

3949

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N   A S S E M B L Y

January 28, 2015

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Introduced by M. of A. WRIGHT, ROBINSON, GANTT, MOSLEY, JAFFEE, TITUS --  
Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. BRENNAN, CLARK, FARRELL, HEASTIE, HOOPER,  
PEOPLES-STOKES, SCARBOROUGH, TITONE -- read once and referred to  
the Committee on Codes

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to ethnic or racial  
profiling

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 837-s  
2     to read as follows:

3     S 837-S. ETHNIC AND RACIAL PROFILING. 1. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS  
4     SECTION:

5     (A) "LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY" MEANS AN AGENCY ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE  
6     OR A UNIT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT WHICH EMPLOYS POLICE OFFICERS OR PEACE  
7     OFFICERS WHO ARE EMPOWERED TO AND IN THE COURSE OF THEIR OFFICIAL DUTIES  
8     LAWFULLY STOP MOTOR VEHICLES OR STOP AND FRISK INDIVIDUALS.

9     (B) "LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER" MEANS A POLICE OFFICER OR PEACE OFFICER  
10    EMPLOYED BY A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.

11    (C) "RACIAL OR ETHNIC PROFILING" MEANS THE STOPPING OF A MOTOR VEHICLE,  
12    THE STOPPING AND QUESTIONING OF AN INDIVIDUAL OR THE STOPPING AND  
13    FRISKING OF AN INDIVIDUAL BY A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER THAT IS BASED  
14    UPON AN INDIVIDUAL'S ACTUAL OR APPARENT RACIAL OR ETHNIC STATUS WITHOUT  
15    REASONABLE INDIVIDUALIZED SUSPICION OR CAUSE TO LAWFULLY JUSTIFY SUCH  
16    CONDUCT.

17    2. EVERY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY AND EVERY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER  
18    SHALL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENGAGING IN RACIAL OR ETHNIC PROFILING.

19    3. ON OR BEFORE JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND EIGHTEEN, EVERY LAW  
20    ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SHALL PROMULGATE AND ADOPT A WRITTEN POLICY WHICH  
21    PROHIBITS RACIAL OR ETHNIC PROFILING. IN ADDITION, EACH SUCH AGENCY  
22    SHALL PROMULGATE AND ADOPT PROCEDURES FOR THE REVIEW AND THE TAKING OF  
23    CORRECTIVE ACTION WITH RESPECT TO COMPLAINTS BY INDIVIDUALS WHO ALLEGE

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

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1 THAT THEY HAVE BEEN THE SUBJECT OF RACIAL OR ETHNIC PROFILING. A COPY OF  
2 EACH SUCH COMPLAINT RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION AND WRITTEN  
3 NOTIFICATION OF THE REVIEW AND DISPOSITION OF SUCH COMPLAINT SHALL BE  
4 PROMPTLY PROVIDED BY SUCH AGENCY TO THE DIVISION.

5 4. COMMENCING ON JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND EIGHTEEN, EACH LAW  
6 ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SHALL, USING A FORM TO BE DETERMINED BY THE DIVISION,  
7 RECORD AND RETAIN THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WITH RESPECT TO LAW ENFORCE-  
8 MENT OFFICERS EMPLOYED BY SUCH AGENCY:

9 (A) THE NUMBER OF PERSONS STOPPED FOR TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS AND THE  
10 NUMBER OF PERSONS STOPPED WHERE SUCH STOP RESULTED IN A PERSON BEING  
11 PATTED DOWN, FRISKED AND/OR SEARCHED;

12 (B) THE CHARACTERISTICS OF RACE, COLOR, ETHNICITY, GENDER AND AGE OF  
13 EACH SUCH PERSON, PROVIDED THE IDENTIFICATION OF SUCH CHARACTERISTICS  
14 SHALL BE BASED ON THE OBSERVATION AND PERCEPTION OF THE OFFICER RESPON-  
15 SIBLE FOR REPORTING THE STOP AND THE INFORMATION SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED  
16 TO BE PROVIDED BY THE PERSON STOPPED;

17 (C) IF A VEHICLE WAS STOPPED, THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS IN THE STOPPED  
18 MOTOR VEHICLE;

19 (D) WHETHER IMMIGRATION STATUS WAS QUESTIONED, IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS  
20 REQUESTED, AND IF ANY FURTHER INQUIRY WAS MADE TO THE IMMIGRATION AND  
21 NATURALIZATION SERVICE WITH RESPECT TO ANY PERSON STOPPED OR IN THE  
22 MOTOR VEHICLE;

23 (E) THE NATURE OF THE ALLEGED TRAFFIC VIOLATION THAT RESULTED IN THE  
24 STOP OR THE BASIS FOR THE CONDUCT THAT RESULTED IN THE INDIVIDUAL BEING  
25 STOPPED AND PATTED DOWN, FRISKED AND/OR SEARCHED;

26 (F) WHETHER A PAT DOWN OR FRISK WAS CONDUCTED AND, IF SO, THE RESULT  
27 OF THE PAT DOWN OR FRISK;

28 (G) WHETHER A SEARCH WAS CONDUCTED AND, IF SO, THE RESULT OF THE  
29 SEARCH;

30 (H) IF A SEARCH WAS CONDUCTED, WHETHER THE SEARCH WAS OF A PERSON, A  
31 PERSON'S PROPERTY, AND/OR A PERSON'S VEHICLE, AND WHETHER THE SEARCH WAS  
32 CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO CONSENT AND IF NOT, THE BASIS FOR CONDUCTING THE  
33 SEARCH INCLUDING ANY ALLEGED CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR THAT JUSTIFIED THE  
34 SEARCH;

35 (I) WHETHER AN INVENTORY SEARCH OF SUCH PERSON'S IMPOUNDED VEHICLE WAS  
36 CONDUCTED;

37 (J) WHETHER A WARNING OR CITATION WAS ISSUED;

38 (K) WHETHER AN ARREST WAS MADE AND FOR WHAT CHARGE OR CHARGES;

39 (L) THE APPROXIMATE DURATION OF THE STOP; AND

40 (M) THE TIME AND LOCATION OF THE STOP.

41 5. EVERY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SHALL COMPILE THE INFORMATION SET  
42 FORTH IN SUBDIVISION FOUR OF THIS SECTION FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR INTO A  
43 REPORT TO THE DIVISION. THE FORMAT OF SUCH REPORT SHALL BE DETERMINED BY  
44 THE DIVISION. THE REPORT SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE DIVISION NO LATER  
45 THAN MARCH FIRST OF THE FOLLOWING CALENDAR YEAR.

46 6. NOT LATER THAN JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND EIGHTEEN, THE DIVISION,  
47 IN CONSULTATION WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, SHALL DEVELOP AND PROMULGATE:

48 (A) A FORM IN BOTH PRINTED AND ELECTRONIC FORMAT, TO BE USED BY LAW  
49 ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TO RECORD THE INFORMATION LISTED IN SUBDIVISION  
50 FOUR OF THIS SECTION WHEN MAKING A TRAFFIC STOP OR WHEN STOPPING AND  
51 FRISKING AN INDIVIDUAL; AND

52 (B) A FORM TO BE USED TO REPORT COMPLAINTS PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION  
53 THREE OF THIS SECTION BY INDIVIDUALS WHO BELIEVE THEY HAVE BEEN  
54 SUBJECTED TO RACIAL OR ETHNIC PROFILING.

55 7. EVERY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SHALL MAKE AVAILABLE TO THE ATTORNEY  
56 GENERAL, UPON FIVE DAYS DEMAND AND NOTICE, THE DOCUMENTS REQUIRED TO BE

1 PRODUCED AND PROMULGATED PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISIONS THREE, FOUR AND FIVE  
2 OF THIS SECTION.

3 8. EVERY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SHALL FURNISH ALL DATA/INFORMATION  
4 COLLECTED FROM TRAFFIC STOPS TO THE DIVISION. THE DIVISION SHALL DEVEL-  
5 OP AND IMPLEMENT A PLAN FOR A COMPUTERIZED DATA SYSTEM FOR PUBLIC VIEW-  
6 ING OF SUCH DATA AND SHALL PUBLISH AN ANNUAL REPORT ON DATA COLLECTED  
7 FOR THE GOVERNOR, THE LEGISLATURE, AND THE PUBLIC ON LAW ENFORCEMENT  
8 TRAFFIC STOPS. INFORMATION RELEASED SHALL NOT REVEAL THE IDENTITY OF ANY  
9 INDIVIDUAL.

10 9. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL MAY BRING AN ACTION ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE  
11 FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND/OR DAMAGES AGAINST A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY  
12 THAT IS ENGAGING IN OR HAS ENGAGED IN AN ACT OR ACTS OF RACIAL PROFILING  
13 IN A COURT HAVING JURISDICTION TO ISSUE SUCH RELIEF. THE COURT MAY AWARD  
14 COSTS AND REASONABLE ATTORNEY FEES TO A PLAINTIFF WHO PREVAILS IN SUCH  
15 AN ACTION.

16 10. IN ADDITION TO A CAUSE OF ACTION BROUGHT PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION  
17 NINE OF THIS SECTION, AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF AN ACT  
18 OR ACTS OF RACIAL PROFILING MAY BRING AN ACTION FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF  
19 AND/OR DAMAGES AGAINST A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY THAT IS ENGAGED IN OR  
20 HAS ENGAGED IN AN ACT OR ACTS OF RACIAL PROFILING. THE COURT MAY AWARD  
21 COSTS AND REASONABLE ATTORNEY FEES TO A PLAINTIFF WHO PREVAILS IN SUCH  
22 AN ACTION.

23 11. NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONSTRUED AS DIMINISHING OR ABRO-  
24 GATING ANY RIGHT, REMEDY OR CAUSE OF ACTION WHICH AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS  
25 BEEN SUBJECT TO RACIAL OR ETHNIC PROFILING MAY HAVE PURSUANT TO ANY  
26 OTHER PROVISION OF LAW.

27 S 2. This act shall take effect on the thirtieth day after it shall  
28 have become a law; provided, however, that effective immediately, the  
29 addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary  
30 for the implementation of this act on its effective date is authorized  
31 and directed to be made and completed on or before such effective date.