STATE OF NEW YORK

8559

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

October 29, 2025

Introduced by Sen. KAVANAGH -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to amend the penal law, in relation to the aggravated harassment of a rent regulated tenant; and repealing certain provisions of such law relating thereto

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

Section 1. Subdivision 3 of section 241.05 of the penal law is REPEALED.

§ 2. The penal law is amended by adding a new section 241.07 to read as follows:

§ 241.07 Aggravated harassment of a rent regulated tenant.

An owner is guilty of aggravated harassment of a rent regulated tenant when:

1. With intent to induce two or more rent regulated tenants occupying different housing accommodations in two or more residential buildings to vacate such housing accommodations, such owner intentionally engages in a systematic ongoing course of conduct that:

(a) impairs the habitability of such housing accommodations; or

(b) creates or maintains a condition which endangers the safety or health of one or more of the dwellings' rent regulated tenants; or

(c) is reasonably likely to interfere with or disturb, and does interfere with or disturb, the comfort, repose, peace or quiet of one or more of such rent regulated tenants in their use and occupancy of such housing accommodation including, but not limited to, the interruption or discontinuance of essential services.

2. Such owner commits the crime of harassment of a rent regulated tenant in the first degree as defined in section 241.05 of this article and has previously been convicted within the preceding five years of such crime.

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

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The good faith commencement and pursuit of a lawful eviction action by an owner against a rent regulated tenant in a court of competent jurisdiction shall not, by itself, constitute a "systematic ongoing course of conduct" in violation of paragraph (c) of subdivision one of this section.

Aggravated harassment of a rent regulated tenant is a class D felony.

§ 3. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law.