familial status; or any intent to make any such limitation, specifica-
2 tion or discrimination.

3 (3) With respect to age and familial status, the provisions of this
4 paragraph shall not apply to the restriction of the sale, rental or
5 lease of any HOUSING ACCOMMODATION, land or commercial space exclusively
6 to persons fifty-five years of age or older and the spouse of any such
7 person, or to the restriction of the sale, rental or lease of any hous-
8 ing accommodation or land to be used for the construction or location of
9 housing accommodations for persons sixty-two years of age or older, or
10 intended and operated for occupancy by at least one person fifty-five
11 years of age or older per unit. In determining whether housing is
12 intended and operated for occupancy by persons fifty-five years of age
13 or older, Sec. 807 (b) (2) (c) (42 U.S.C. 3607 (b) (2) (c)) of the
14 federal Fair Housing Act of 1988, as amended, shall apply.

15 (d) It shall be an unlawful discriminatory practice for any real
16 estate board, because of the race, creed, color, national origin, sexual
17 orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, age, sex,
18 disability, marital status, or familial status of any individual who is
19 otherwise qualified for membership, to exclude or expel such individual
20 from membership, or to discriminate against such individual in the
21 terms, conditions and privileges of membership in such board.

22 (e) It shall be an unlawful discriminatory practice for the owner,
23 proprietor or managing agent of, or other person having the right to
24 provide care and services in, a private proprietary nursing home, conva-
25 lescent home, or home for adults, or an intermediate care facility, as
26 defined in section two of the social services law, heretofore
27 constructed, or to be constructed, or any agent or employee thereof, to
28 refuse to provide services and care in such home or facility to any
29 individual or to discriminate against any individual in the terms,
30 conditions, and privileges of such services and care solely because such
31 individual is a blind person. For purposes of this paragraph, a "blind
32 person" shall mean a person who is registered as a blind person with the
33 commission for the visually handicapped and who meets the definition of
34 a "blind person" pursuant to section three of chapter four hundred
35 fifteen of the laws of nineteen hundred thirteen entitled "An act to
36 establish a state commission for improving the condition of the blind of
37 the state of New York, and making an appropriation therefor".

38 (f) The provisions of this subdivision, as they relate to age, shall
39 not apply to persons under the age of eighteen years.

40 (g) It shall be an unlawful discriminatory practice for any person
41 offering or providing housing accommodations, land or commercial space
42 as described in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this subdivision to make
43 or cause to be made any written or oral inquiry or record concerning
44 membership of any person in the state organized militia in relation to
45 the purchase, rental or lease of such housing accommodation, land, or
46 commercial space, provided, however, that nothing in this subdivision
47 shall prohibit a member of the state organized militia from voluntarily
48 disclosing such membership.

49 S 12. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 9 of section 296 of the executive
50 law, as amended by chapter 106 of the laws of 2003, is amended to read
51 as follows:

52 (a) It shall be an unlawful discriminatory practice for any fire
53 department or fire company therein, through any member or members there-
54 of, officers, board of fire commissioners or other body or office having
55 power of appointment of volunteer firefighters, directly or indirectly,
56 by ritualistic practice, constitutional or by-law prescription, by tacit

1 agreement among its members, or otherwise, to deny to any individual
2 membership in any volunteer fire department or fire company therein, or
3 to expel or discriminate against any volunteer member of a fire depart-
4 ment or fire company therein, because of the race, creed, color,
5 national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION,
6 military status, sex or marital status of such individual.

7 S 13. Subdivision 13 of section 296 of the executive law, as amended
8 by chapter 196 of the laws of 2010, is amended to read as follows:

9 13. It shall be an unlawful discriminatory practice (i) for any person
10 to boycott or blacklist, or to refuse to buy from, sell to or trade
11 with, or otherwise discriminate against any person, because of the race,
12 creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR
13 EXPRESSION, military status, sex, or disability of such person, or of
14 such person's partners, members, stockholders, directors, officers,
15 managers, superintendents, agents, employees, business associates,
16 suppliers or customers, or (ii) for any person wilfully to do any act or
17 refrain from doing any act which enables any such person to take such
18 action. This subdivision shall not apply to:

19 (a) Boycotts connected with labor disputes; or

20 (b) Boycotts to protest unlawful discriminatory practices.

21 S 14. Subdivisions 1, 2 and 3 of section 296-a of the executive law,
22 as amended by chapter 106 of the laws of 2003, are amended to read as
23 follows:

24 1. It shall be an unlawful discriminatory practice for any creditor or
25 any officer, agent or employee thereof:

26 a. In the case of applications for credit with respect to the
27 purchase, acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, repair or mainte-
28 nance of any housing accommodation, land or commercial space to discrim-
29 inate against any such applicant because of the race, creed, color,
30 national origin, sexual orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION,
31 military status, age, sex, marital status, disability, or familial
32 status of such applicant or applicants or any member, stockholder,
33 director, officer or employee of such applicant or applicants, or of the
34 prospective occupants or tenants of such housing accommodation, land or
35 commercial space, in the granting, withholding, extending or renewing,
36 or in the fixing of the rates, terms or conditions of, any such credit;

37 b. To discriminate in the granting, withholding, extending or renew-
38 ing, or in the fixing of the rates, terms or conditions of, any form of
39 credit, on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sexual
40 orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, age, sex,
41 marital status, disability, or familial status;

42 c. To use any form of application for credit or use or make any record
43 or inquiry which expresses, directly or indirectly, any limitation,
44 specification, or discrimination as to race, creed, color, national
45 origin, sexual orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military
46 status, age, sex, marital status, disability, or familial status;

47 d. To make any inquiry of an applicant concerning his or her capacity
48 to reproduce, or his or her use or advocacy of any form of birth control
49 or family planning;

50 e. To refuse to consider sources of an applicant's income or to
51 subject an applicant's income to discounting, in whole or in part,
52 because of an applicant's race, creed, color, national origin, sexual
53 orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, age, sex,
54 marital status, childbearing potential, disability, or familial status;

55 f. To discriminate against a married person because such person
56 neither uses nor is known by the surname of his or her spouse.

1 This paragraph shall not apply to any situation where the use of a
2 surname would constitute or result in a criminal act.

3 2. Without limiting the generality of subdivision one of this section,
4 it shall be considered discriminatory if, because of an applicant's or
5 class of applicants' race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orien-
6 tation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military status, age, sex, mari-
7 tal status or disability, or familial status, (i) an applicant or class
8 of applicants is denied credit in circumstances where other applicants
9 of like overall credit worthiness are granted credit, or (ii) special
10 requirements or conditions, such as requiring co-obligors or reapplica-
11 tion upon marriage, are imposed upon an applicant or class of applicants
12 in circumstances where similar requirements or conditions are not
13 imposed upon other applicants of like overall credit worthiness.

14 3. It shall not be considered discriminatory if credit differen-
15 tiations or decisions are based upon factually supportable, objective
16 differences in applicants' overall credit worthiness, which may include
17 reference to such factors as current income, assets and prior credit
18 history of such applicants, as well as reference to any other relevant
19 factually supportable data; provided, however, that no creditor shall
20 consider, in evaluating the credit worthiness of an applicant, aggregate
21 statistics or assumptions relating to race, creed, color, national
22 origin, sexual orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, military
23 status, sex, marital status or disability, or to the likelihood of any
24 group of persons bearing or rearing children, or for that reason receiv-
25 ing diminished or interrupted income in the future.

26 S 15. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 2 of section 296-b of the executive
27 law, as added by chapter 481 of the laws of 2010, is amended to read as
28 follows:

29 (b) Subject a domestic worker to unwelcome harassment based on gender,
30 race, religion, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION or
31 national origin, where such harassment has the purpose or effect of
32 unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance by creat-
33 ing an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment.

34 S 16. Section 40-c of the civil rights law, as amended by chapter 2 of
35 the laws of 2002, is amended to read as follows:

36 S 40-c. Discrimination. 1. All persons within the jurisdiction of this
37 state shall be entitled to the equal protection of the laws of this
38 state or any subdivision thereof.

39 2. No person shall, because of race, creed, color, national origin,
40 sex, marital status, sexual orientation, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION,
41 or disability, as such term is defined in section two hundred ninety-two
42 of the executive law, be subjected to any discrimination in his or her
43 civil rights, or to any harassment, as defined in section 240.25 of the
44 penal law, in the exercise thereof, by any other person or by any firm,
45 corporation or institution, or by the state or any agency or subdivision
46 of the state.

47 S 17. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 of section 313 of the education
48 law, as amended by chapter 2 of the laws of 2002, is amended to read as
49 follows:

50 (a) It is hereby declared to be the policy of the state that the Amer-
51 ican ideal of equality of opportunity requires that students, otherwise
52 qualified, be admitted to educational institutions and be given access
53 to all the educational programs and courses operated or provided by such
54 institutions without regard to race, color, sex, religion, creed, mari-
55 tal status, age, sexual orientation as defined in section two hundred
56 ninety-two of the executive law, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION AS

1 DEFINED IN SECTION TWO HUNDRED NINETY-TWO OF THE EXECUTIVE LAW, or
2 national origin, except that, with regard to religious or denominational
3 educational institutions, students, otherwise qualified, shall have the
4 equal opportunity to attend therein without discrimination because of
5 race, color, sex, marital status, age, sexual orientation as defined in
6 section two hundred ninety-two of the executive law, GENDER IDENTITY OR
7 EXPRESSION AS DEFINED IN SECTION TWO HUNDRED NINETY-TWO OF THE EXECUTIVE
8 LAW, or national origin. It is a fundamental American right for members
9 of various religious faiths to establish and maintain educational insti-
10 tutions exclusively or primarily for students of their own religious
11 faith or to effectuate the religious principles in furtherance of which
12 they are maintained. Nothing herein contained shall impair or abridge
13 that right.

14 S 18. Subdivision 3 of section 313 of the education law, as amended by
15 chapter 2 of the laws of 2002, is amended to read as follows:

16 (3) Unfair educational practices. It shall be an unfair educational
17 practice for an educational institution after September fifteenth, nine-
18 teen hundred forty-eight:

19 (a) To exclude or limit or otherwise discriminate against any person
20 or persons seeking admission as students to such institution or to any
21 educational program or course operated or provided by such institution
22 because of race, religion, creed, sex, color, marital status, age, sexu-
23 al orientation as defined in section two hundred ninety-two of the exec-
24 utive law, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION AS DEFINED IN SECTION TWO
25 HUNDRED NINETY-TWO OF THE EXECUTIVE LAW, or national origin; except that
26 nothing in this section shall be deemed to affect, in any way, the right
27 of a religious or denominational educational institution to select its
28 students exclusively or primarily from members of such religion or
29 denomination or from giving preference in such selection to such members
30 or to make such selection of its students as is calculated by such
31 institution to promote the religious principles for which it is estab-
32 lished or maintained. Nothing herein contained shall impair or abridge
33 the right of an independent institution, which establishes or maintains
34 a policy of educating persons of one sex exclusively, to admit students
35 of only one sex.

36 (b) To penalize any individual because he or she has initiated, testi-
37 fied, participated or assisted in any proceedings under this section.

38 (c) To accept any endowment or gift of money or property conditioned
39 upon teaching the doctrine of supremacy of any particular race.

40 (d) With respect to any individual who withdraws from attendance to
41 serve on active duty in the armed forces of the United States in time of
42 war, including any individual who withdrew from attendance on or after
43 August second, nineteen hundred ninety to serve on active duty in the
44 armed forces of the United States in the Persian Gulf conflict: (i) to
45 deny or limit the readmission of such individual to such institution or
46 to any educational program or course operated or provided by such insti-
47 tution because of such withdrawal from attendance or because of the
48 failure to complete any educational program or course due to such with-
49 drawal; (ii) to impose any academic penalty on such person because of
50 such withdrawal or because of the failure to complete any educational
51 program or course due to such withdrawal; (iii) to reduce or eliminate
52 any financial aid award granted to such individual which could not be
53 used, in whole or part, because of such withdrawal or because of the
54 failure to complete any educational program or course due to such with-
55 drawal; or (iv) to fail to provide a credit or refund of tuition and
56 fees paid by such individual for any semester, term or quarter not

completed because of such withdrawal or because of the failure to complete any program or course due to such withdrawal.

(e) It shall not be an unfair educational practice for any educational institution to use criteria other than race, religion, creed, sex, color, marital status, age, sexual orientation as defined in section two hundred ninety-two of the executive law, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION AS DEFINED IN SECTION TWO HUNDRED NINETY-TWO OF THE EXECUTIVE LAW, or national origin in the admission of students to such institution or to any of the educational programs and courses operated or provided by such institution.

S 19. Section 485.00 of the penal law, as added by chapter 107 of the laws of 2000, is amended to read as follows:

S 485.00 Legislative findings.

The legislature finds and determines as follows: criminal acts involving violence, intimidation and destruction of property based upon bias and prejudice have become more prevalent in New York state in recent years. The intolerable truth is that in these crimes, commonly and justly referred to as "hate crimes", victims are intentionally selected, in whole or in part, because of their race, color, national origin, ancestry, gender, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, religion, religious practice, age, disability or sexual orientation. Hate crimes do more than threaten the safety and welfare of all citizens. They inflict on victims incalculable physical and emotional damage and tear at the very fabric of free society. Crimes motivated by invidious hatred toward particular groups not only harm individual victims but send a powerful message of intolerance and discrimination to all members of the group to which the victim belongs. Hate crimes can and do intimidate and disrupt entire communities and vitiate the civility that is essential to healthy democratic processes. In a democratic society, citizens cannot be required to approve of the beliefs and practices of others, but must never commit criminal acts on account of them. Current law does not adequately recognize the harm to public order and individual safety that hate crimes cause. Therefore, our laws must be strengthened to provide clear recognition of the gravity of hate crimes and the compelling importance of preventing their recurrence.

Accordingly, the legislature finds and declares that hate crimes should be prosecuted and punished with appropriate severity.

S 20. Subdivisions 1, 2 and 4 of section 485.05 of the penal law, as added by chapter 107 of the laws of 2000, are amended to read as follows:

1. A person commits a hate crime when he or she commits a specified offense and either:

(a) intentionally selects the person against whom the offense is committed or intended to be committed in whole or in substantial part because of a belief or perception regarding the race, color, national origin, ancestry, gender, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, religion, religious practice, age, disability or sexual orientation of a person, regardless of whether the belief or perception is correct, or

(b) intentionally commits the act or acts constituting the offense in whole or in substantial part because of a belief or perception regarding the race, color, national origin, ancestry, gender, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, religion, religious practice, age, disability or sexual orientation of a person, regardless of whether the belief or perception is correct.

2. Proof of race, color, national origin, ancestry, gender, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, religion, religious practice, age, disability or

1 sexual orientation of the defendant, the victim or of both the defendant
2 and the victim does not, by itself, constitute legally sufficient
3 evidence satisfying the people's burden under paragraph (a) or (b) of
4 subdivision one of this section.

5 4. For purposes of this section:

6 (a) the term "age" means sixty years old or more;

7 (b) the term "disability" means a physical or mental impairment that
8 substantially limits a major life activity[.];

9 (C) THE TERM "GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION" MEANS A PERSON'S ACTUAL
10 OR PERCEIVED GENDER-RELATED IDENTITY, APPEARANCE, BEHAVIOR, EXPRESSION,
11 OR OTHER GENDER-RELATED CHARACTERISTIC REGARDLESS OF THE SEX ASSIGNED TO
12 THAT PERSON AT BIRTH, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE STATUS OF BEING
13 TRANSGENDER.

14 S 21. Subdivision 3 of section 240.30 of the penal law, as amended by
15 chapter 188 of the laws of 2014, is amended to read as follows:

16 3. With the intent to harass, annoy, threaten or alarm another person,
17 he or she strikes, shoves, kicks, or otherwise subjects another person
18 to physical contact, or attempts or threatens to do the same because of
19 a belief or perception regarding such person's race, color, national
20 origin, ancestry, gender, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, religion, reli-
21 gious practice, age, disability or sexual orientation, regardless of
22 whether the belief or perception is correct; or

23 S 22. The opening paragraph of section 240.31 of the penal law, as
24 amended by chapter 49 of the laws of 2006, is amended to read as
25 follows:

26 A person is guilty of aggravated harassment in the first degree when
27 with intent to harass, annoy, threaten or alarm another person, because
28 of a belief or perception regarding such person's race, color, national
29 origin, ancestry, gender, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, religion, reli-
30 gious practice, age, disability or sexual orientation, regardless of
31 whether the belief or perception is correct, he or she:

32 S 23. Section 240.00 of the penal law is amended by adding a new
33 subdivision 7 to read as follows:

34 7. "GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION" MEANS A PERSON'S ACTUAL OR
35 PERCEIVED GENDER-RELATED IDENTITY, APPEARANCE, BEHAVIOR, EXPRESSION, OR
36 OTHER GENDER-RELATED CHARACTERISTIC REGARDLESS OF THE SEX ASSIGNED TO
37 THAT PERSON AT BIRTH, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE STATUS OF BEING
38 TRANSGENDER.

39 S 24. Paragraph (c) of subdivision 7 of section 200.50 of the criminal
40 procedure law, as amended by chapter 7 of the laws of 2007, is amended
41 to read as follows:

42 (c) in the case of any hate crime, as defined in section 485.05 of the
43 penal law, specifies, as applicable, that the defendant or defendants
44 intentionally selected the person against whom the offense was committed
45 or intended to be committed; or intentionally committed the act or acts
46 constituting the offense, in whole or in substantial part because of a
47 belief or perception regarding the race, color, national origin, ances-
48 try, gender, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, religion, religious prac-
49 tice, age, disability or sexual orientation of a person; and

50 S 25. This act shall take effect on the thirtieth day after it shall
51 have become a law; provided, however, that sections nineteen through
52 twenty-four of this act shall take effect on the first of November next
53 succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law.