

2034--A

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

January 21, 2015

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Introduced by Sen. HASSELL-THOMPSON -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Crime Victims, Crime and Correction -- recommitted to the Committee on Crime Victims, Crime and Correction in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to the definition of necessary court appearances for purposes of determining crime victim's award

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

1     Section 1. Subdivisions 8, 10 and 12 of section 631 of the executive  
2     law, subdivision 8 as amended by chapter 391 of the laws of 2003, subdi-  
3     vision 10 as added by chapter 197 of the laws of 1983, and subdivision  
4     12 as amended by chapter 188 of the laws of 2014, are amended to read as  
5     follows:  
6     8. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions one, two and three  
7     of this section, an elderly or disabled victim who has not been phys-  
8     ically injured as a direct result of a crime, shall only be eligible for  
9     an award that includes the unreimbursed cost of repair or replacement of  
10    essential personal property that has been lost, damaged or destroyed as  
11    a direct result of a crime, transportation expenses incurred for neces-  
12    sary court appearances in connection with the prosecution of such crimes  
13    and the unreimbursed cost of counselling provided to the elderly or  
14    disabled victim on account of mental or emotional stress or financial  
15    counselling provided to the elderly or disabled victim on account of  
16    financial difficulty resulting from the incident in which the crime  
17    occurred if such counselling or financial counselling is commenced with-  
18    in one year from the date of the incident. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBDI-  
19    VISION, "NECESSARY COURT APPEARANCES" SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED

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

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1 TO, ANY PART OF TRIAL FROM ARRAIGNMENT THROUGH SENTENCING, PRE AND POST  
2 TRIAL HEARINGS AND GRAND JURY HEARINGS.

3 10. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, an award shall  
4 include reasonable transportation expenses incurred for necessary court  
5 appearances in connection with the prosecution of such crimes upon which  
6 the claim is based. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBDIVISION, "NECESSARY COURT  
7 APPEARANCES" SHALL INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO ANY PART OF A PROCEED-  
8 ING FROM ARRAIGNMENT THROUGH SENTENCING, PRE AND POST TRIAL HEARINGS AND  
9 GRAND JURY HEARINGS.

10 12. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions one, two and three  
11 of this section, an individual who was a victim of either the crime of  
12 menacing in the second degree as defined in subdivision two or three of  
13 section 120.14 of the penal law, menacing in the first degree as defined  
14 in section 120.13 of the penal law, criminal obstruction of breathing or  
15 blood circulation as defined in section 121.11 of the penal law, harass-  
16 ment in the second degree as defined in subdivision two or three of  
17 section 240.26 of the penal law, harassment in the first degree as  
18 defined in section 240.25 of the penal law, aggravated harassment in the  
19 second degree as defined in subdivision five of section 240.30 of the  
20 penal law, aggravated harassment in the first degree as defined in  
21 subdivision two of section 240.31 of the penal law, criminal contempt in  
22 the first degree as defined in paragraph (ii) or (iv) of subdivision (b)  
23 or subdivision (c) of section 215.51 of the penal law, or stalking in  
24 the fourth, third, second or first degree as defined in sections 120.45,  
25 120.50, 120.55 and 120.60 of the penal law, respectively, who has not  
26 been physically injured as a direct result of such crime shall only be  
27 eligible for an award that includes loss of earning or support, the  
28 unreimbursed cost of repair or replacement of essential personal proper-  
29 ty that has been lost, damaged or destroyed as a direct result of such  
30 crime, the unreimbursed cost for security devices to enhance the  
31 personal protection of such victim, transportation expenses incurred for  
32 necessary court [expenses] APPEARANCES in connection with the prose-  
33 cution of such crime, the unreimbursed costs of counseling provided to  
34 such victim on account of mental or emotional stress resulting from the  
35 incident in which the crime occurred, reasonable relocation expenses,  
36 and for occupational or job training. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBDIVISION,  
37 "NECESSARY COURT APPEARANCES" SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, ANY  
38 PART OF TRIAL FROM ARRAIGNMENT THROUGH SENTENCING, PRE AND POST TRIAL  
39 HEARINGS AND GRAND JURY HEARINGS.

40 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.