

1447

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

January 12, 2015

Introduced by M. of A. TEDISCO, RAIA, HAWLEY -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M.
of A. BARCLAY, BUTLER, CERETTO, CROUCH, DUPREY, FINCH, FITZPATRICK,
GIGLIO, KOLB, LOPEZ, McDONOUGH, McKEVITT, OAKS, SALADINO, THIELE --
read once and referred to the Committee on Codes

AN ACT to amend the penal law and the criminal procedure law, in
relation to crimes against vulnerable elderly or disabled persons

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

1 Section 1. Section 260.31 of the penal law, as added by chapter 381 of
2 the laws of 1998, subdivision 1 as amended, subdivision 4 as added and
3 such section as renumbered by chapter 14 of the laws of 2010, and subdi-
4 vision 2 as amended by chapter 193 of the laws of 2010, is amended to
5 read as follows:
6 S 260.31 Vulnerable elderly persons; definitions.
7 For the purpose of sections 260.32 and 260.34 of this article, the
8 following definitions shall apply:
9 1. ["Caregiver" means a person who (i) assumes responsibility for the
10 care of a vulnerable elderly person, or an incompetent or physically
11 disabled person pursuant to a court order; or (ii) receives monetary or
12 other valuable consideration for providing care for a vulnerable elderly
13 person, or an incompetent or physically disabled person.
14 2.] "Sexual contact" means any touching of the sexual or other inti-
15 mate parts of a person for the purpose of gratifying sexual desire of
16 either party. It includes the touching of the actor by the victim, as
17 well as the touching of the victim by the actor, whether directly or
18 through clothing, as well as the emission of ejaculate by the actor upon
19 any part of the victim, clothed or unclothed.
20 [3.] 2. "Vulnerable elderly person" means a person sixty years of age
21 or older who is suffering from a disease or infirmity associated with
22 advanced age and manifested by demonstrable physical, mental or
23 emotional dysfunction to the extent that the person is incapable of

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

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adequately providing for his or her own health or personal care OR A PERSON SEVENTY YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER.

[4.] 3. "Incompetent or physically disabled person" means an individual who is unable to care for himself or herself because of physical disability, mental disease or defect.

S 2. The opening paragraph and subdivision 4 of section 260.32 of the penal law, as amended by chapter 14 of the laws of 2010, are amended to read as follows:

A person is guilty of endangering the welfare of a vulnerable elderly person, or an incompetent or physically disabled person in the second degree when[, being a caregiver for a vulnerable elderly person, or an incompetent or physically disabled person]:

4. He or she subjects such person to sexual contact without the latter's consent. Lack of consent under this subdivision results from forcible compulsion or incapacity to consent, as those terms are defined in article one hundred thirty of this [chapter] PART, or any other circumstances in which the vulnerable elderly person, or an incompetent or physically disabled person does not expressly or impliedly acquiesce [in the caregiver's conduct]. In any prosecution under this subdivision in which the victim's alleged lack of consent results solely from incapacity to consent because of the victim's mental disability or mental incapacity, the provisions of section 130.16 of this [chapter] PART shall apply. In addition, in any prosecution under this subdivision in which the victim's lack of consent is based solely upon his or her incapacity to consent because he or she was mentally disabled, mentally incapacitated or physically helpless, it is an affirmative defense that the defendant, at the time he or she engaged in the conduct constituting the offense, did not know of the facts or conditions responsible for such incapacity to consent.

S 3. The opening paragraph of section 260.34 of the penal law, as amended by chapter 14 of the laws of 2010, is amended to read as follows:

A person is guilty of endangering the welfare of a vulnerable elderly person, or an incompetent or physically disabled person in the first degree when[, being a caregiver for a vulnerable elderly person, or an incompetent or physically disabled person]:

S 4. Paragraphs (c) and (d) of subdivision 1 of section 70.02 of the penal law, paragraph (c) as amended by chapter 1 of the laws of 2013 and paragraph (d) as amended by chapter 7 of the laws of 2007, are amended to read as follows:

(c) Class D violent felony offenses: an attempt to commit any of the class C felonies set forth in paragraph (b); reckless assault of a child as defined in section 120.02, assault in the second degree as defined in section 120.05, menacing a police officer or peace officer as defined in section 120.18, stalking in the first degree, as defined in subdivision one of section 120.60, strangulation in the second degree as defined in section 121.12, rape in the second degree as defined in section 130.30, criminal sexual act in the second degree as defined in section 130.45, sexual abuse in the first degree as defined in section 130.65, course of sexual conduct against a child in the second degree as defined in section 130.80, aggravated sexual abuse in the third degree as defined in section 130.66, facilitating a sex offense with a controlled substance as defined in section 130.90, criminal possession of a weapon in the third degree as defined in subdivision five, six, seven, eight, nine or ten of section 265.02, criminal sale of a firearm in the third degree as defined in section 265.11, intimidating a victim or witness in

1 the second degree as defined in section 215.16, ENDANGERING THE WELFARE
2 OF A VULNERABLE ELDERLY PERSON IN THE FIRST DEGREE AS DEFINED IN SECTION
3 260.34, soliciting or providing support for an act of terrorism in the
4 second degree as defined in section 490.10, and making a terroristic
5 threat as defined in section 490.20, falsely reporting an incident in
6 the first degree as defined in section 240.60, placing a false bomb or
7 hazardous substance in the first degree as defined in section 240.62,
8 placing a false bomb or hazardous substance in a sports stadium or
9 arena, mass transportation facility or enclosed shopping mall as defined
10 in section 240.63, and aggravated unpermitted use of indoor pyrotechnics
11 in the first degree as defined in section 405.18.

12 (d) Class E violent felony offenses: ENDANGERING THE WELFARE OF A
13 VULNERABLE ELDERLY PERSON IN THE SECOND DEGREE AS DEFINED IN SECTION
14 260.32, an attempt to commit any of the felonies of criminal possession
15 of a weapon in the third degree as defined in subdivision five, six,
16 seven or eight of section 265.02 as a lesser included offense of that
17 section as defined in section 220.20 of the criminal procedure law,
18 persistent sexual abuse as defined in section 130.53, aggravated sexual
19 abuse in the fourth degree as defined in section 130.65-a, falsely
20 reporting an incident in the second degree as defined in section 240.55
21 and placing a false bomb or hazardous substance in the second degree as
22 defined in section 240.61.

23 S 5. Part 4 of the penal law is amended by adding a new title Y-3 to
24 read as follows:

25 TITLE Y-3
26 CRIMES AGAINST THE
27 ELDERLY OR DISABLED
28 ARTICLE 497
29 CRIMES AGAINST THE
30 ELDERLY OR DISABLED

31 SECTION 497.00 CRIMES AGAINST THE ELDERLY OR DISABLED.
32 497.05 SENTENCING.

33 S 497.00 CRIMES AGAINST THE ELDERLY OR DISABLED.

34 1. A PERSON COMMITS A CRIME AGAINST THE ELDERLY OR DISABLED WHEN HE OR
35 SHE COMMITS A SPECIFIED OFFENSE AND EITHER:

36 (A) INTENTIONALLY SELECTS THE PERSON AGAINST WHOM THE OFFENSE IS
37 COMMITTED OR INTENDED TO BE COMMITTED IN WHOLE OR IN SUBSTANTIAL PART
38 BECAUSE OF A BELIEF OR PERCEPTION REGARDING THE DISABILITY STATUS OR AGE
39 RELATED INFIRMITY OR DISEASE OF A PERSON, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE
40 BELIEF OR PERCEPTION IS CORRECT; OR

41 (B) INTENTIONALLY COMMITS THE ACT OR ACTS CONSTITUTING THE OFFENSE IN
42 WHOLE OR IN SUBSTANTIAL PART BECAUSE OF A BELIEF OR PERCEPTION REGARDING
43 DISABILITY STATUS OR AGE RELATED INFIRMITY OR DISEASE OF A PERSON,
44 REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE BELIEF OR PERCEPTION IS CORRECT.

45 2. FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION: (A) WHEN A PERSON REASONABLY
46 APPEARS TO HAVE A DISABILITY OR AN AGE RELATED INFIRMITY OR DISEASE,
47 THERE SHALL BE A REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION THE DEFENDANT SELECTED THE
48 PERSON AGAINST WHOM THE OFFENSE OR ACT IS COMMITTED OR INTENDED TO BE
49 COMMITTED, IN WHOLE OR IN PART BECAUSE OF A BELIEF OR PERCEPTION REGARD-
50 ING THE DISABILITY STATUS OR AGE RELATED INFIRMITY OR DISEASE OF SUCH
51 PERSON; AND (B) WHEN A PERSON IS SEVENTY YEARS OLD OR MORE, THERE SHALL
52 BE A REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION THAT SUCH PERSON APPEARS TO HAVE A DISABILI-
53 TY OR AN AGE RELATED INFIRMITY.

54 3. A "SPECIFIED OFFENSE" IS AN OFFENSE DEFINED BY ANY OF THE FOLLOWING
55 PROVISIONS OF THIS CHAPTER: SECTION 120.00 (ASSAULT IN THE THIRD
56 DEGREE); SECTION 120.05 (ASSAULT IN THE SECOND DEGREE); SECTION 120.10

1 (ASSAULT IN THE FIRST DEGREE); SECTION 120.12 (AGGRAVATED ASSAULT UPON A
2 PERSON LESS THAN ELEVEN YEARS OLD); SECTION 120.13 (MENACING IN THE
3 FIRST DEGREE); SECTION 120.14 (MENACING IN THE SECOND DEGREE); SECTION
4 120.15 (MENACING IN THE THIRD DEGREE); SECTION 120.20 (RECKLESS ENDAN-
5 GERMENT IN THE SECOND DEGREE); SECTION 120.25 (RECKLESS ENDANGERMENT IN
6 THE FIRST DEGREE); SECTION 120.45 (STALKING IN THE FOURTH DEGREE);
7 SECTION 120.50 (STALKING IN THE THIRD DEGREE); SECTION 120.55 (STALKING
8 IN THE SECOND DEGREE); SECTION 120.60 (STALKING IN THE FIRST DEGREE);
9 SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION 125.15 (MANSLAUGHTER IN THE SECOND DEGREE);
10 SUBDIVISION ONE, TWO OR FOUR OF SECTION 125.20 (MANSLAUGHTER IN THE
11 FIRST DEGREE); SECTION 125.25 (MURDER IN THE SECOND DEGREE); SUBDIVISION
12 ONE OF SECTION 130.35 (RAPE IN THE FIRST DEGREE); SUBDIVISION ONE OF
13 SECTION 130.50 (CRIMINAL SEXUAL ACT IN THE FIRST DEGREE); SUBDIVISION
14 ONE OF SECTION 130.65 (SEXUAL ABUSE IN THE FIRST DEGREE); PARAGRAPH (A)
15 OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION 130.67 (AGGRAVATED SEXUAL ABUSE IN THE
16 SECOND DEGREE); PARAGRAPH (A) OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF SECTION 130.70
17 (AGGRAVATED SEXUAL ABUSE IN THE FIRST DEGREE); SECTION 135.05 (UNLAWFUL
18 IMPRISONMENT IN THE SECOND DEGREE); SECTION 135.10 (UNLAWFUL IMPRISON-
19 MENT IN THE FIRST DEGREE); SECTION 135.20 (KIDNAPPING IN THE SECOND
20 DEGREE); SECTION 135.25 (KIDNAPPING IN THE FIRST DEGREE); SECTION 135.60
21 (COERCION IN THE SECOND DEGREE); SECTION 135.65 (COERCION IN THE FIRST
22 DEGREE); SECTION 140.10 (CRIMINAL TRESPASS IN THE THIRD DEGREE); SECTION
23 140.15 (CRIMINAL TRESPASS IN THE SECOND DEGREE); SECTION 140.17 (CRIMI-
24 NAL TRESPASS IN THE FIRST DEGREE); SECTION 140.20 (BURGLARY IN THE THIRD
25 DEGREE); SECTION 140.25 (BURGLARY IN THE SECOND DEGREE); SECTION 140.30
26 (BURGLARY IN THE FIRST DEGREE); SECTION 145.00 (CRIMINAL MISCHIEF IN THE
27 FOURTH DEGREE); SECTION 145.05 (CRIMINAL MISCHIEF IN THE THIRD DEGREE);
28 SECTION 145.10 (CRIMINAL MISCHIEF IN THE SECOND DEGREE); SECTION 145.12
29 (CRIMINAL MISCHIEF IN THE FIRST DEGREE); SECTION 150.05 (ARSON IN THE
30 FOURTH DEGREE); SECTION 150.10 (ARSON IN THE THIRD DEGREE); SECTION
31 150.15 (ARSON IN THE SECOND DEGREE); SECTION 150.20 (ARSON IN THE FIRST
32 DEGREE); SECTION 155.25 (PETIT LARCENY); SECTION 155.30 (GRAND LARCENY
33 IN THE FOURTH DEGREE); SECTION 155.35 (GRAND LARCENY IN THE THIRD
34 DEGREE); SECTION 155.40 (GRAND LARCENY IN THE SECOND DEGREE); SECTION
35 155.42 (GRAND LARCENY IN THE FIRST DEGREE); SECTION 160.05 (ROBBERY IN
36 THE THIRD DEGREE); SECTION 160.10 (ROBBERY IN THE SECOND DEGREE);
37 SECTION 160.15 (ROBBERY IN THE FIRST DEGREE); SECTION 240.25 (HARASSMENT
38 IN THE FIRST DEGREE); SUBDIVISION ONE, TWO OR FOUR OF SECTION 240.30
39 (AGGRAVATED HARASSMENT IN THE SECOND DEGREE); OR ANY ATTEMPT OR CONSPIR-
40 ACY TO COMMIT ANY OF THE FOREGOING OFFENSES.

41 4. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:

42 (A) A PERSON HAS AN AGE RELATED INFIRMITY OR DISEASE WHEN, BEING SIXTY
43 YEARS OLD OR MORE, SUCH PERSON HAS A PHYSICAL OR MENTAL DISEASE OR
44 INFIRMITY, TYPICALLY ASSOCIATED WITH ADVANCED AGE, WHICH SUBSTANTIALLY
45 LIMITS A MAJOR LIFE ACTIVITY;

46 (B) THE TERM "SUBSTANTIAL PART" INCLUDES BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO CIRCUM-
47 STANCES IN WHICH A DEFENDANT SELECTS A PERSON AGAINST WHOM TO COMMIT OR
48 ATTEMPT TO COMMIT A CRIME DUE TO A BELIEF OR PERCEPTION THAT SUCH PERSON
49 IS LESS LIKELY TO RESIST OR BE ABLE TO RESIST SUCH CRIME DUE TO THEIR
50 DISABILITY OR AGE RELATED INFIRMITY OR DISEASE, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER
51 SUCH BELIEF OR PERCEPTION IS CORRECT;

52 (C) THE TERM "DISABILITY" MEANS A PHYSICAL OR MENTAL IMPAIRMENT THAT
53 SUBSTANTIALLY LIMITS A MAJOR LIFE ACTIVITY; AND

54 (D) THE TERM "RESIST" INCLUDES, IN ADDITION TO ITS REGULAR MEANING,
55 REPORTING SUCH CRIME TO LAW ENFORCEMENT, OBSERVING, RECALLING, OR
56 REPORTING KEY FEATURES OF ANY ACT OR CHARACTERISTIC OF A DEFENDANT

1 RELATED TO SUCH CRIME, OR PROVIDING EVIDENCE TO AID IN THE INVESTIGATION
2 OR PROSECUTION OF SUCH CRIME.

3 S 497.05 SENTENCING.

4 1. WHEN A PERSON IS CONVICTED OF A CRIME AGAINST THE ELDERLY OR DISA-
5 BLED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE, AND THE SPECIFIED OFFENSE IS A VIOLENT
6 FELONY OFFENSE, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 70.02 OF THIS CHAPTER, THE CRIME
7 AGAINST THE ELDERLY OR DISABLED SHALL BE DEEMED A VIOLENT FELONY
8 OFFENSE.

9 2. WHEN A PERSON IS CONVICTED OF A CRIME AGAINST THE ELDERLY OR DISA-
10 BLED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE AND THE SPECIFIED OFFENSE IS A MISDEMEANOR
11 OR A CLASS C, D OR E FELONY, THE CRIME AGAINST THE ELDERLY OR DISABLED
12 SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE ONE CATEGORY HIGHER THAN THE SPECIFIED OFFENSE THE
13 DEFENDANT COMMITTED, OR ONE CATEGORY HIGHER THAN THE OFFENSE LEVEL
14 APPLICABLE TO THE DEFENDANT'S CONVICTION FOR AN ATTEMPT OR CONSPIRACY TO
15 COMMIT A SPECIFIED OFFENSE, WHICHEVER IS APPLICABLE.

16 3. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, WHEN A PERSON IS
17 CONVICTED OF A CRIME AGAINST THE ELDERLY OR DISABLED PURSUANT TO THIS
18 ARTICLE AND THE SPECIFIED OFFENSE IS A CLASS B FELONY OFFENSE:

19 (A) THE MAXIMUM TERM OF THE INDETERMINATE SENTENCE MUST BE AT LEAST
20 SIX YEARS IF THE DEFENDANT IS SENTENCED PURSUANT TO SECTION 70.00 OF
21 THIS CHAPTER;

22 (B) THE TERM OF THE DETERMINATE SENTENCE MUST BE AT LEAST EIGHT YEARS
23 IF THE DEFENDANT IS SENTENCED PURSUANT TO SECTION 70.02 OF THIS CHAPTER;

24 (C) THE TERM OF THE DETERMINATE SENTENCE MUST BE AT LEAST TWELVE YEARS
25 IF THE DEFENDANT IS SENTENCED PURSUANT TO SECTION 70.04 OF THIS CHAPTER;

26 (D) THE MAXIMUM TERM OF THE INDETERMINATE SENTENCE MUST BE AT LEAST
27 FOUR YEARS IF THE DEFENDANT IS SENTENCED PURSUANT TO SECTION 70.05 OF
28 THIS CHAPTER; AND

29 (E) THE MAXIMUM TERM OF THE INDETERMINATE SENTENCE OR THE TERM OF THE
30 DETERMINATE SENTENCE MUST BE AT LEAST TEN YEARS IF THE DEFENDANT IS
31 SENTENCED PURSUANT TO SECTION 70.06 OF THIS CHAPTER.

32 4. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, WHEN A PERSON IS
33 CONVICTED OF CRIME AGAINST THE ELDERLY OR DISABLED PURSUANT TO THIS
34 ARTICLE AND THE SPECIFIED OFFENSE IS A CLASS A-1 FELONY, THE MINIMUM
35 PERIOD OF THE INDETERMINATE SENTENCE SHALL BE NOT LESS THAN TWENTY
36 YEARS.

37 S 6. Subdivisions 4 and 7 of section 200.50 of the criminal procedure
38 law, subdivision 4 as amended by section 15 of subpart A of part H of
39 chapter 55 of the laws of 2014 and subdivision 7 as amended by chapter 7
40 of the laws of 2007, are amended to read as follows:

41 4. A statement in each count that the grand jury, or, where the accu-
42 satory instrument is a superior court information, the district attor-
43 ney, accuses the defendant or defendants of a designated offense,
44 provided that in any prosecution under article four hundred eighty-five
45 of the penal law, the designated offense shall be the specified offense,
46 as defined in subdivision three of section 485.05 of the penal law,
47 followed by the phrase "as a hate crime", and provided further that in
48 any prosecution under section 490.25 of the penal law, the designated
49 offense shall be the specified offense, as defined in subdivision three
50 of section 490.05 of the penal law, followed by the phrase "as a crime
51 of terrorism"; and provided further that in any prosecution under
52 section 130.91 of the penal law, the designated offense shall be the
53 specified offense, as defined in subdivision two of section 130.91 of
54 the penal law, followed by the phrase "as a sexually motivated felony";
55 AND PROVIDED FURTHER THAT IN ANY PROSECUTION UNDER SECTION 497.00 OF THE
56 PENAL LAW, THE DESIGNATED OFFENSE SHALL BE THE SPECIFIED OFFENSE, AS

1 DEFINED IN SUBDIVISION THREE OF SECTION 497.00 OF THE PENAL LAW,
2 FOLLOWED BY THE PHRASE "AS A CRIME AGAINST THE ELDERLY OR DISABLED"; and
3 provided further that in any prosecution under section 496.06 of the
4 penal law, the designated offense shall be the specified offense, as
5 defined in subdivision two of such section, followed by the phrase "as a
6 public corruption crime"; and

7 7. A plain and concise factual statement in each count which, without
8 allegations of an evidentiary nature,

9 (a) asserts facts supporting every element of the offense charged and
10 the defendant's or defendants' commission thereof with sufficient preci-
11 sion to clearly apprise the defendant or defendants of the conduct which
12 is the subject of the accusation; and

13 (b) in the case of any armed felony, as defined in subdivision forty-
14 one of section 1.20, states that such offense is an armed felony and
15 specifies the particular implement the defendant or defendants
16 possessed, were armed with, used or displayed or, in the case of an
17 implement displayed, specifies what the implement appeared to be; and

18 (c) in the case of any hate crime, as defined in section 485.05 of the
19 penal law, specifies, as applicable, that the defendant or defendants
20 intentionally selected the person against whom the offense was committed
21 or intended to be committed; or intentionally committed the act or acts
22 constituting the offense, in whole or in substantial part because of a
23 belief or perception regarding the race, color, national origin, ances-
24 try, gender, religion, religious practice, age, disability or sexual
25 orientation of a person; and

26 (d) in the case of a crime of terrorism, as defined in section 490.25
27 of the penal law, specifies, as applicable, that the defendant or
28 defendants acted with intent to intimidate or coerce a civilian popu-
29 lation, influence the policy of a unit of government by intimidation or
30 coercion, or affect the conduct of a unit of government by murder,
31 assassination or kidnapping; and

32 (e) in the case of a sexually motivated felony, as defined in section
33 130.91 of the penal law, asserts facts supporting the allegation that
34 the offense was sexually motivated; and

35 (F) IN THE CASE OF ANY CRIME AGAINST THE ELDERLY OR DISABLED, AS
36 DEFINED IN SECTION 497.00 OF THE PENAL LAW, SPECIFIES, AS APPLICABLE,
37 THAT THE DEFENDANT OR DEFENDANTS INTENTIONALLY SELECTED THE PERSON
38 AGAINST WHOM THE OFFENSE WAS COMMITTED OR INTENDED TO BE COMMITTED; OR
39 INTENTIONALLY COMMITTED THE ACT OR ACTS CONSTITUTING THE OFFENSE, IN
40 WHOLE OR IN SUBSTANTIAL PART BECAUSE OF A BELIEF OR PERCEPTION REGARDING
41 THE DISABILITY STATUS OR AGE RELATED INFIRMITY OR DISEASE OF A PERSON;
42 AND

43 S 7. This act shall take effect on the first of November next succeed-
44 ing the date on which it shall have become a law.