

4989

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

I N   A S S E M B L Y

February 6, 2017

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Introduced by M. of A. WEPRIN -- read once and referred to the Committee  
on Codes

AN ACT to amend the penal law, in relation to making life imprisonment  
without parole mandatory for defendants convicted of murder in the  
first degree and the victim is a police officer

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

1     Section 1. Section 60.06 of the penal law, as amended by chapter 482  
2     of the laws of 2009, is amended to read as follows:  
3     S 60.06 Authorized disposition; murder in the first degree offenders;  
4             aggravated murder offenders; certain murder in the second  
5             degree offenders; certain terrorism offenders; criminal  
6             possession of a chemical weapon or biological weapon offen-  
7             ders; criminal use of a chemical weapon or biological weapon  
8             offenders.  
9     When a defendant is convicted of murder in the first degree as defined  
10    in section 125.27 of this chapter, the court shall, in accordance with  
11    the provisions of section 400.27 of the criminal procedure law, sentence  
12    the defendant to death, to life imprisonment without parole in accord-  
13    ance with subdivision five of section 70.00 of this title, or, EXCEPT AS  
14    PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION FIVE OF SECTION 70.00 OF THIS TITLE, to a term  
15    of imprisonment for a class A-I felony other than a sentence of life  
16    imprisonment without parole, in accordance with subdivisions one through  
17    three of section 70.00 of this title. When a person is convicted of  
18    murder in the second degree as defined in subdivision five of section  
19    125.25 of this chapter or of the crime of aggravated murder as defined  
20    in subdivision one of section 125.26 of this chapter, the court shall  
21    sentence the defendant to life imprisonment without parole in accordance  
22    with subdivision five of section 70.00 of this title. When a defendant  
23    is convicted of the crime of terrorism as defined in section 490.25 of  
24    this chapter, and the specified offense the defendant committed is a

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

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1 class A-I felony offense, or when a defendant is convicted of the crime  
2 of criminal possession of a chemical weapon or biological weapon in the  
3 first degree as defined in section 490.45 of this chapter, or when a  
4 defendant is convicted of the crime of criminal use of a chemical weapon  
5 or biological weapon in the first degree as defined in section 490.55 of  
6 this chapter, the court shall sentence the defendant to life imprison-  
7 ment without parole in accordance with subdivision five of section 70.00  
8 of this title; provided, however, that nothing in this section shall  
9 preclude or prevent a sentence of death when the defendant is also  
10 convicted of murder in the first degree as defined in section 125.27 of  
11 this chapter. When a defendant is convicted of aggravated murder as  
12 defined in subdivision two of section 125.26 of this chapter, the court  
13 shall sentence the defendant to life imprisonment without parole or to a  
14 term of imprisonment for a class A-I felony other than a sentence of  
15 life imprisonment without parole, in accordance with subdivisions one  
16 through three of section 70.00 of this title.

17 S 2. Subdivision 5 of section 70.00 of the penal law, as amended by  
18 chapter 482 of the laws of 2009, is amended to read as follows:

19 5. Life imprisonment without parole. Notwithstanding any other  
20 provision of law, a defendant sentenced to life imprisonment without  
21 parole shall not be or become eligible for parole or conditional  
22 release. For purposes of commitment and custody, other than parole and  
23 conditional release, such sentence shall be deemed to be an indetermi-  
24 nate sentence. A defendant may be sentenced to life imprisonment with-  
25 out parole upon conviction for the crime of murder in the first degree  
26 as defined in section 125.27 of this chapter and in accordance with the  
27 procedures provided by law for imposing a sentence for such crime. A  
28 defendant must be sentenced to life imprisonment without parole upon  
29 conviction for the crime of terrorism as defined in section 490.25 of  
30 this chapter, where the specified offense the defendant committed is a  
31 class A-I felony; the crime of criminal possession of a chemical weapon  
32 or biological weapon in the first degree as defined in section 490.45 of  
33 this chapter; or the crime of criminal use of a chemical weapon or  
34 biological weapon in the first degree as defined in section 490.55 of  
35 this chapter; provided, however, that nothing in this subdivision shall  
36 preclude or prevent a sentence of death when the defendant is also  
37 convicted of the crime of murder in the first degree as defined in  
38 section 125.27 of this chapter. A DEFENDANT MUST BE SENTENCED TO LIFE  
39 IMPRISONMENT WITHOUT PAROLE UPON CONVICTION FOR THE CRIME OF MURDER IN  
40 THE FIRST DEGREE AS DEFINED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF PARAGRAPH (A) OF  
41 SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION 125.27 OF THIS CHAPTER. A defendant must be  
42 sentenced to life imprisonment without parole upon conviction for the  
43 crime of murder in the second degree as defined in subdivision five of  
44 section 125.25 of this chapter or for the crime of aggravated murder as  
45 defined in subdivision one of section 125.26 of this chapter. A defend-  
46 ant may be sentenced to life imprisonment without parole upon conviction  
47 for the crime of aggravated murder as defined in subdivision two of  
48 section 125.26 of this chapter.

49 S 3. This act shall take effect on the first of November next succeed-  
50 ing the date on which it shall have become a law.