

STATE OF NEW YORK

272--B

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

(Prefiled)

January 9, 2019

Introduced by M. of A. SEAWRIGHT, OTIS, SIMOTAS, CRESPO, QUART, LENTOL, NIOU, GOTTFRIED -- read once and referred to the Committee on Judiciary -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- again reported from said committee with amendments, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY

proposing amendments to section 11 of article 1 of the constitution, in relation to equality of rights and protection against discrimination

Section 1. Resolved (if the Senate concur), That section 11 of article 1 of the constitution be amended to read as follows:

§ 11. (a) No person shall be denied the equal protection of the laws of this state or any subdivision thereof. No person shall, because of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, creed [ex], religion, or sex including pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, be subjected to any discrimination in or to any denial or abridgment of his or her equal civil rights by any other person or by any firm, corporation, or institution, or by the state or any agency or subdivision of the state. The words "civil rights" mean any right that impacts the equal opportunity of all the people of New York to enjoy a full and productive life.

(b) This section shall not be construed to:

(1) preclude bona fide qualifications for a job, position, benefit or service in a particular capacity if authorized by law with respect to disability or age; or

(2) preclude reasonable accommodation with respect to disability or pregnancy; or

(3) preclude a private educational institution that has a policy of educating students of one sex or religion from limiting enrollment to that sex or religion if so authorized by law; or

(4) modify the requirements of section three of this article; or

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

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1 (5) invalidate or prevent the adoption of any law, regulation, program
2 or activity that has as its purpose the amelioration of conditions of
3 historically disadvantaged individuals or communities.

4 (c) (1) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted as prohibiting
5 legislative action which must be taken to establish or maintain eligi-
6 bility for any federal program, where ineligibility would result in a
7 loss of federal funds to the state.

8 (2) If any part of this section, or any action taken to enforce this
9 section, be finally declared invalid under federal law or the United
10 States Constitution, the section shall be implemented to the maximum
11 extent that federal law and the United States Constitution permit. Any
12 provision held invalid shall be severable from the remaining portions of
13 this section.

14 § 2. Resolved (if the Senate concur), That the foregoing amendment be
15 referred to the first regular legislative session convening after the
16 next succeeding general election of members of the assembly, and, in
17 conformity with section 1 of article 19 of the constitution, be
18 published for three months previous to the time of such election.