STATE OF NEW YORK

9490

IN SENATE

March 18, 2026

Introduced by Sen. MAY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to unlawful discriminatory practices against tenants relating to citizenship or immigration status

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

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 5 of section 296 of the executive law is amended by adding a new subparagraph 5 to read as follows:

(5) (i) To inquire about or require disclosure of citizenship or immigration status;

(ii) To require specific immigration documentation, including but not limited to a green card or similar documentation, as the sole acceptable form of identification;

(iii) To disclose a tenant's immigration or citizenship status to third parties, including but not limited to federal authorities, except when required by court order; or

(iv) To report or threaten to report a tenant's citizenship or immigration status to immigration authorities in retaliation for asserting rights under this chapter or any other provision of law.

§ 2. Subdivision 5 of section 296 of the executive law is amended by adding a new paragraph (i) to read as follows:

(i) The provisions of subparagraph five of paragraph (a) of this subdivision shall not be construed to prohibit an owner, lessee, sublessee, assignee, or managing agent of, or other person having the right to sell, rent or lease a housing accommodation, constructed or to be constructed, or any agent or employee thereof, from:

(1) verifying the identity of a potential tenant or conducting other standard tenant screening practices that are otherwise lawful; provided, however, that such identity verification or other standard tenant screening practice shall not impose heightened requirements based on citizenship or immigration status; or

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

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(2) complying with federal requirements regarding citizenship or immigration status for federally subsidized housing programs that would otherwise be prohibited under this chapter.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.