

SENATE, No. 2005

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 5, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator LORETTA WEINBERG

District 37 (Bergen)

SYNOPSIS

Prohibits State-sponsored travel to certain states without protections against discrimination based on sex, gender identity or expression, and affectional or sexual orientation.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** prohibiting State-sponsored travel to certain states and
2 supplementing chapter 18A of Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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7 1. a. Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the
8 contrary, no department, division, office, board, bureau,
9 commission, authority, or other instrumentality of the State of New
10 Jersey, or any public institution of higher education that receives
11 State funds, shall approve a request for travel to be paid, in whole
12 or in part, out of State funds or otherwise sponsored by the State, to
13 any state of the United States that has adopted a law to:

14 (1) prohibit a local jurisdiction from establishing protections
15 against discrimination based on sex, gender identity or expression,
16 and affectional or sexual orientation in the areas of public
17 accommodations, employment, housing, and in the provision of
18 goods or services to the public; or

19 (2) permit a person to cite a religious belief as the basis for
20 denying public accommodations, employment, housing, or goods or
21 services to a member of the public on account of the member's sex,
22 gender identity or expression, and affectional or sexual orientation.

23 A local jurisdiction shall include, but may not be limited to, a
24 school district, institution of higher education, municipality, county,
25 or any other public institution or entity of a state. All State entities
26 shall immediately upon enactment of this act review all requests for
27 travel and deny any funding or sponsorship request that would
28 violate the provisions of this section.

29 b. The provisions of subsection a. of this section shall be in
30 effect with respect to a state of the United States while such a law
31 remains in effect in that state, except that an entity of this State may
32 approve a travel or sponsorship request to be paid, in whole or in
33 part, out of State funds when the travel or sponsorship request is:

34 (1) to a state that has enacted a law that expressly prohibits
35 discrimination based on sex, gender identity or expression, and
36 affectional or sexual orientation;

37 (2) required due to an emergency;

38 (3) for law enforcement or contractual purposes; or

39 (4) to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare.

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41 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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46 This bill prohibits State-sponsored travel to certain states that do
47 not provide protections against discrimination based on sex, gender
48 identity or expression, and affectional or sexual orientation.

1 Under the bill, any department, division, office, board, bureau,
2 commission, authority, or other instrumentality of the State of New
3 Jersey, or State-funded public institutions of higher education, would
4 be prohibited from approving a request for travel to be paid out of
5 State funds or sponsored by the State, to any state of the United States
6 that has adopted a law to (1) prohibit a local jurisdiction from
7 establishing protections against discrimination based on sex, gender
8 identity or expression, and affectional or sexual orientation in the areas
9 of public accommodations, employment, housing, and in the provision
10 of goods or services to the public; or to (2) permit a person to cite a
11 religious belief as the basis for denying public accommodations,
12 employment, housing, or goods or services to a member of the public
13 on account of the member's sex, gender identity or expression, and
14 affectional or sexual orientation.

15 A local jurisdiction would include, but may not be limited to, a
16 school district, institution of higher education, municipality, county, or
17 any other public institution or entity of a state. The bill requires all
18 State of New Jersey entities to immediately review all requests for
19 travel and deny any funding or sponsorship request that violates the
20 bill.

21 The travel prohibitions would be in effect with respect to a state of
22 the United States while such a law remains in effect in that state.
23 However, the bill allows a State entity to approve a travel or
24 sponsorship request when the travel is (1) to a state that has enacted an
25 anti-discrimination law that expressly prohibits discrimination based
26 on sex, gender identity or expression, and affectional or sexual
27 orientation; (2) required due to an emergency; (3) for law enforcement
28 or contractual purposes; or (4) to protect the public's health, safety,
29 and welfare.