## ASSEMBLY, No. 5510

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

### 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 6, 2019

**Sponsored by:** 

Assemblyman JOHN F. MCKEON
District 27 (Essex and Morris)
Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO
District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Caputo and Assemblywoman Murphy

#### **SYNOPSIS**

Expands "Law Against Discrimination" to apply to health programs and activities and to prohibit discrimination based on association with individuals in protected classes.

#### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/7/2019)

1 AN ACT concerning discrimination and amending P.L.1945, c.169.

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

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- 1. Section 5 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-5) is amended to read as follows:
- 5. As used in P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:
- 10 "Person" includes one or more individuals, partnerships, associations, organizations, labor organizations, corporations, legal 12 representatives, trustees, trustees in bankruptcy, receivers, and fiduciaries. 13
  - "Employment agency" includes any person undertaking to procure employees or opportunities for others to work.
  - "Labor organization" includes any organization which exists and is constituted for the purpose, in whole or in part, of collective bargaining, or of dealing with employers concerning grievances, terms or conditions of employment, or of other mutual aid or protection in connection with employment.
  - "Unlawful employment practice" and "unlawful discrimination" include only those unlawful practices and acts specified in section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-12).
  - e. "Employer" includes all persons as defined in subsection a. of this section unless otherwise specifically exempt under another section of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), and includes the State, any political or civil subdivision thereof, and all public officers, agencies, boards, or bodies.
  - "Employee" does not include any individual employed in the domestic service of any person.
  - "Liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States" means subject to being ordered as an individual or member of an organized unit into active service in the Armed Forces of the United States by reason of membership in the National Guard, naval militia or a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States, or subject to being inducted into such armed forces through a system of national selective service.
- 38 "Division" means the "Division on Civil Rights" created by 39 P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.).
- 40 "Attorney General" means the Attorney General of the State 41 of New Jersey or the Attorney General's representative or designee.
- "Commission" means the Commission on Civil Rights 42 43 created by P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.).
- 44 "Director" means the Director of the Division on Civil 45 Rights.

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

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1 "A place of public accommodation" shall include, but not be 2 any tavern, roadhouse, hotel, motel, trailer camp, 3 summer camp, day camp, or resort camp, whether for entertainment 4 of transient guests or accommodation of those seeking health, 5 recreation, or rest; any producer, manufacturer, wholesaler, 6 distributor, retail shop, store, establishment, or concession dealing 7 with goods or services of any kind; any restaurant, eating house, or 8 place where food is sold for consumption on the premises; any 9 place maintained for the sale of ice cream, ice and fruit preparations 10 or their derivatives, soda water or confections, or where any 11 beverages of any kind are retailed for consumption on the premises; 12 any garage, any public conveyance operated on land or water or in 13 the air or any stations and terminals thereof; any bathhouse, 14 boardwalk, or seashore accommodation; any auditorium, meeting 15 place, or hall; any theatre, motion-picture house, music hall, roof 16 garden, skating rink, swimming pool, amusement and recreation 17 park, fair, bowling alley, gymnasium, shooting gallery, billiard and 18 pool parlor, or other place of amusement; any comfort station; any 19 dispensary, clinic, or hospital; any public library; and any 20 kindergarten, primary and secondary school, trade or business 21 school, high school, academy, college and university, or any 22 educational institution under the supervision of the State Board of 23 Education or the Commissioner of Education of the State of New 24 Jersey. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to include or to 25 apply to any institution, bona fide club, or place of accommodation, 26 which is in its nature distinctly private; nor shall anything herein 27 contained apply to any educational facility operated or maintained 28 by a bona fide religious or sectarian institution, and the right of a 29 natural parent or one in loco parentis to direct the education and 30 upbringing of a child under his control is hereby affirmed; nor shall 31 anything herein contained be construed to bar any private secondary 32 or post-secondary school from using in good faith criteria other than 33 race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, gender identity, or 34 expression or affectional or sexual orientation in the admission of 35 students. 36

m. "A publicly assisted housing accommodation" shall include all housing built with public funds or public assistance pursuant to P.L.1949, c.300, P.L.1941, c.213, P.L.1944, c.169, P.L.1949, c.303, P.L.1938, c.19, P.L.1938, c.20, P.L.1946, c.52, and P.L.1949, c.184, and all housing financed in whole or in part by a loan, whether or not secured by a mortgage, the repayment of which is guaranteed or insured by the federal government or any agency thereof.

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n. The term "real property" includes real estate, lands, tenements and hereditaments, corporeal and incorporeal, and leaseholds, provided, however, that, except as to publicly assisted housing accommodations, the provisions of this act shall not apply to the rental: (1) of a single apartment or flat in a two-family

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1 dwelling, the other occupancy unit of which is occupied by the 2 owner as a residence; or (2) of a room or rooms to another person or 3 persons by the owner or occupant of a one-family dwelling 4 occupied by the owner or occupant as a residence at the time of 5 such rental. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to bar any 6 religious or denominational institution or organization, or any 7 organization operated for charitable or educational purposes, which 8 is operated, supervised, or controlled by or in connection with a 9 religious organization, in the sale, lease, or rental of real property, 10 from limiting admission to or giving preference to persons of the 11 same religion or denomination or from making such selection as is 12 calculated by such organization to promote the religious principles 13 for which it is established or maintained. Nor does any provision 14 under this act regarding discrimination on the basis of familial 15 status apply with respect to housing for older persons.

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"Real estate broker" includes a person, firm, or corporation who, for a fee, commission, or other valuable consideration, or by reason of promise or reasonable expectation thereof, lists for sale, sells, exchanges, buys or rents, or offers or attempts to negotiate a sale, exchange, purchase, or rental of real estate or an interest therein, or collects or offers or attempts to collect rent for the use of real estate, or solicits for prospective purchasers or assists or directs in the procuring of prospects or the negotiation or closing of any transaction which does or is contemplated to result in the sale, exchange, leasing, renting, or auctioning of any real estate, or negotiates, or offers or attempts or agrees to negotiate a loan secured or to be secured by mortgage or other encumbrance upon or transfer of any real estate for others; or any person who, for pecuniary gain or expectation of pecuniary gain conducts a public or private competitive sale of lands or any interest in lands. In the sale of lots, the term "real estate broker" shall also include any person, partnership, association, or corporation employed by or on behalf of the owner or owners of lots or other parcels of real estate, at a stated salary, or upon a commission, or upon a salary and commission or otherwise, to sell such real estate, or any parts thereof, in lots or other parcels, and who shall sell or exchange, or offer or attempt or agree to negotiate the sale or exchange, of any such lot or parcel of real estate.

p. "Real estate salesperson" includes any person who, for compensation, valuable consideration or commission, or other thing of value, or by reason of a promise or reasonable expectation thereof, is employed by and operates under the supervision of a licensed real estate broker to sell or offer to sell, buy or offer to buy or negotiate the purchase, sale, or exchange of real estate, or offers or attempts to negotiate a loan secured or to be secured by a mortgage or other encumbrance upon or transfer of real estate, or to lease or rent, or offer to lease or rent any real estate for others, or to collect rents for the use of real estate, or to solicit for prospective

purchasers or lessees of real estate, or who is employed by a licensed real estate broker to sell or offer to sell lots or other parcels of real estate, at a stated salary, or upon a commission, or upon a salary and commission, or otherwise to sell real estate, or any parts thereof, in lots or other parcels.

- q. "Disability" means physical or sensory disability, infirmity, malformation, or disfigurement which is caused by bodily injury, birth defect, or illness including epilepsy and other seizure disorders, and which shall include, but not be limited to, any degree of paralysis, amputation, lack of physical coordination, blindness or visual impairment, deafness or hearing impairment, muteness or speech impairment, or physical reliance on a service or guide dog, wheelchair, or other remedial appliance or device, or any mental, psychological, or developmental disability, including autism spectrum disorders, resulting from anatomical, psychological, physiological, or neurological conditions which prevents the typical exercise of any bodily or mental functions or is demonstrable, medically or psychologically, by accepted clinical or laboratory diagnostic techniques. Disability shall also mean AIDS or HIV infection.
  - r. "Blind person" or "person who is blind" means any individual whose central visual acuity does not exceed 20/200 in the better eye with correcting lens or whose visual acuity is better than 20/200 if accompanied by a limit to the field of vision in the better eye to such a degree that its widest diameter subtends an angle of no greater than 20 degrees.
  - s. "Guide dog" means a dog used to assist persons who are deaf, or which is fitted with a special harness so as to be suitable as an aid to the mobility of a person who is blind, and is used by a person who is blind and has satisfactorily completed a specific course of training in the use of such a dog, and has been trained by an organization generally recognized by agencies involved in the rehabilitation of persons with disabilities, including, but not limited to, those persons who are blind or deaf, as reputable and competent to provide dogs with training of this type.
  - t. "Guide or service dog trainer" means any person who is employed by an organization generally recognized by agencies involved in the rehabilitation of persons with disabilities, including, but not limited to, those persons who are blind, have visual impairments, or are deaf or have hearing impairments, as reputable and competent to provide dogs with training, as defined in this section, and who is actually involved in the training process.
- u. "Housing accommodation" means any publicly assisted housing accommodation or any real property, or portion thereof, which is used or occupied, or is intended, arranged, or designed to be used or occupied, as the home, residence, or sleeping place of one or more persons, but shall not include any single family

residence the occupants of which rent, lease, or furnish for compensation not more than one room therein.

- v. "Public facility" means any place of public accommodation and any street, highway, sidewalk, walkway, public building, and any other place or structure to which the general public is regularly, normally, or customarily permitted or invited.
- w. "Deaf person" or "person who is deaf" means any person whose hearing is so severely impaired that the person is unable to hear and understand conversational speech through the unaided ear alone, and who must depend primarily on an assistive listening device or visual communication such as writing, lip reading, sign language, and gestures.
- x. "Atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait" means sickle cell trait, hemoglobin C trait, thalassemia trait, Tay-Sachs trait, or cystic fibrosis trait.
- y. "Sickle cell trait" means the condition wherein the major natural hemoglobin components present in the blood of the individual are hemoglobin A (normal) and hemoglobin S (sickle hemoglobin) as defined by standard chemical and physical analytic techniques, including electrophoresis; and the proportion of hemoglobin A is greater than the proportion of hemoglobin S or one natural parent of the individual is shown to have only normal hemoglobin components (hemoglobin A, hemoglobin hemoglobin F) in the normal proportions by standard chemical and physical analytic tests.
  - z. "Hemoglobin C trait" means the condition wherein the major natural hemoglobin components present in the blood of the individual are hemoglobin A (normal) and hemoglobin C as defined by standard chemical and physical analytic techniques, including electrophoresis; and the proportion of hemoglobin A is greater than the proportion of hemoglobin C or one natural parent of the individual is shown to have only normal hemoglobin components (hemoglobin A, hemoglobin A2, hemoglobin F) in normal proportions by standard chemical and physical analytic tests.
  - aa. "Thalassemia trait" means the presence of the thalassemia gene which in combination with another similar gene results in the chronic hereditary disease Cooley's anemia.
  - bb. "Tay-Sachs trait" means the presence of the Tay-Sachs gene which in combination with another similar gene results in the chronic hereditary disease Tay-Sachs.
  - cc. "Cystic fibrosis trait" means the presence of the cystic fibrosis gene which in combination with another similar gene results in the chronic hereditary disease cystic fibrosis.
- dd. "Service dog" means any dog individually trained to the requirements of a person with a disability including, but not limited to minimal protection work, rescue work, pulling a wheelchair or retrieving dropped items. This term shall include a "seizure dog"

trained to alert or otherwise assist persons with epilepsy or other seizure disorders.

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- ee. "Qualified Medicaid applicant" means an individual who is a qualified applicant pursuant to P.L.1968, c.413 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.).
- ff. "AIDS" means acquired immune deficiency syndrome as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States Public Health Service.
  - gg. "HIV infection" means infection with the human immunodeficiency virus or any other related virus identified as a probable causative agent of AIDS.
- hh. "Affectional or sexual orientation" means male or female heterosexuality, homosexuality, or bisexuality by inclination, practice, identity, or expression, having a history thereof or being perceived, presumed, or identified by others as having such an orientation.
  - ii. "Heterosexuality" means affectional, emotional, or physical attraction or behavior which is primarily directed towards persons of the other gender.
  - jj. "Homosexuality" means affectional, emotional, or physical attraction or behavior which is primarily directed towards persons of the same gender.
- 22 kk. "Bisexuality" means affectional, emotional, or physical 23 attraction or behavior which is directed towards persons of either 24 gender.
  - Il. "Familial status" means being the natural parent of a child, the adoptive parent of a child, the resource family parent of a child, having a "parent and child relationship" with a child as defined by State law, or having sole or joint legal or physical custody, care, guardianship, or visitation with a child, or any person who is pregnant or is in the process of securing legal custody of any individual who has not attained the age of 18 years.
    - mm. "Housing for older persons" means housing:
  - (1) provided under any State program that the Attorney General determines is specifically designed and operated to assist persons who are elderly (as defined in the State program); or provided under any federal program that the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development determines is specifically designed and operated to assist persons who are elderly (as defined in the federal program); or
  - (2) intended for, and solely occupied by, persons 62 years of age or older; or
- (3) intended and operated for occupancy by at least one person 55 years of age or older per unit. In determining whether housing qualifies as housing for older persons under this paragraph, the Attorney General shall adopt regulations which require at least the following factors:
- 47 (a) the existence of significant facilities and services 48 specifically designed to meet the physical or social needs of older

persons, or if the provision of such facilities and services is not practicable, that such housing is necessary to provide important housing opportunities for older persons; and

- (b) that at least 80 percent of the units are occupied by at least one person 55 years of age or older per unit; and
- (c) the publication of, and adherence to, policies and procedures which demonstrate an intent by the owner or manager to provide housing for persons 55 years of age or older.

Housing shall not fail to meet the requirements for housing for older persons by reason of: persons residing in such housing as of September 13, 1988 not meeting the age requirements of this subsection, provided that new occupants of such housing meet the age requirements of this subsection; or unoccupied units, provided that such units are reserved for occupancy by persons who meet the age requirements of this subsection.

- nn. "Genetic characteristic" means any inherited gene or chromosome, or alteration thereof, that is scientifically or medically believed to predispose an individual to a disease, disorder, or syndrome, or to be associated with a statistically significant increased risk of development of a disease, disorder, or syndrome.
- oo. "Genetic information" means the information about genes, gene products, or inherited characteristics that may derive from an individual or family member.
- pp. "Genetic test" means a test for determining the presence or absence of an inherited genetic characteristic in an individual, including tests of nucleic acids such as DNA, RNA, and mitochondrial DNA, chromosomes, or proteins in order to identify a predisposing genetic characteristic.
- qq. "Domestic partnership" means a domestic partnership established pursuant to section 4 of P.L.2003, c.246 (C.26:8A-4).
  - rr. "Gender identity or expression" means having or being perceived as having a gender related identity or expression whether or not stereotypically associated with a person's assigned sex at birth.
- ss. "Civil Union" means a legally recognized union of two eligible individuals established pursuant to R.S.37:1-1 et seq. and P.L.2006, c.103 (C.37:1-28 et al.).
  - tt. "Premium wages" means additional remuneration for night, weekend, or holiday work, or for standby or irregular duty.
  - uu. "Premium benefit" means an employment benefit, such as seniority, group life insurance, health insurance, disability insurance, sick leave, annual leave, or an educational or pension benefit that is greater than the employment benefit due the employee for an equivalent period of work performed during the regular work schedule of the employee.
- 46 <u>vv. "Pregnancy" means pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy,</u>
   47 <u>termination of pregnancy, or medical conditions related to</u>
   48 <u>pregnancy or childbirth, including recovery from childbirth.</u>

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ww. "Breastfeeding" means breastfeeding, expressing milk for breastfeeding, or medical conditions related to breastfeeding.

3 xx. "Health program or activity" means the provision or 4 administration of health-related services, health-related insurance 5 coverage, or other health-related coverage, and the provision of 6 assistance to individuals in obtaining health-related services or 7 health-related insurance coverage. For an entity principally 8 engaged in providing or administering health services or health 9 insurance coverage or other health coverage, all of its operations are 10 considered part of the health program or activity unless expressly 11 excluded pursuant to P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.). Such 12 entities shall include a health care facility or long-term care facility 13 licensed pursuant to P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.), a 14 residential or community-based treatment facility, a health care 15 practice operated by a licensed or certified health care practitioner, 16 a health benefits plan or carrier, as those terms are defined in 17 section 2 of P.L.1997, c.192 (C.26:2S-2), or any similar entity, as 18 well as the operations of the State Medicaid and NJ FamilyCare 19 programs.

(cf: P.L.2017, c.131, s.8)

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- 2. Section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-12) is amended to read as follows:
- 11. It shall be an unlawful employment practice, or, as the case may be, an unlawful discrimination:
- a. For an employer, because of the race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, affectional or sexual orientation, genetic information, pregnancy [or] status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, disability or atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait of any individual, or because of the liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States or the nationality of any individual, or because of the refusal to submit to a genetic test or make available the results of a genetic test to an employer, to refuse to hire or employ or to bar or to discharge or require to retire, unless justified by lawful considerations other than age, from employment such individual or to discriminate against such individual in compensation or in terms, conditions or privileges of employment; provided, however, it shall not be an unlawful employment practice to refuse to accept for employment an applicant who has received a notice of induction or orders to report for active duty in the armed forces; provided further that nothing herein contained shall be construed to bar an employer from refusing to accept for employment any person on the basis of sex in those certain circumstances where sex is a bona fide occupational qualification, reasonably necessary to the normal operation of the particular business or enterprise; provided further that nothing herein contained shall be construed to bar an employer from

refusing to accept for employment or to promote any person over 70 years of age; provided further that it shall not be an unlawful employment practice for a club exclusively social or fraternal to use club membership as a uniform qualification for employment, or for a religious association or organization to utilize religious affiliation as a uniform qualification in the employment of clergy, religious teachers or other employees engaged in the religious activities of the association or organization, or in following the tenets of its religion in establishing and utilizing criteria for employment of an employee; provided further, that it shall not be an unlawful employment practice to require the retirement of any employee who, for the two-year period immediately before retirement, is employed in a bona fide executive or a high policy-making position, if that employee is entitled to an immediate non-forfeitable annual retirement benefit from a pension, profit sharing, savings or deferred retirement plan, or any combination of those plans, of the employer of that employee which equals in the aggregate at least \$27,000.00; and provided further that an employer may restrict employment to citizens of the United States where such restriction is required by federal law or is otherwise necessary to protect the national interest.

The provisions of subsections a. and b. of section 57 of P.L.2003, c.246 (C.34:11A-20), and the provisions of section 58 of P.L.2003, c.246 (C.26:8A-11), shall not be deemed to be an unlawful discrimination under P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.).

For the purposes of this subsection, a "bona fide executive" is a top level employee who exercises substantial executive authority over a significant number of employees and a large volume of business. A "high policy-making position" is a position in which a person plays a significant role in developing policy and in recommending the implementation thereof.

For the purposes of this subsection, an unlawful employment practice occurs, with respect to discrimination in compensation or in the financial terms or conditions of employment, each occasion that an individual is affected by application of a discriminatory compensation decision or other practice, including, but not limited to, each occasion that wages, benefits, or other compensation are paid, resulting in whole or in part from the decision or other practice.

In addition to any other relief authorized by the "Law Against Discrimination," P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.) for discrimination in compensation or in the financial terms or conditions of employment, liability shall accrue and an aggrieved person may obtain relief for back pay for the entire period of time, except not more than six years, in which the violation with regard to discrimination in compensation or in the financial terms or conditions of employment has been continuous, if the violation continues to occur within the statute of limitations.

Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the application of the doctrine of "continuing violation" or the "discovery rule" to any appropriate claim as those doctrines currently exist in New Jersey common law. It shall be an unlawful employment practice to require employees or prospective employees to consent to a shortened statute of limitations or to waive any of the protections provided by the "Law Against Discrimination," P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.).

- b. For a labor organization, because of the race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, pregnancy [or] status, breastfeeding status, or sex of any individual, or because of the liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States or nationality of any individual, to exclude or to expel from its membership such individual or to discriminate in any way against any of its members, against any applicant for, or individual included in, any apprentice or other training program or against any employer or any individual employed by an employer; provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to bar a labor organization from excluding from its apprentice or other training programs any person on the basis of sex in those certain circumstances where sex is a bona fide occupational qualification reasonably necessary to the normal operation of the particular apprentice or other training program.
- c. For any employer or employment agency to print or circulate or cause to be printed or circulated any statement, advertisement or publication, or to use any form of application for employment, or to make an inquiry in connection with prospective employment, which expresses, directly or indirectly, any limitation, specification or discrimination as to race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality, pregnancy [or] status, breastfeeding status, or sex or liability of any applicant for employment for service in the Armed Forces of the United States, or any intent to make any such limitation, specification or discrimination, unless based upon a bona fide occupational qualification.
- d. For any person to take reprisals against any person because that person has opposed any practices or acts forbidden under this act or because that person has sought legal advice regarding rights under this act, shared relevant information with legal counsel, shared information with a governmental entity, or filed a complaint, testified or assisted in any proceeding under this act or to coerce, intimidate, threaten or interfere with any person in the exercise or enjoyment of, or on account of that person having aided or encouraged any other person in the exercise or enjoyment of, any right granted or protected by this act.

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e. For any person, whether an employer or an employee or not, to aid, abet, incite, compel or coerce the doing of any of the acts forbidden under this act, or to attempt to do so.

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For any owner, lessee, proprietor, manager, superintendent, agent, or employee of any place of public accommodation directly or indirectly to refuse, withhold from or deny to any person any of the accommodations, advantages, facilities or privileges thereof, or to discriminate against any person in the furnishing thereof, or directly or indirectly to publish, circulate, issue, display, post or mail any written or printed communication, notice, or advertisement to the effect that any of the accommodations, advantages, facilities, or privileges of any such place will be refused, withheld from, or denied to any person on account of the race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, pregnancy [or] status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, disability, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States or nationality of such person, or that the patronage or custom thereat of any person of any particular race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, pregnancy [or] status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, disability, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States or nationality is unwelcome, objectionable or not acceptable, desired or solicited, and the production of any such written or printed communication, notice or advertisement, purporting to relate to any such place and to be made by any owner, lessee, proprietor, superintendent or manager thereof, shall be presumptive evidence in any action that the same was authorized by such person; provided, however, that nothing contained herein shall be construed to bar any place of public accommodation which is in its nature reasonably restricted exclusively to individuals of one sex, and which shall include but not be limited to any summer camp, day camp, or resort camp, bathhouse, dressing room, swimming pool, gymnasium, comfort station, dispensary, clinic or hospital, or school or educational institution which is restricted exclusively to individuals of one sex, provided individuals shall be admitted based on their gender identity or expression, from refusing, withholding from or denying to any individual of the opposite sex any of the accommodations, advantages, facilities or privileges thereof on the basis of sex; provided further, that the foregoing limitation shall not apply to any restaurant as defined in R.S.33:1-1 or place where alcoholic beverages are served.

(2) Notwithstanding the definition of "a place of public accommodation" as set forth in subsection 1. of section 5 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-5), for any owner, lessee, proprietor, manager, superintendent, agent, or employee of any private club or

association to directly or indirectly refuse, withhold from or deny to any individual who has been accepted as a club member and has contracted for or is otherwise entitled to full club membership any of the accommodations, advantages, facilities or privileges thereof, or to discriminate against any member in the furnishing thereof on account of the race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, pregnancy [or] status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity, or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, disability, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States or nationality of such person.

In addition to the penalties otherwise provided for a violation of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), if the violator of paragraph (2) of subsection f. of this section is the holder of an alcoholic beverage license issued under the provisions of R.S.33:1-12 for that private club or association, the matter shall be referred to the Director of the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control who shall impose an appropriate penalty in accordance with the procedures set forth in R.S.33:1-31.

- g. For any person, including but not limited to, any owner, lessee, sublessee, assignee or managing agent of, or other person having the right of ownership or possession of or the right to sell, rent, lease, assign, or sublease any real property or part or portion thereof, or any agent or employee of any of these:
- (1) To refuse to sell, rent, lease, assign, or sublease or otherwise to deny to or withhold from any person or group of persons any real property or part or portion thereof because of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, pregnancy [or] status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, familial status, disability, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States, nationality, or source of lawful income used for rental or mortgage payments;
- (2) To discriminate against any person or group of persons because of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, pregnancy [or] status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, familial status, disability, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States, nationality or source of lawful income used for rental or mortgage payments in the terms, conditions or privileges of the sale, rental or lease of any real property or part or portion thereof or in the furnishing of facilities or services in connection therewith;
- (3) To print, publish, circulate, issue, display, post or mail, or cause to be printed, published, circulated, issued, displayed, posted or mailed any statement, advertisement, publication or sign, or to use any form of application for the purchase, rental, lease, assignment or sublease of any real property or part or portion thereof, or to make any record or inquiry in connection with the

prospective purchase, rental, lease, assignment, or sublease of any real property, or part or portion thereof which expresses, directly or indirectly, any limitation, specification or discrimination as to race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, civil union domestic partnership status, pregnancy [or] status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity, or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, familial status, disability, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States, nationality, or source of lawful income used for rental or mortgage payments, or any intent to make any such limitation, specification or discrimination, and the production of any such statement, advertisement, publicity, sign, form of application, record, or inquiry purporting to be made by any such person shall be presumptive evidence in any action that the same was authorized by such person; provided, however, that nothing contained in this subsection shall be construed to bar any person from refusing to sell, rent, lease, assign or sublease or from advertising or recording a qualification as to sex for any room, apartment, flat in a dwelling or residential facility which is planned exclusively for and occupied by individuals of one sex to any individual of the exclusively opposite sex on the basis of sex provided individuals shall be qualified based on their gender identity or expression;

(4) To refuse to sell, rent, lease, assign, or sublease or otherwise to deny to or withhold from any person or group of persons any real property or part or portion thereof because of the source of any lawful income received by the person or the source of any lawful rent payment to be paid for the real property; or

- (5) To refuse to rent or lease any real property to another person because that person's family includes children under 18 years of age, or to make an agreement, rental or lease of any real property which provides that the agreement, rental or lease shall be rendered null and void upon the birth of a child. This paragraph shall not apply to housing for older persons as defined in subsection mm. of section 5 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-5).
- h. For any person, including but not limited to, any real estate broker, real estate salesperson, or employee or agent thereof:
- (1) To refuse to sell, rent, assign, lease or sublease, or offer for sale, rental, lease, assignment, or sublease any real property or part or portion thereof to any person or group of persons or to refuse to negotiate for the sale, rental, lease, assignment, or sublease of any real property or part or portion thereof to any person or group of persons because of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, familial status, pregnancy [or] status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States, disability, nationality, or source of lawful income used for rental or mortgage payments, or to represent that any real property or portion

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1 thereof is not available for inspection, sale, rental, lease, 2 assignment, or sublease when in fact it is so available, or otherwise 3 to deny or withhold any real property or any part or portion of 4 facilities thereof to or from any person or group of persons because 5 of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, civil 6 union status, domestic partnership status, familial status, pregnancy 7 [or] status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, 8 affectional or sexual orientation, disability, liability for service in 9 the Armed Forces of the United States, or nationality;

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- (2) To discriminate against any person because of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, familial status, pregnancy [or] status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, disability, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States, nationality, or source of lawful income used for rental or mortgage payments in the terms, conditions or privileges of the sale, rental, lease, assignment or sublease of any real property or part or portion thereof or in the furnishing of facilities or services in connection therewith;
- (3) To print, publish, circulate, issue, display, post, or mail, or cause to be printed, published, circulated, issued, displayed, posted or mailed any statement, advertisement, publication or sign, or to use any form of application for the purchase, rental, lease, assignment, or sublease of any real property or part or portion thereof or to make any record or inquiry in connection with the prospective purchase, rental, lease, assignment, or sublease of any real property or part or portion thereof which expresses, directly or indirectly, any limitation, specification or discrimination as to race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, familial status, pregnancy [or] status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, disability, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States, nationality, or source of lawful income used for rental or mortgage payments or any intent to make any such limitation, specification or discrimination, and the production of any such statement, advertisement, publicity, sign, form of application, record, or inquiry purporting to be made by any such person shall be presumptive evidence in any action that the same was authorized by such person; provided, however, that nothing contained in this subsection h., shall be construed to bar any person from refusing to sell, rent, lease, assign or sublease or from advertising or recording a qualification as to sex for any room, apartment, flat in a dwelling or residential facility which is planned exclusively for and occupied exclusively by individuals of one sex to any individual of the opposite sex on the basis of sex, provided individuals shall be qualified based on their gender identity or expression;

(4) To refuse to sell, rent, lease, assign, or sublease or otherwise to deny to or withhold from any person or group of persons any real property or part or portion thereof because of the source of any lawful income received by the person or the source of any lawful rent payment to be paid for the real property; or

- (5) To refuse to rent or lease any real property to another person because that person's family includes children under 18 years of age, or to make an agreement, rental or lease of any real property which provides that the agreement, rental or lease shall be rendered null and void upon the birth of a child. This paragraph shall not apply to housing for older persons as defined in subsection mm. of section 5 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-5).
- i. For any person, bank, banking organization, mortgage company, insurance company or other financial institution, lender or credit institution involved in the making or purchasing of any loan or extension of credit, for whatever purpose, whether secured by residential real estate or not, including but not limited to financial assistance for the purchase, acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, repair or maintenance of any real property or part or portion thereof or any agent or employee thereof:
- (1) To discriminate against any person or group of persons because of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, pregnancy [or] status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, disability, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States, familial status or nationality, in the granting, withholding, extending, modifying, renewing, or purchasing, or in the fixing of the rates, terms, conditions or provisions of any such loan, extension of credit or financial assistance or purchase thereof or in the extension of services in connection therewith;
- (2) To use any form of application for such loan, extension of credit or financial assistance or to make record or inquiry in connection with applications for any such loan, extension of credit or financial assistance which expresses, directly or indirectly, any limitation, specification or discrimination as to race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, pregnancy [or] status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, disability, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States, familial status or nationality or any intent to make any such limitation, specification or discrimination; unless otherwise required by law or regulation to retain or use such information;
  - (3) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2003, c.180).
- 45 (4) To discriminate against any person or group of persons 46 because of the source of any lawful income received by the person 47 or the source of any lawful rent payment to be paid for the real 48 property; or

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1 (5) To discriminate against any person or group of persons 2 because that person's family includes children under 18 years of 3 age, or to make an agreement or mortgage which provides that the 4 agreement or mortgage shall be rendered null and void upon the 5 birth of a child. This paragraph shall not apply to housing for older 6 persons as defined in subsection mm. of section 5 of P.L.1945, 7 c.169 (C.10:5-5).

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- j. For any person whose activities are included within the scope of this act to refuse to post or display such notices concerning the rights or responsibilities of persons affected by this act as the Attorney General may by regulation require.
- k. For any real estate broker, real estate salesperson or employee or agent thereof or any other individual, corporation, partnership, or organization, for the purpose of inducing a transaction for the sale or rental of real property from which transaction such person or any of its members may benefit financially, to represent that a change has occurred or will or may occur in the composition with respect to race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, familial status, pregnancy or] breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, disability, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States, nationality, or source of lawful income used for rental or mortgage payments of the owners or occupants in the block, neighborhood or area in which the real property is located, and to represent, directly or indirectly, that this change will or may result in undesirable consequences in the block, neighborhood or area in which the real property is located, including, but not limited to the lowering of property values, an increase in criminal or anti-social behavior, or a decline in the quality of schools or other facilities.
- For any person to refuse to buy from, sell to, lease from or to, license, contract with, or trade with, provide goods, services or information to, or otherwise do business with any other person on the basis of the race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, pregnancy [or] status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States, disability, nationality, or source of lawful income used for rental or mortgage payments of such other person or of such other person's spouse, partners, members, stockholders, directors, officers, managers, superintendents, agents, employees, business associates, suppliers, or customers. subsection shall not prohibit refusals or other actions (1) pertaining to employee-employer collective bargaining, labor disputes, or unfair labor practices, or (2) made or taken in connection with a protest of unlawful discrimination or unlawful employment practices.

m. For any person to:

- (1) Grant or accept any letter of credit or other document which evidences the transfer of funds or credit, or enter into any contract for the exchange of goods or services, where the letter of credit, contract, or other document contains any provisions requiring any person to discriminate against or to certify that he, she or it has not dealt with any other person on the basis of the race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, pregnancy [or] status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, disability, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States, or nationality of such other person or of such other person's spouse, partners, members, stockholders, directors, officers, managers, superintendents, agents, employees, business associates, suppliers, or customers.
  - (2) Refuse to grant or accept any letter of credit or other document which evidences the transfer of funds or credit, or refuse to enter into any contract for the exchange of goods or services, on the ground that it does not contain such a discriminatory provision or certification.

The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any letter of credit, contract, or other document which contains any provision pertaining to employee-employer collective bargaining, a labor dispute or an unfair labor practice, or made in connection with the protest of unlawful discrimination or an unlawful employment practice, if the other provisions of such letter of credit, contract, or other document do not otherwise violate the provisions of this subsection.

- n. For any person to aid, abet, incite, compel, coerce, or induce the doing of any act forbidden by subsections 1. and m. of section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-12), or to attempt, or to conspire to do so. Such prohibited conduct shall include, but not be limited to:
- (1) Buying from, selling to, leasing from or to, licensing, contracting with, trading with, providing goods, services, or information to, or otherwise doing business with any person because that person does, or agrees or attempts to do, any such act or any act prohibited by this subsection; or
- (2) Boycotting, commercially blacklisting or refusing to buy from, sell to, lease from or to, license, contract with, provide goods, services or information to, or otherwise do business with any person because that person has not done or refuses to do any such act or any act prohibited by this subsection; provided that this subsection shall not prohibit refusals or other actions either pertaining to employee-employer collective bargaining, labor disputes, or unfair labor practices, or made or taken in connection with a protest of unlawful discrimination or unlawful employment practices.
- o. For any multiple listing service, real estate brokers' organization or other service, organization or facility related to the

1 business of selling or renting dwellings to deny any person access 2 to or membership or participation in such organization, or to 3 discriminate against such person in the terms or conditions of such 4 access, membership, or participation, on account of race, creed, 5 color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, civil union 6 status, domestic partnership status, familial status, pregnancy [or] 7 status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, 8 affectional or sexual orientation, disability, liability for service in 9 the Armed Forces of the United States or nationality.

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- p. Nothing in the provisions of this section shall affect the ability of an employer to require employees to adhere to reasonable workplace appearance, grooming and dress standards not precluded by other provisions of State or federal law, except that an employer shall allow an employee to appear, groom and dress consistent with the employee's gender identity or expression.
- (1) For any employer to impose upon a person as a condition of obtaining or retaining employment, including opportunities for promotion, advancement or transfers, any terms or conditions that would require a person to violate or forego a sincerely held religious practice or religious observance, including but not limited to the observance of any particular day or days or any portion thereof as a Sabbath or other holy day in accordance with the requirements of the religion or religious belief, unless, after engaging in a bona fide effort, the employer demonstrates that it is unable to reasonably accommodate the employee's religious observance or practice without undue hardship on the conduct of the employer's business. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, an employee shall not be entitled to premium wages or premium benefits for work performed during hours to which those premium wages or premium benefits would ordinarily be applicable, if the employee is working during those hours only as an accommodation to his religious requirements. Nothing in this subsection q. shall be construed as reducing:
- (a) The number of the hours worked by the employee which are counted towards the accruing of seniority, pension or other benefits; or
- (b) Any premium wages or benefits provided to an employee pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement.
- (2) For an employer to refuse to permit an employee to utilize leave, as provided for in this subsection q., which is solely used to accommodate the employee's sincerely held religious observance or practice. Except where it would cause an employer to incur an undue hardship, no person shall be required to remain at his place of employment during any day or days or portion thereof that, as a requirement of his religion, he observes as his Sabbath or other holy day, including a reasonable time prior and subsequent thereto for travel between his place of employment and his home; provided that any such absence from work shall, wherever practicable in the

reasonable judgment of the employer, be made up by an equivalent amount of time and work at some other mutually convenient time, or shall be charged against any leave with pay ordinarily granted, other than sick leave, and any such absence not so made up or charged, may be treated by the employer of that person as leave taken without pay.

- (3) (a) For purposes of this subsection q., "undue hardship" means an accommodation requiring unreasonable expense or difficulty, unreasonable interference with the safe or efficient operation of the workplace or a violation of a bona fide seniority system or a violation of any provision of a bona fide collective bargaining agreement.
- (b) In determining whether the accommodation constitutes an undue hardship, the factors considered shall include:
- (i) The identifiable cost of the accommodation, including the costs of loss of productivity and of retaining or hiring employees or transferring employees from one facility to another, in relation to the size and operating cost of the employer.
- (ii) The number of individuals who will need the particular accommodation for a sincerely held religious observance or practice.
- (iii) For an employer with multiple facilities, the degree to which the geographic separateness or administrative or fiscal relationship of the facilities will make the accommodation more difficult or expensive.
- (c) An accommodation shall be considered to constitute an undue hardship if it will result in the inability of an employee to perform the essential functions of the position in which he or she is employed.
- (d) (i) The provisions of this subsection q. shall be applicable only to reasonable accommodations of religious observances and shall not supersede any definition of undue hardship or standards for reasonable accommodation of the disabilities of employees.
- (ii) This subsection q. shall not apply where the uniform application of terms and conditions of attendance to employees is essential to prevent undue hardship to the employer. The burden of proof regarding the applicability of this subparagraph (d) shall be upon the employer.
- r. For any employer to take reprisals against any employee for requesting from, discussing with, or disclosing to, any other employee or former employee of the employer, a lawyer from whom the employee seeks legal advice, or any government agency information regarding the job title, occupational category, and rate of compensation, including benefits, of the employee or any other employee or former employee of the employer, or the gender, race, ethnicity, military status, or national origin of the employee or any other employee or former employee of the employer, regardless of whether the request was responded to, or to require, as a condition

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1 of employment, any employee or prospective employee to sign a 2 waiver, or to otherwise require an employee or prospective 3 employee to agree, not to make those requests or disclosures. 4 Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require an 5 employee to disclose such information about the employee herself 6 to any other employee or former employee of the employer or to 7 any authorized representative of the other employee or former 8 employee.

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s. For an employer to treat, for employment-related purposes, a woman employee that the employer knows, or should know, is affected by pregnancy or breastfeeding in a manner less favorable than the treatment of other persons not affected by pregnancy or breastfeeding but similar in their ability or inability to work. In addition, an employer of an employee who is a woman affected by pregnancy shall make available to the employee reasonable accommodation in the workplace, such as bathroom breaks, breaks for increased water intake, periodic rest, assistance with manual labor, job restructuring or modified work schedules, and temporary transfers to less strenuous or hazardous work, for needs related to the pregnancy when the employee, based on the advice of her physician, requests the accommodation, and, in the case of a employee breast feeding her infant child, the accommodation shall include reasonable break time each day to the employee and a suitable room or other location with privacy, other than a toilet stall, in close proximity to the work area for the employee to express breast milk for the child, unless the employer can demonstrate that providing the accommodation would be an undue hardship on the business operations of the employer. The employer shall not in any way penalize the employee in terms, conditions or privileges of employment for requesting or using the accommodation. Workplace accommodation provided pursuant to this subsection and paid or unpaid leave provided to an employee affected by pregnancy or breastfeeding shall not be provided in a manner less favorable than accommodations or leave provided to other employees not affected by pregnancy or breastfeeding but similar in their ability or inability This subsection shall not be construed as otherwise increasing or decreasing any employee's rights under law to paid or unpaid leave in connection with pregnancy or breastfeeding.

[For the purposes of this section "pregnancy or breastfeeding" means pregnancy, childbirth, and breast feeding or expressing milk for breastfeeding, or medical conditions related to pregnancy, childbirth, or breastfeeding, including recovery from childbirth.]

For the purposes of this subsection, in determining whether an accommodation would impose undue hardship on the operation of an employer's business, the factors to be considered include: the overall size of the employer's business with respect to the number of employees, number and type of facilities, and size of budget; the type of the employer's operations, including the composition and

structure of the employer's workforce; the nature and cost of the accommodation needed, taking into consideration the availability of tax credits, tax deductions, and outside funding; and the extent to which the accommodation would involve waiver of an essential requirement of a job as opposed to a tangential or non-business necessity requirement.

- t. For an employer to pay any of its employees who is a member of a protected class at a rate of compensation, including benefits, which is less than the rate paid by the employer to employees who are not members of the protected class for substantially similar work, when viewed as a composite of skill, effort and responsibility. An employer who is paying a rate of compensation in violation of this subsection shall not reduce the rate of compensation of any employee in order to comply with this subsection. An employer may pay a different rate of compensation only if the employer demonstrates that the differential is made pursuant to a seniority system, a merit system, or the employer demonstrates:
- (1) That the differential is based on one or more legitimate, bona fide factors other than the characteristics of members of the protected class, such as training, education or experience, or the quantity or quality of production;
- (2) That the factor or factors are not based on, and do not perpetuate, a differential in compensation based on sex or any other characteristic of members of a protected class;
  - (3) That each of the factors is applied reasonably;
- (4) That one or more of the factors account for the entire wage differential; and
- (5) That the factors are job-related with respect to the position in question and based on a legitimate business necessity. A factor based on business necessity shall not apply if it is demonstrated that there are alternative business practices that would serve the same business purpose without producing the wage differential.

Comparisons of wage rates shall be based on wage rates in all of an employer's operations or facilities. For the purposes of this subsection, "member of a protected class" means an employee who has one or more characteristics, including race, creed, color, national origin, nationality, ancestry, age, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, affectional or sexual orientation, genetic information, pregnancy, <a href="mailto:breastfeeding.">breastfeeding.</a>, sex, gender identity or expression, disability or atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait of any individual, or liability for service in the armed forces, for which subsection a. of this section prohibits an employer from refusing to hire or employ or barring or discharging or requiring to retire from employment or discriminating against the individual in compensation or in terms, conditions or privileges of employment.

u. For any entity that operates a health program or activity to:

1 (1) exclude participation in, deny the benefits of, or otherwise 2 subject to discrimination under any health program or activity on 3 the basis of an individual's race, creed, color, national origin, 4 nationality, ancestry, age, marital status, civil union status, domestic 5 partnership status, affectional or sexual orientation, genetic 6 information, pregnancy status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender 7 identity or expression, disability or atypical hereditary cellular or 8 blood trait of any individual, or liability for service in the armed

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forces;

- 10 (2) aid or perpetuate discrimination against any person by 11 providing significant assistance to any entity or person that 12 discriminates on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, 13 nationality, ancestry, age, marital status, civil union status, domestic 14 partnership status, affectional or sexual orientation, genetic 15 information, pregnancy status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender 16 identity or expression, disability or atypical hereditary cellular or 17 blood trait of any individual, or liability for service in the armed 18 forces;
  - (3) (a) through contractual or other arrangements, utilize criteria or methods of administration that have the effect of subjecting individuals to discrimination on the basis of sex; or
  - (b) make selections when determining the site or location of a facility that have the effect of excluding individuals from, denying them the benefits of, or subjecting them to discrimination under any health program or activity on the basis of sex, or substantially impairing the accomplishments of the program or activity on the basis of sex.
  - Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to prohibit an entity from operating a sex-specific health program or activity, provided that the entity demonstrates an exceedingly persuasive justification that the sex-specific health program or activity is substantially related to the achievement of an important health-related to scientific objective;
- 34 (4) treat any individual in a manner inconsistent with that 35 individual's gender identity;
- 36 (5) fail to ensure that communications with individuals with
  37 disabilities are as effective as communications with others in the
  38 health program or activity, which may include failure to provide
  39 appropriate auxiliary aids and services to individuals with impaired
  40 sensory, manual, or speaking skills, when such aids and services are
  41 necessary to ensure the individual equal opportunity to benefit from
  42 the service in question;
- 43 (6) fail to ensure that, when newly constructing or making
  44 alterations to all or any part of a facility, the affected portions of the
  45 facility are accessible to individuals with disabilities, consistent
  46 with the current applicable standards for accessible design adopted
  47 pursuant to the "Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990," 42

48 <u>U.S.C. s.12101 et seq.</u>;

- 1 (7) fail to ensure that any health programs or activities provided 2 through electronic and information technology are accessible to 3 individuals with disabilities, unless doing so would result in undue financial and administrative burdens or a fundamental alteration in 4 5 the nature of the health program or activity. In the event that 6 compliance would result in an undue financial and administrative 7 burden or a fundamental alteration in the nature of the health 8 program or activity, the entity shall provide information in a format 9 other than an electronic format that would not result in such undue 10 financial and administrative burdens or a fundamental alteration in 11 the nature of the health program or activity, provided that, to the 12 maximum extent possible, the entity shall ensure that individuals 13 with disabilities receive the benefits or services of the health 14 program or activity that are provided through electronic and 15 information technology;
  - (8) fail to make reasonable modifications to policies, practices, or procedures when necessary to avoid discrimination on the basis of disability, unless the entity can demonstrate that making the modifications would fundamentally alter the nature of the health program or activity;

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- (9) engage in marketing practices or benefit designs that discriminate on the basis of disability;
- (10) fail to provide meaningful access to individuals with limited English proficiency who are eligible to receive the benefits or services of the health program or activity, including, but not limited to, providing, free of charge, language assistance services, interpreter and translation services to assist with oral communications, and qualified translator services to assist with written communications, subject to the following requirements:
- 30 (a) in the event that the entity provides video remote 31 interpreting services, the entity shall ensure the health program or 32 activity: uses real-time, full-motion video and audio over a 33 dedicated high-speed, wide-bandwidth video connection or wireless 34 connection that produces high-quality video images without lags, 35 choppy, blurry, or grainy images, or irregular pauses in 36 communication; provides a sharply-delineated image that is large enough to display the interpreter's face and the participating 37 individual's face, regardless of the individual's body position; 38 39 provides a clear, audible transmission of voices; and provides 40 adequate training to users of the technology and other involved 41 individuals to ensure they are able to quickly and efficiently set up 42 and operate the video remote interpreting;
  - (b) in evaluating whether an entity is in compliance with the requirements of this paragraph, the division shall: evaluate, and give substantial weight to, the nature and importance to the individual with limited English proficiency of the health program or activity and the particular communication at issue; and take into account other relevant factors, including whether the entity has

- developed and implemented an effective written language access
  plan appropriate to its particular circumstances;
- (c) nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to authorize any entity to require an individual to: provide the individual's own interpreter; rely on an accompanying adult or minor child to provide interpretation services, except when expressly requested by the individual with limited English proficiency or in an emergency involving imminent threat to the safety or welfare of the individual or the public when there is no qualified interpreter for the individual who is immediately available; or rely on staff other than qualified bilingual or multilingual staff to provide interpretation services for
- the individual; and
   (d) nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to require any
   individual with limited English proficiency to accept language
   assistance services; or

- (11) in the case of an entity providing or administering a health benefits plan, to discriminate against any individual on the basis of an individual's race, creed, color, national origin, nationality, ancestry, age, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, affectional or sexual orientation, genetic information, pregnancy status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, disability or atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait of any individual, or liability for service in the armed forces, including:
- (a) denying, canceling, limiting, or refusing to issue or renew a health benefits plan, or denying or limiting coverage of a claim, or imposing additional cost sharing or other limitations on coverage, on the basis of an individual's race, creed, color, national origin, nationality, ancestry, age, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, affectional or sexual orientation, genetic information, pregnancy status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, disability or atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait of any individual, or liability for service in the armed forces:
- (b) having or implementing marketing practices or benefit designs that discriminate on the basis of an individual's race, creed, color, national origin, nationality, ancestry, age, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, affectional or sexual orientation, genetic information, pregnancy status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, disability or atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait of any individual, or liability for service in the armed forces;
- (c) denying or limiting coverage, denying or limiting coverage
  of a claim, or imposing additional cost sharing or other limitations
  or restrictions on coverage for any health services to a transgender
  individual that are ordinarily or exclusively available to individuals
  of one sex if such denial, limitation, or other restriction is based on
  the fact that the individual's sex assigned at birth, gender identity,

or gender otherwise recorded is different from the one to which such health services are ordinarily or exclusively available;

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- (d) having or implementing a categorical coverage exclusion or limitation for all health services related to gender transition; or
- (e) otherwise denying or limiting coverage, denying or limiting coverage of a claim, or imposing additional cost sharing limitations or restrictions on coverage for specific health services related to gender transition if such denial, limitation, or restriction results in discrimination against a transgender individual.

Nothing in paragraph (11) of this subsection shall be construed to determine, or restrict an entity providing or administering a health benefits plan from determining, whether a particular health service is medically necessary or otherwise meets applicable coverage requirements in any individual case.

15 Each entity that operates a health program or activity shall take 16 appropriate steps to notify beneficiaries, enrollees, applicants, and 17 members of the public: that the entity does not discriminate on the 18 basis of race, creed, color, national origin, nationality, ancestry, 19 age, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, 20 affectional or sexual orientation, genetic information, pregnancy 21 status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, 22 disability or atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait of any 23 individual, or liability for service in the armed forces; that the entity 24 provides appropriate auxiliary aids and services, including qualified 25 interpreters for individuals with disabilities and information in 26 alternate formats, free of charge and in a timely manner, when such 27 aids and services are necessary to ensure an equal opportunity to 28 participate to individuals with disabilities; that the entity provides 29 language assistance services, including translated documents and 30 oral interpretation, free of charge and in a timely manner, when 31 such services are necessary to provide meaningful access to 32 individuals with limited English proficiency; how to obtain the aids and services described in the notice; and how to file a 33 discrimination complaint with the division. This notice shall be 34 35 provided in a form and manner as shall be prescribed by the director 36 by regulation, and shall include, at a minimum, posting the notice in 37 a conspicuous location and by preparing and posting taglines in the 38 15 most common non-English languages spoken in the State.

As used in this subsection:

"Auxiliary aids and services" includes the use of:

(i) qualified interpreters to provide on-site or remote video interpreting services; note takers; real-time computer-aided transcription services; written materials; exchange of written notes; telephone handset amplifiers; assistive listening devices; assistive listening systems; telephones compatible with hearing aids; closed caption decoders; open and closed captioning, including real-time captioning; voice, text, and video-based telecommunications products and systems, text telephones, videophones, captioned

- 1 telephones, and any other equally-effective telecommunications
- 2 device; videotext displays; accessible electronic and information
- 3 technology; and any other effective methods of making aurally-
- 4 delivered information available to individuals who are deaf or hard 5 of hearing;
- 6 (ii) qualified readers; taped texts; audio recordings; Braille 7 materials and displays; screen reader software; magnification 8 software; optical readers; secondary auditory programs; large print 9 materials; accessible electronic and information technology; or
- 10 other effective methods of making visually-delivered information 11 available to individuals who are blind or who have low vision;
- 12 (iii) acquisition or modification of equipment and devices; and 13 (iv) other similar services and actions.
- 14 "Language assistance services" means, but is not limited to: oral 15 language assistance for an individual with limited English 16 proficiency, including interpretation in non-English languages 17 provided in-person or remotely by a qualified interpreter; the use of 18 qualified bilingual or multilingual staff to communicate directly 19 with individuals with limited English proficiency; written translation, performed by a qualified translator, of written content
- 20 21 into language other than English; and taglines. 22 "Qualified bilingual or multilingual staff" means a member of
- 23 the entity's staff who is designated by the entity to provide oral
- 24 language assistance as part of the individual's current, assigned job
- 25 responsibilities, and who demonstrates to the entity that the staff
- 26 member: is proficient in speaking and understanding both spoken
- 27 English and at least one other spoken language, including any 28 necessary specialized vocabulary, terminology, and phraseology;
- 29 and is able to effectively, accurately, and impartially communicate
- 30 directly with individuals with limited English proficiency in their
- 31 primary languages.
- 32 "Qualified interpreter for an individual with a disability" means 33 an individual who, through a remote video interpreting service or an
- 34 on-site appearance, adheres to generally-accepted interpreter ethics
- 35 principles, including client confidentiality, and is able to interpret
- 36 effectively, accurately, and impartially, both receptively and
- 37 expressively, using any necessary specialized vocabulary, 38 terminology, and phraseology. Qualified interpreters may include
- 39 sign language interpreters, oral transliterators, and cued language
- 40 transliterators.
- 41 "Qualified interpreter for an individual with limited English 42
- proficiency" means an individual who, through a remote video 43 interpreting service or an on-site appearance, adheres to generally-
- 44
- accepted interpreter ethics principles, including client
- 45 confidentiality, has demonstrated proficiency in speaking and 46 understanding both spoken English and at least one other language,
- 47 and is able to interpret effectively, accurately, and impartially, both

1 receptively and expressively, using any necessary specialized vocabulary, terminology, and phraseology.

"Qualified translator" means a translator who adheres to generally-accepted translator ethics principles, including client confidentiality, has demonstrated proficiency in writing and understanding both written English and at least one other written non-English language, and is able to interpret effectively, accurately, and impartially, both receptively and expressively, to and from such language into English, using any necessary specialized vocabulary, terminology, and phraseology.

<u>"Taglines" means short statements written in non-English languages that indicate the availability of language assistance services free of charge.</u>

v. To engage in any unlawful employment practice or unlawful discrimination, as set forth in subsections a. through u. of this section, against an individual on the basis of the race, creed, color, national origin, nationality, ancestry, age, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, affectional or sexual orientation, genetic information, pregnancy status, breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, disability or atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait of any individual, or liability for service in the armed forces of another individual with whom the individual is known or believed to have a relationship or association.

(cf: P.L.2018, c.9, s.2)

3. This act shall take effect 180 days after the date of enactment.

#### **STATEMENT**

This bill expands the "Law Against Discrimination" (LAD), P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), to apply to health programs and activities, which are defined in the bill to mean the provision or administration of health-related services, health-related insurance coverage or other health-related coverage, and the provision of assistance to individuals in obtaining health-related services or health-related insurance coverage. The entities the bill will apply to include, but are not limited to, health care facilities, long-term care facilities, residential and community-based treatment facilities, and health care practices operated by a licensed or certified health care practitioner, as well as health benefits plans, health benefits carriers, and the State Medicaid and NJ FamilyCare programs.

The LAD generally prohibits discrimination in the workplace, in places of public accommodation, and in transactions involving housing and other real property against an individual based on the individual being a member of a protected class, including race, creed, color, national origin, nationality, ancestry, age, marital

- 1 status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, affectional or
- 2 sexual orientation, genetic information, pregnancy status,
- 3 breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, disability or
- 4 atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait of any individual, or
- 5 liability for service in the armed forces. In some cases, the LAD
- 6 provides broad protections for all protected classes; in other cases,
- 7 it provides specific protections to specific populations, such as
- 8 workplace protections for women who are pregnant or breastfeeding
- 9 or for individuals to practice religious observances.

The bill will expand the existing LAD protections to provide that it will constitute unlawful discrimination for any entity that operates a health program or activity to:

- (1) exclude, deny, otherwise discriminate against individual in a health program or activity on the basis of the individual being a member of any protected class;
- (2) aid or perpetuate discrimination against any person by providing significant assistance to any entity or person that discriminates on the basis of any protected class;
- (3) utilize criteria or methods of administration or, when making selections when determining the site or location of a facility, that have the effect of discriminating on the basis of sex;
- (4) treat any individual in a manner inconsistent with that individual's gender identity;
- (5) fail to ensure that communications with individuals with disabilities are as effective as communications with others in the health program or activity, which may include failure to provide appropriate auxiliary aids and services when necessary to ensure the individual has equal opportunity to benefit from the service in question;
- (6) fail to ensure that, when newly constructing or making alterations to all or part of a facility, the affected portions of the facility are accessible to individuals with disabilities, consistent with the current applicable standards for accessible design adopted pursuant to the "Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990," 42 U.S.C. s.12101 et seq.;
- (7) fail to ensure that any health programs or activities provided through electronic and information technology are accessible to individuals with disabilities, unless doing so would result in undue financial and administrative burdens or a fundamental alteration in the nature of the health program or activity;
- (8) fail to make reasonable modifications to policies, practices, or procedures when necessary to avoid discrimination on the basis of disability, unless the entity can demonstrate that making the modifications would fundamentally alter the nature of the health program or activity;
- 46 (9) engage in marketing practices or benefit designs that 47 discriminate on the basis of disability;

(10) fail to provide meaningful access to individuals with limited English proficiency who are eligible to receive the benefits or services of the health program or activity, including proving appropriate interpretation and translation services for oral and written communications, which may be provided in-person or electronically; or

(11) in the case of an entity providing or administering a health benefits plan, to discriminate against any individual on the basis of the individual being a member of a protected class, including: denying, canceling, limiting, or refusing to issue or renew a health benefits plan; denying or limiting coverage of a claim; imposing additional cost sharing or other limitations on coverage; having or implementing marketing practices or benefit designs that discriminate on the basis of any protected class; having or implementing a categorical coverage exclusion or limitation for all health services related to gender transition; or otherwise engaging in practices that discriminate against any transgender individual.

Each entity that operates a health program or activity will be required to provide notice to beneficiaries, enrollees, applicants, and members of the public that: the entity does not discriminate on the basis of any protected class; the entity provides appropriate auxiliary aids and services free of charge and in a timely manner to individuals with a disability; and the entity provides language assistance services free of charge. The notice is to further describe how to obtain the aids and services described in the notice and how to file a discrimination complaint with the Division on Civil Rights in the Department of Law and Public Safety. The notice is to be provided in a form and manner prescribed by the Director of the Division on Civil Rights by regulation, which will include, at a minimum, posting the notice in a conspicuous location and preparing and posting taglines, which are short non-English notices describing the availability of free language assistance services, in the 15 most common non-English languages spoken in the State.

The bill further prohibits any act of unlawful discrimination or any unlawful employment practice when taken against an individual based on the individual's association with a member of any protected class.