

5595

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

May 15, 2015

Introduced by Sen. SERRANO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations

AN ACT to amend the executive law and the criminal procedure law, in relation to preventing employment discrimination against persons whose criminal charges have been adjourned in contemplation of dismissal

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision 16 of section 296 of the executive law, as
2 separately amended by section 3 of part N and section 14 of part AAA of
3 chapter 56 of the laws of 2009, is amended to read as follows:
4 16. It shall be an unlawful discriminatory practice, unless specif-
5 ically required or permitted by statute, for any person, agency, bureau,
6 corporation or association, including the state and any political subdivi-
7 sion thereof, to make any inquiry about, whether in any form of appli-
8 cation or otherwise, or to act upon adversely to the individual
9 involved, any arrest or criminal accusation of such individual not then
10 pending against that individual which was followed by a termination of
11 that criminal action or proceeding in favor of such individual, as
12 defined in subdivision two of section 160.50 of the criminal procedure
13 law, OR BY AN ORDER ADJOURNING THE CRIMINAL ACTION IN CONTEMPLATION OF
14 DISMISSAL, PURSUANT TO SECTION 170.55, 170.56, 210.46, 210.47, OR 215.10
15 OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE LAW, or by a youthful offender adjudication,
16 as defined in subdivision one of section 720.35 of the criminal proce-
17 dure law, or by a conviction for a violation sealed pursuant to section
18 160.55 of the criminal procedure law or by a conviction which is sealed
19 pursuant to section 160.58 of the criminal procedure law, in connection
20 with the licensing, employment or providing of credit or insurance to
21 such individual; provided, further, that no person shall be required to
22 divulge information pertaining to any arrest or criminal accusation of
23 such individual not then pending against that individual which was

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

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1 followed by a termination of that criminal action or proceeding in favor
2 of such individual, as defined in subdivision two of section 160.50 of
3 the criminal procedure law, OR BY AN ORDER ADJOURNING THE CRIMINAL
4 ACTION IN CONTEMPLATION OF DISMISSAL, PURSUANT TO SECTION 170.55 OR
5 170.56 OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE LAW, or by a youthful offender adjudi-
6 cation, as defined in subdivision one of section 720.35 of the criminal
7 procedure law, or by a conviction for a violation sealed pursuant to
8 section 160.55 of the criminal procedure law, or by a conviction which
9 is sealed pursuant to section 160.58 of the criminal procedure law. The
10 provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to the licensing activi-
11 ties of governmental bodies in relation to the regulation of guns,
12 firearms and other deadly weapons or in relation to an application for
13 employment as a police officer or peace officer as those terms are
14 defined in subdivisions thirty-three and thirty-four of section 1.20 of
15 the criminal procedure law; provided further that the provisions of this
16 subdivision shall not apply to an application for employment or member-
17 ship in any law enforcement agency with respect to any arrest or crimi-
18 nal accusation which was followed by a youthful offender adjudication,
19 as defined in subdivision one of section 720.35 of the criminal proce-
20 dure law, or by a conviction for a violation sealed pursuant to section
21 160.55 of the criminal procedure law, or by a conviction which is sealed
22 pursuant to section 160.58 of the criminal procedure law. FOR PURPOSES
23 OF THIS SUBDIVISION, AN ACTION WHICH HAS BEEN ADJOURNED IN CONTEMPLATION
24 OF DISMISSAL, PURSUANT TO SECTION 170.55 OR 170.56 OF THE CRIMINAL
25 PROCEDURE LAW, SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED A PENDING ACTION, UNLESS THE CASE
26 HAS BEEN RESTORED TO THE CALENDAR.

27 S 2. Subdivision 8 of section 170.55 of the criminal procedure law, as
28 added by chapter 134 of the laws of 1982 and as renumbered by chapter
29 683 of the laws of 1990, is amended to read as follows:

30 8. The granting of an adjournment in contemplation of dismissal shall
31 not be deemed to be a conviction or an admission of guilt. No person
32 shall suffer any disability or forfeiture as a result of such an order.
33 UPON GRANTING THE ORDER OF ADJOURNMENT, THE ACTION SHALL BE CONSIDERED
34 TERMINATED IN THE DEFENDANT'S FAVOR FOR THE PURPOSE OF EMPLOYMENT AS
35 DEFINED BY SUBDIVISION FIVE OF SECTION SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY OF THE
36 CORRECTION LAW OR LICENSE AS DEFINED BY SUBDIVISION FOUR OF SECTION
37 SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY OF THE CORRECTION LAW. Upon the dismissal of the
38 accusatory instrument pursuant to this section, the arrest and prose-
39 cution shall be deemed a nullity and the defendant shall be restored, in
40 contemplation of law, to the status he OR SHE occupied before his OR HER
41 arrest and prosecution.

42 S 3. Subdivision 4 of section 170.56 of the criminal procedure law, as
43 added by chapter 1042 of the laws of 1971, is amended to read as
44 follows:

45 4. UPON THE GRANTING OF AN ORDER PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION TWO OF THIS
46 SECTION, THE ACTION SHALL BE CONSIDERED TERMINATED IN THE DEFENDANT'S
47 FAVOR FOR THE PURPOSE OF EMPLOYMENT AS DEFINED BY SUBDIVISION FIVE OF
48 SECTION SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY OF THE CORRECTION LAW OR A LICENSE AS
49 DEFINED BY SUBDIVISION FOUR OF SECTION SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY OF THE
50 CORRECTION LAW. Upon the granting of an order pursuant to subdivision
51 three, the arrest and prosecution shall be deemed a nullity and the
52 defendant shall be restored, in contemplation of law, to the status he
53 OR SHE occupied before his OR HER arrest and prosecution.

54 S 4. No provision of this act shall be construed to impair or diminish
55 any rights an employee or licensee, or an applicant for employment or a

1 license, may already possess pursuant to section 170.55 or 170.56 of the
2 criminal procedure law.
3 S 5. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
4 have become a law.