STATE OF NEW YORK

5534

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 16, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. BARRETT -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to eligibility for awards for victims of a crime

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

Section 1. Paragraphs (i) and (j) of subdivision 1 of section 624 of the executive law, paragraph (i) as amended by section 9 of part A-1 of chapter 56 of the laws of 2010 and paragraph (j) as amended by chapter 427 of the laws of 1999, are amended to read as follows:

(i) a surviving spouse of a crime victim who died from causes not directly related to the crime when such victim died prior to filing a claim with the office or subsequent to filing a claim but prior to the rendering of a decision by the office. Such award shall be limited to out-of-pocket loss incurred as a direct result of the crime; [~~and~~]

(j) a spouse, child or stepchild of a victim of a crime who has sustained personal physical injury as a direct result of a crime[~~,~~]**; and**

§ 2. Section 624 of the executive law is amended by adding a new subdivision 3 to read as follows:

3. For the purposes of this article, a victim of a crime who commits suicide within two years after such crime shall be deemed to have died as a direct result of such crime, unless the office determines that the suicide was not in any way a result of being the victim of such crime.

§ 3. Subdivision 5 of section 631 of the executive law is amended by adding a new paragraph (h) to read as follows:

(h) Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of this article, the office shall disregard the responsibility of the victim for his own injury where the record shows that the victim committed suicide within two years after such crime, unless the office determines that the suicide was not in any way a result of being the victim of such crime.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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