CHAPTER 435

AN ACT concerning certain crimes and amending N.J.S.38A:14-5.

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

1. N.J.S.38A:14-5 is amended to read as follows:

New Jersey Stolen Valor Act.

38A:14-5. Any person who knowingly, with intent to impersonate and with intent to deceive, misrepresents oneself as a member or veteran of the United States Armed Forces or organized militia by wearing the uniform or any medal or insignia authorized for use by the members or veterans of the United States Armed Forces or the organized militia, by federal and State laws and regulations, shall be guilty of a crime of the fourth degree.

Any person who knowingly, with intent to impersonate and with intent to deceive for the purpose of obtaining money, property, or other tangible benefit, misrepresents oneself as a member or veteran of the United States Armed Forces or organized militia by wearing the uniform or any medal or insignia authorized for use by the members or veterans of the United States Armed Forces or the organized militia, by federal and State laws and regulations, shall be guilty of a crime of the third degree, subject to a minimum fine of $1,000, if the actor obtains money, property or other tangible benefit in an amount less than $75,000; or a crime of the second degree, if the actor obtains money, property or other tangible benefit in the amount of $75,000 or more.

Any person who knowingly, with intent to deceive for the purpose of obtaining money, property, or other tangible benefit, holds oneself out to be a recipient of any decoration or medal created by federal and State laws and regulations to honor the members or veterans of the United States Armed Forces or the organized militia shall be guilty of a crime of the third degree, subject to a minimum fine of $1,000, if the actor obtains money, property or other tangible benefit in the amount less than $75,000; or a crime of the second degree, if the actor obtains money, property or other tangible benefit in the amount of $75,000 or more.

Any monies collected pursuant to this section shall be forwarded to the State Treasurer, and shall be deposited into the Military Dependents Scholarship Fund, as established pursuant to P.L.2015, c.117 (C.18A:71B-98 et seq.), in the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved January 18, 2022.