

ASSEMBLY, No. 3365

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 25, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman GORDON M. JOHNSON

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Murphy

SYNOPSIS

Amends “Law Against Discrimination” to include crime victims as protected status.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/16/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning victims of crime and amending
2 P.L.1945, c.169.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6

7 1. Section 4 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-4) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 4. All persons shall have the opportunity to obtain
10 employment, and to obtain all the accommodations, advantages,
11 facilities, and privileges of any place of public accommodation,
12 publicly assisted housing accommodation, and other real property
13 without discrimination because of race, creed, color, national origin,
14 ancestry, age, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation,
15 familial status, disability, liability for service in the Armed Forces
16 of the United States, nationality, sex, gender identity or expression
17 **[or]**, source of lawful income used for rental or mortgage
18 payments, or crime victim status subject only to conditions and
19 limitations applicable alike to all persons. This opportunity is
20 recognized as and declared to be a civil right.

21 (cf: P.L.2017, c.184, s.1)

22

23 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

24

25

26 STATEMENT

27

28 This bill adds crime victims as a protected status under this
29 State's "Law Against Discrimination."

30 Discrimination in the workplace and in public and private
31 housing has become an additional burden crime victims bear as a
32 result of their victimization. Victims of homicide, sexual offenses,
33 and domestic violence who are required to cooperate with law
34 enforcement in prosecuting the defendant often experience adverse
35 employment treatment, including termination. Victims also are
36 subjected to eviction when a landlord discovers they have been
37 involved in a violent crime.

38 According to the sponsor, this State's strong public policy
39 protecting victims of crime will be further strengthened by
40 including victims as a protected status in the Law Against
41 Discrimination."

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

Matter underlined thus is new matter.