

8201

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

October 24, 2013

Introduced by M. of A. O'DONNELL, SEPULVEDA -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to providing certain civil rights protections for interns

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

1 Section 1. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 296-c  
2 to read as follows:  
3 S 296-C. UNLAWFUL DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES RELATING TO INTERNS. 1. AS  
4 USED IN THIS SECTION:  
5 A. "INTERN" MEANS A PERSON WHO PERFORMS WORK FOR AN EMPLOYER FOR THE  
6 PURPOSE OF TRAINING UNDER THE FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES:  
7 (1) THE EMPLOYER IS NOT COMMITTED TO HIRE THE PERSON PERFORMING THE  
8 WORK AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TRAINING PERIOD;  
9 (2) THE EMPLOYER AND THE PERSON PERFORMING THE WORK AGREE IN WRITING  
10 THAT THE PERSON PERFORMING THE WORK IS NOT ENTITLED TO WAGES FOR THE  
11 WORK PERFORMED; AND  
12 (3) THE WORK PERFORMED:  
13 (A) SUPPLEMENTS TRAINING GIVEN IN AN EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT THAT MAY  
14 ENHANCE THE EMPLOYABILITY OF THE INTERN;  
15 (B) PROVIDES EXPERIENCE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PERSON PERFORMING THE  
16 WORK;  
17 (C) DOES NOT DISPLACE REGULAR EMPLOYEES;  
18 (D) IS PERFORMED UNDER THE CLOSE SUPERVISION OF EXISTING STAFF; AND  
19 (E) PROVIDES NO IMMEDIATE ADVANTAGE TO THE EMPLOYER PROVIDING THE  
20 TRAINING AND MAY OCCASIONALLY IMPEDE THE OPERATIONS OF THE EMPLOYER.  
21 B. "EMPLOYER" MEANS ANY PERSON WHO, IN THIS STATE, PROVIDES AN INTERN-  
22 SHIP POSITION OR IS IN AN EMPLOYMENT RELATIONSHIP WITH AN INTERN AS  
23 DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH A OF THIS SUBDIVISION.  
24 2. IT SHALL BE AN UNLAWFUL DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICE FOR AN EMPLOYER TO:

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

LBD11709-02-3

1 A. REFUSE TO HIRE OR EMPLOY OR TO BAR OR TO DISCHARGE FROM EMPLOYMENT  
2 AN INTERN OR TO DISCRIMINATE AGAINST SUCH INDIVIDUAL IN TERMS, CONDI-  
3 TIONS OR PRIVILEGES OF EMPLOYMENT BECAUSE OF THE INTERN'S AGE, RACE,  
4 CREED, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, MILITARY STATUS, SEX,  
5 DISABILITY, RELIGION, PREDISPOSING GENETIC CHARACTERISTICS, MARITAL  
6 STATUS, OR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIM STATUS;

7 B. DISCRIMINATE AGAINST AN INTERN IN RECEIVING, CLASSIFYING, DISPOSING  
8 OR OTHERWISE ACTING UPON APPLICATIONS FOR INTERNSHIPS BECAUSE OF THE  
9 INDIVIDUAL'S AGE, RACE, CREED, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEXUAL ORIEN-  
10 TATION, MILITARY STATUS, SEX, DISABILITY, RELIGION, PREDISPOSING GENETIC  
11 CHARACTERISTICS, MARITAL STATUS, OR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIM STATUS;

12 C. PRINT OR CIRCULATE OR CAUSE TO BE PRINTED OR CIRCULATED ANY STATE-  
13 MENT, ADVERTISEMENT OR PUBLICATION, OR TO USE ANY FORM OF APPLICATION  
14 FOR EMPLOYMENT AS AN INTERN OR TO MAKE ANY INQUIRY IN CONNECTION WITH  
15 PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYMENT, WHICH EXPRESSES DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, ANY  
16 LIMITATION, SPECIFICATION OR DISCRIMINATION AS TO AGE, RACE, CREED,  
17 COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, MILITARY STATUS, SEX, DISA-  
18 BILITY, RELIGION, PREDISPOSING GENETIC CHARACTERISTICS, MARITAL STATUS  
19 OR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIM STATUS, OR ANY INTENT TO MAKE ANY SUCH LIM-  
20 TATION, SPECIFICATION OR DISCRIMINATION, UNLESS BASED UPON A BONA FIDE  
21 OCCUPATIONAL QUALIFICATION; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT NEITHER THIS PARA-  
22 GRAPH NOR ANY PROVISION OF THIS CHAPTER OR OTHER LAW SHALL BE CONSTRUED  
23 TO PROHIBIT THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL SERVICE OR THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSON-  
24 NEL OF ANY CITY CONTAINING MORE THAN ONE COUNTY FROM REQUESTING INFORMA-  
25 TION FROM APPLICANTS FOR CIVIL SERVICE INTERNSHIPS OR EXAMINATIONS  
26 CONCERNING ANY OF THE AFOREMENTIONED CHARACTERISTICS, OTHER THAN SEXUAL  
27 ORIENTATION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING STUDIES TO IDENTIFY AND  
28 RESOLVE POSSIBLE PROBLEMS IN RECRUITMENT AND TESTING OF MEMBERS OF  
29 MINORITY GROUPS TO INSURE THE FAIREST POSSIBLE AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES  
30 FOR EMPLOYMENT IN THE CIVIL SERVICE FOR ALL PERSONS, REGARDLESS OF AGE,  
31 RACE, CREED, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, MILITARY  
32 STATUS, SEX, DISABILITY, RELIGION, PREDISPOSING GENETIC CHARACTERISTICS,  
33 MARITAL STATUS OR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIM STATUS;

34 D. TO DISCHARGE, EXPEL OR OTHERWISE DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ANY PERSON  
35 BECAUSE HE OR SHE HAS OPPOSED ANY PRACTICES FORBIDDEN UNDER THIS ARTICLE  
36 OR BECAUSE HE OR SHE HAS FILED A COMPLAINT, TESTIFIED OR ASSISTED IN ANY  
37 PROCEEDING UNDER THIS ARTICLE; OR

38 E. TO COMPEL AN INTERN WHO IS PREGNANT TO TAKE A LEAVE OF ABSENCE,  
39 UNLESS THE INTERN IS PREVENTED BY SUCH PREGNANCY FROM PERFORMING THE  
40 ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN THE JOB OR OCCUPATION IN A REASONABLE MANNER.

41 3. IT SHALL BE AN UNLAWFUL DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICE FOR AN EMPLOYER TO:

42 A. ENGAGE IN UNWELCOME SEXUAL ADVANCES, REQUESTS FOR SEXUAL FAVORS, OR  
43 OTHER VERBAL OR PHYSICAL CONDUCT OF A SEXUAL NATURE TO AN INTERN WHEN:

44 (1) SUBMISSION TO SUCH CONDUCT IS MADE EITHER EXPLICITLY OR IMPLICITLY  
45 A TERM OR CONDITION OF THE INTERN'S EMPLOYMENT;

46 (2) SUBMISSION TO OR REJECTION OF SUCH CONDUCT BY THE INTERN IS USED  
47 AS THE BASIS FOR EMPLOYMENT DECISIONS AFFECTING SUCH INDIVIDUAL; OR

48 (3) SUCH CONDUCT HAS THE PURPOSE OR EFFECT OF UNREASONABLY INTERFERING  
49 WITH THE INTERN'S WORK PERFORMANCE BY CREATING AN INTIMIDATING, HOSTILE,  
50 OR OFFENSIVE WORKING ENVIRONMENT; OR

51 B. SUBJECT AN INTERN TO UNWELCOME HARASSMENT BASED ON AGE, SEX, RACE,  
52 CREED, COLOR, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, MILITARY STATUS, DISABILITY, PREDIS-  
53 POSING GENETIC CHARACTERISTICS, MARITAL STATUS, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIM  
54 STATUS, RELIGION OR NATIONAL ORIGIN, WHERE SUCH HARASSMENT HAS THE  
55 PURPOSE OR EFFECT OF UNREASONABLY INTERFERING WITH THE INTERN'S WORK

1 PERFORMANCE BY CREATING AN INTIMIDATING, HOSTILE, OR OFFENSIVE WORKING  
2 ENVIRONMENT.

3 4. NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL AFFECT ANY RESTRICTIONS UPON THE  
4 ACTIVITIES OF PERSONS LICENSED BY THE STATE LIQUOR AUTHORITY WITH  
5 RESPECT TO PERSONS UNDER TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF AGE.

6 5. NOTHING IN SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION SHALL CREATE AN EMPLOY-  
7 MENT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AN EMPLOYER AND AN INTERN FOR THE PURPOSES OF  
8 ARTICLES SIX, SEVEN, EIGHTEEN OR NINETEEN OF THE LABOR LAW.

9 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.