STATE OF NEW YORK

6360

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 6, 2019

Introduced by M. of A. WEPRIN, JOYNER, TITUS -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to preventing discrimination based on lawful source of income in housing

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as
the "Lawful source of income non-discrimination act of 2019".

3 § 2. Section 292 of the executive law is amended by adding a new 4 subdivision 36 to read as follows:

5 <u>36. The term "lawful source of income" shall include, but not be</u> 6 limited to, child support, alimony, foster care subsidies, income 7 derived from Social Security, or any form of federal, state, or local 8 public assistance or housing assistance including, but not limited to, 9 Section 8 vouchers, or any other form of housing assistance payment or 10 credit whether or not such income or credit is paid or attributed 11 directly to a landlord, and other forms of lawful income.

12 § 3. Paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (c-1) of subdivision 2-a of section 13 296 of the executive law, as amended by chapter 8 of the laws of 2019, 14 are amended to read as follows:

(a) To refuse to sell, rent or lease or otherwise to deny to or withhold from any person or group of persons such housing accommodations because of the race, creed, color, disability, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, age, sex, marital status, <u>lawful source of income</u> or familial status of such person or persons, or to represent that any housing accommodation or land is not available for inspection, sale, rental or lease when in fact it is so available.

(b) To discriminate against any person because of his or her race, creed, color, disability, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, age, sex, marital status,

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

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lawful source of income or familial status in the terms, conditions or privileges of any publicly-assisted housing accommodations or in the furnishing of facilities or services in connection therewith.

4 (c) To cause to be made any written or oral inquiry or record concern-5 ing the race, creed, color, disability, national origin, sexual orienб tation, gender identity or expression, membership in the reserve armed 7 forces of the United States or in the organized militia of the state, 8 age, sex, marital status, lawful source of income or familial status of 9 a person seeking to rent or lease any publicly-assisted housing accommo-10 dation; provided, however, that nothing in this subdivision shall prohibit a member of the reserve armed forces of the United States or in 11 the organized militia of the state from voluntarily disclosing such 12 13 membership.

14 (c-1) To print or circulate or cause to be printed or circulated any 15 statement, advertisement or publication, or to use any form of applica-16 tion for the purchase, rental or lease of such housing accommodation or to make any record or inquiry in connection with the prospective purchase, rental or lease of such a housing accommodation which 17 18 expresses, directly or indirectly, any limitation, specification or 19 20 discrimination as to race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orien-21 tation, gender identity or expression, military status, sex, age, disability, marital status, lawful source of income or familial status, or 22 any intent to make any such limitation, specification or discrimination. 23 24 § 4. Subparagraphs 1, 2 and 3 of paragraph (a) of subdivision 5 of 25 section 296 of the executive law, as amended by chapter 8 of the laws of 26 2019, are amended to read as follows:

27 (1) To refuse to sell, rent, lease or otherwise to deny to or withhold from any person or group of persons such a housing accommodation because 28 29 the race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender of 30 identity or expression, military status, sex, age, disability, marital 31 status, lawful source of income or familial status of such person or 32 persons, or to represent that any housing accommodation or land is not available for inspection, sale, rental or lease when in fact it is so 33 34 available.

(2) To discriminate against any person because of race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, sex, age, disability, marital status, <u>lawful source of</u> <u>income</u> or familial status in the terms, conditions or privileges of the sale, rental or lease of any such housing accommodation or in the furnishing of facilities or services in connection therewith.

41 (3) To print or circulate or cause to be printed or circulated any 42 statement, advertisement or publication, or to use any form of applica-43 tion for the purchase, rental or lease of such housing accommodation or to make any record or inquiry in connection with the prospective purchase, rental or lease of such a housing accommodation which 44 45 46 expresses, directly or indirectly, any limitation, specification or 47 discrimination as to race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, sex, age, disa-48 49 bility, marital status, lawful source of income or familial status, or any intent to make any such limitation, specification or discrimination. 50 § 5. Subparagraphs 1 and 2 of paragraph (c) of subdivision 5 of 51 section 296 of the executive law, as amended by chapter 8 of the laws of 52 53 2019, are amended to read as follows:

54 (1) To refuse to sell, rent or lease any housing accommodation, land 55 or commercial space to any person or group of persons or to refuse to 56 negotiate for the sale, rental or lease, of any housing accommodation,

land or commercial space to any person or group of persons because of 1 2 the race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender 3 identity or expression, military status, sex, age, disability, marital 4 status, lawful source of income or familial status of such person or 5 persons, or to represent that any housing accommodation, land or commerб cial space is not available for inspection, sale, rental or lease when 7 in fact it is so available, or otherwise to deny or withhold any housing 8 accommodation, land or commercial space or any facilities of any housing 9 accommodation, land or commercial space from any person or group of 10 persons because of the race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, sex, age, 11 disability, marital status, lawful source of income or familial status 12 13 of such person or persons.

14 (2) To print or circulate or cause to be printed or circulated any 15 statement, advertisement or publication, or to use any form of application for the purchase, rental or lease of any housing accommodation, 16 17 land or commercial space or to make any record or inquiry in connection with the prospective purchase, rental or lease of any housing accommo-18 19 dation, land or commercial space which expresses, directly or indirect-20 ly, any limitation, specification, or discrimination as to race, creed, 21 color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, sex, age, disability, marital status, **<u>lawful source of income</u>** or familial status; or any intent to make any 22 23 24 such limitation, specification or discrimination.

25 § 6. Paragraph (d) of subdivision 5 of section 296 of the executive 26 law, as amended by chapter 8 of the laws of 2019, is amended to read as 27 follows:

28 (d) It shall be an unlawful discriminatory practice for any real 29 estate board, because of the race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, age, 30 sex, 31 disability, marital status, lawful source of income or familial status 32 of any individual who is otherwise qualified for membership, to exclude 33 or expel such individual from membership, or to discriminate against such individual in the terms, conditions and privileges of membership in 34 35 such board.

36 § 7. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to all 37 causes of action filed on or after such effective date.