STATE OF NEW YORK

5348

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 20, 2025

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

AN ACT to amend the penal law, in relation to repeated instances of harassment

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

Section 1. Subdivision 5 of section 240.30 of the penal law, as amended by chapter 188 of the laws of 2014, is amended to read as follows:

5. [~~He or she~~] **The actor** commits the crime of harassment in the first degree and has previously been convicted of the crime of harassment in the first degree as defined by section 240.25 of this article within the preceding ten years**, regardless of whether or not the alleged victim of such harassment is the same victim from such prior offense**.

§ 2. Section 240.25 of the penal law, as amended by chapter 109 of the laws of 1994, is amended to read as follows:

§ 240.25 Harassment in the first degree.

A person is guilty of harassment in the first degree when [~~he or she~~]**:**

1. The actor intentionally and repeatedly harasses another person by following such person in or about a public place or places or by engaging in a course of conduct or by repeatedly committing acts which places such person in reasonable fear of physical injury**; or**

2. The actor commits the offense of harassment in the second degree and has previously been convicted of the crime of harassment in the second degree as defined by section 240.26 of this article within the preceding five years, regardless of whether or not the alleged victim of such harassment is the same victim from such prior offense; or

3. The actor engages in a pattern of harassment of multiple individuals as the term harassment is defined by section 240.26 of this article.

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

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This section shall not apply to activities regulated by the national labor relations act, as amended, the railway labor act, as amended, or the federal employment labor management act, as amended.

Harassment in the first degree is a class B misdemeanor.

§ 3. This act shall take effect on the first of November next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law.