SENATE, No. 3352

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 12, 2021

Sponsored by: Senator LORETTA WEINBERG District 37 (Bergen)

SYNOPSIS

Concerns unlawful discrimination and harassment.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** concerning unlawful discrimination and harassment, 2 supplementing P.L.1945, c.169, and revising various parts of the 3 statutory law.

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

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- 1. (New section) Mandatory workplace policies on unlawful discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment and retaliation.
- a. For purposes of this section, the terms "discrimination" and "harassment" refer to unlawful discrimination or harassment of an individual because of any characteristic of the individual protected by subsection a. of section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-12), and "retaliation" refers to any action taken against an individual in violation of the provisions of subsection d. of section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-12).
 - b. Within one year of the date of enactment of P.L. , c.
 - (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), all employers shall adopt a written nondiscrimination policy that establishes policies and procedures concerning unlawful discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment, in the workplace which is applicable to all employees in their interactions with each other and with vendors, suppliers, customers, clients, invitees, and patrons, and which shall include, at a minimum, the following:
 - (1) a statement that unlawful discrimination or harassment in the workplace will not be tolerated, and that sanctions will be enforced against individuals engaging in unlawful discrimination or harassment and against supervisory and managerial personnel who knowingly allow such behavior to continue;
- 31 (2) a definition of unlawful discrimination and unlawful 32 harassment in employment;
 - (3) examples of discriminatory and harassing behaviors prohibited by the policy;
- 35 (4) a description of the process for filing internal complaints 36 about discrimination or harassment and the complete contact 37 information of the person or persons to whom complaints should be 38 made;
- 39 (5) directions as to how to contact the division if a person 40 believes their rights were violated;
- 41 (6) the statute of limitations periods applicable to filing a claim 42 of unlawful discrimination and harassment under P.L.1945, c.169 43 (C.10:5-1 et seq.);

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

- 1 (7) a prohibition on retaliation against those who disclose, 2 report, participate in an investigation of, or otherwise challenge 3 discrimination or harassment;
 - (8) examples of retaliatory behaviors prohibited by the policy;
- 5 (9) a description of potential consequences for violating the policy; and
 - (10) a statement of the employer's commitment to conducting prompt, thorough, and impartial investigations of complaints of such discrimination, harassment, or retaliation.
 - c. All employers shall disseminate the policy required in subsection b. of this section at least once annually to all employees, and to each employee:
 - (1) at the beginning of employment;

- (2) who complains internally about a violation of the policy, at the time the complaint is made;
- (3) who is interviewed by the employer or the employer's designee in connection with any investigation of any complaint about a violation of the policy, prior to or at the time of the interview; and
 - (4) whenever any updates to the policy are made.
- d. All employers shall review the policy at least annually to ensure that it complies with this section and other applicable laws and regulations.
- e. All employers shall make the policy available in English, Spanish and any language spoken by an employee who does not speak English as the employee's primary language and who has a limited ability or no ability to read, speak, write, or understand English.
- f. In addition to the requirements in subsections b., c., d., and e. of this section, employers with 50 or more employees shall:
- (1) in addition to the content requirements outlined in subsection b. of this section, customize their policy to their specific workplace and industry by, at a minimum, including:
- (a) multiple channels through which an employee may report unlawful discrimination or harassment; and
- (b) a general description of the process by which the employer will conduct prompt, thorough, and impartial investigations and respond to complaints regarding such discrimination or harassment.
- (2) In addition to the dissemination requirements outlined in subsection c. of this section:
- (a) post the policy in a prominent location on the employer's website, provided, however, that nothing in this subsection shall require an employer to create or maintain a website for the sole purpose of posting the policy thereon; and
- (b) disseminate the policy to any employee upon that employee's promotion.
- 47 (3) In addition to the translation requirements outlined in 48 subsection e. of this section, translate the nondiscrimination policy

required by subsection b. of this section into any language identified by an employee as their primary language, if the employee does not speak English as their primary language and has a limited ability or no ability to read, speak, write, or understand English.

- g. Any person who employs an individual to perform domestic work in their private residence or in the private residence of a family member shall, at the time of hire and at least once annually, provide to the individual a printed copy of materials regarding unlawful discrimination and harassment made available by the division.
- h. For purposes of this section, an employer has 50 or more employees if the employer employs 50 or more employees, whether employed in New Jersey or not, for each work day during each of 20 or more calendar workweeks in the then current or immediately preceding calendar year.
- i. Notwithstanding any other provision of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), nothing in this section shall be construed to permit a private person to file a complaint with the division or initiate an action in superior court alleging a violation of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.) because of any failure to comply with the provisions of this section. However, the Attorney General or the director may enforce violations of this section and may pursue any penalty or remedy available under P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.) in doing so. An employer's compliance with this section shall not, in and of itself, protect the employer from liability under this act

- 2. (New section) Mandatory workplace training on unlawful discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment.
- a. For purposes of this section, the terms "discrimination" and "harassment" refer to unlawful discrimination or harassment against an individual because of any characteristic of the individual protected by subsection a. of section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-12), and "retaliation" refers to any action taken against an individual in violation of the provisions of subsection d. of section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-12).
 - b. Beginning one year from the effective date of P.L. , c.
- 39 (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), all employers 40 shall provide interactive training to all employees other than those 41 employees covered by subsection c. of this section on the 42 nondiscrimination policy required by section 1 of P.L. , c.
 - (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), regarding the prevention of unlawful discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment, in the workplace. The training shall be provided to all new employees within 90 days of initial hire, and to all employees at least once every two years. The training shall include, at minimum:

- 1 (1) A statement that unlawful discrimination or harassment in 2 the workplace will not be tolerated, and that sanctions will be 3 enforced against individuals engaging in discrimination or 4 harassment and against supervisory and managerial personnel who 5 knowingly or negligently allow the discrimination or harassment to 6 continue;
 - (2) A definition of unlawful discrimination and unlawful harassment in employment;

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- 9 (3) Examples of discriminatory and harassing behaviors 10 prohibited by the nondiscrimination policy adopted by the employer 11 pursuant to section 1 of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before 12 the Legislature as this bill);
- 13 (4) A description of the process for filing internal complaints 14 about discrimination or harassment;
 - (5) Directions as to how to contact the division if a person believes eir rights were violated;
 - (6) A description of the prohibition on retaliation against those who disclose, report, participate in an investigation of, or otherwise challenge discrimination or harassment;
 - (7) Examples of retaliatory behaviors prohibited by the nondiscrimination policy adopted by the employer pursuant to section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill); and
 - (8) Information concerning bystander intervention.
 - c. Beginning one year from the effective date of P.L. , c.
 - (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), all employers shall provide interactive training to all supervisory employees regarding the prevention of unlawful discrimination and harassment in the workplace at least once every two years and shall provide such training to all new supervisory employees within 90 days of initial hire or promotion. The training shall include, at minimum:
- 32 (1) the topics required by paragraphs (1) through (8) of 33 subsection b. of this section;
 - (2) the specific responsibilities of a supervisor regarding the prevention of discrimination and harassment;
 - (3) the specific responsibilities of a supervisor regarding the prohibitions against retaliation; and
 - (4) measures and corrective actions supervisors may take to appropriately address complaints and instances of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation.
 - d. All employers shall keep a record of their employees' completion of all trainings required by subsections b. and c. of this section. The records may be electronic. Employers shall maintain the records for at least four years and make the records available for division inspection upon request.
- e. All employers shall review the trainings required by subsections b. and c. of this section at least annually to ensure that

- they comply with this section and with other applicable laws and regulations.
 - f. All employers shall make the trainings required by subsections b. and c. of this section available:
 - (1) in English; and

- (2) in any language spoken by an employee who does not speak English as their primary language and who has a limited ability or no ability to read, speak, write, or understand English.
- g. Employers with 50 or more employees shall provide the trainings required by subsections b. and c. of this section in a live, in-person setting where participants can ask questions. The employers shall also provide interpretation at the trainings required by subsections b. and c. of this section for any employee who does not speak English as their primary language and has a limited ability or no ability to read, speak, write, or understand English.
- h. For purposes of this section, an employer has 50 or more employees if the employer employs 50 or more employees, whether employed in New Jersey or not, for each work day during each of 20 or more calendar workweeks in the then current or immediately preceding calendar year.
- i. For purposes of this section, "interactive training" means that the training shall be participatory. However, except where explicitly required herein, "interactive training" shall not be required to be live or facilitated by an in-person instructor in order to satisfy the provisions of this section.
- j. The training required by this section is intended to establish a minimum threshold. An employer may provide longer, more frequent, or more elaborate training regarding workplace harassment or other forms of unlawful discrimination.
- k. Notwithstanding any other provision of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), nothing in this section shall be construed to permit a private person to file a complaint with the division or initiate an action in superior court alleging a violation of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), because of any failure to comply with the provisions of this section. However, the Attorney General or the director may enforce violations of this section and may pursue any penalty or remedy available under P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), in doing so. An employer's compliance with this section shall not, in and of itself, protect the employer from liability for unlawful discrimination or harassment under this act.

- 3. (New section) Mandatory reporting on unlawful employment discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment.
- a. For purposes of this section, the terms "discrimination" and "harassment" refer to unlawful discrimination or harassment against an individual because of any characteristic of the individual protected by subsection a. of section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-12), and "retaliation" refers to any action taken against an

individual in violation of the provisions of subsection d. of section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-12).

- 3 b. Beginning one year after the date of enactment of P.L. 4 (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), employers 5 with 50 or more employees shall be required to collect and annually report to the division the following data on complaints received 6 7 regarding unlawful workplace discrimination, harassment, including 8 sexual harassment, or retaliation, using the form created and made 9 available on the division's website pursuant to subsection e. of this 10 section for that purpose:
 - (1) the total number of complaints filed;

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- (2) the number of complaints filed that were found by the employer to be substantiated;
- (3) the number of complaints filed that were found by the employer to be unsubstantiated; and
- (4) the number of complaints filed whose resolution is still pending.
- c. The data submitted for each of the categories in subsection b. of this section shall be broken down by how many of those complaints involved allegations of unlawful discrimination, harassment, or retaliation, as well as by the protected class or classes that the complainant alleged.
- d. Employers shall be required to maintain any records related to the complaints reported to the division pursuant to subsections b. and c. of this section for at least four years. Employers shall make the records available for division inspection upon request.
- e. The division shall, within six months of the date of enactment of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), create a form to be used by employers when submitting the data required to be reported under subsections b. and c. of this section. The division shall make the form available at no cost on its website.
- f. For purposes of this section, an employer has 50 or more employees if such employer employs 50 or more employees, whether employed in New Jersey or not, for each work day during each of 20 or more calendar workweeks in the then current or immediately preceding calendar year.
- 38 Notwithstanding any other provision of P.L.1945, c.169 39 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), nothing in this section shall be construed to 40 permit a private person to file a complaint with the division or 41 initiate an action in superior court alleging a violation of P.L.1945, 42 c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.) because of any failure to comply with the 43 provisions of this section. However, the Attorney General or the 44 director may enforce violations of this section and may pursue any 45 penalty or remedy available under P.L.1945, c. 169 (C.10:5-1 et 46 seq.), in doing so. An employer's compliance with this section, or 47 use of materials provided for herein, shall not, in and of itself,

1 protect the employer from liability for unlawful discrimination or 2 harassment under this act.

- 4. (New section) P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.) shall be construed to prohibit unlawful discrimination and other unlawful practices against not only an individual who is a member of a protected class, as described in P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), but also against an individual who is:
 - a. Perceived to be a member of a protected class;
- b. Associated with an individual who is a member of or is perceived to be a member of a protected class;
- c. A member of a protected class who is in transition to being a member of another protected class; or
- d. A member of one protected class who is in transition from one state in that protected class to another state within that or another protected class.

5. (New section) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, including the provisions of R.S. 34:15-8, a claim made by an employee or a dependent of the employee for compensation under the workers' compensation law, R.S. 34:15-1 et seq., for an injury, occupational disease, or death shall not preclude the filing by, or on behalf of, the employee or dependent of a complaint regarding an unlawful employment practice with the Division on Civil Rights or in Superior Court pursuant to P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.) seeking relief for damages caused by the unlawful employment practice, even if the damages include damages from injury, occupational disease, or death which may be compensable under the claim made for workers' compensation.

6. Section 1 of P.L.1938, c.295 (C.10:3-1) is amended to read as follows:

1. In the selection of persons for employment in the service of the State, or of any county or municipality thereof, no appointing officer shall discriminate against any such applicant because such applicant has attained the age of at least 40 years, at the time of said application for employment. Any provisions of law, executive order, rule or regulation to the contrary notwithstanding, no person other than a justice of the Supreme Court or a judge of the Superior Court pursuant to Article VI, Section VI, paragraph 3 of the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, or a judge of the Tax Court, or a judge of the Office of Administrative Law or a judge of the Division of Workers' Compensation, or a member of the Division of State Police, employed in the service of the State, or of any county or municipality thereof, or a member of a police or fire department employed in the service of the State or of any county or municipality thereof, shall be required to retire upon the attainment of a particular age unless the public employer can show that [the

- 1 retirement age bears a manifest relationship to the employment in
- 2 question or that I the person in the service of the State, or of any
- 3 county or municipality thereof, is unable to adequately perform the
- 4 person's duties. A contract of tenure or similar arrangement
- 5 providing for tenure shall not bar a public employer from showing
- 6 that **[**a retirement age bears a manifest relationship to the
- 7 employment in question or that **1** the person in the service of the
- 8 State, or of any county or municipality thereof, is unable to
- 9 adequately perform the person's duties. A person in the employ of
- 10 the State, or of any county or municipality thereof, who is required
- 11 to retire upon the attainment of a particular age in violation of this
- section shall be entitled to reinstatement with back pay and interest.
- and any remedy available for violations of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-
- 14 <u>1 et seq.)</u>.
- 15 (cf: P.L.1999, c.380, s.15)

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- 7. 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:
 - a. "Person" includes one or more individuals, partnerships, associations, organizations, labor organizations, corporations, legal representatives, trustees, trustees in bankruptcy, receivers, and fiduciaries.
 - b. "Employment agency" includes any person undertaking to procure employees or opportunities for others to work.
 - c. "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.
 - d. "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).
- 35 e. "Employer" includes all persons as defined in subsection a. of this section unless otherwise specifically exempt under another 36 section of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), and includes the State, 37 38 any political or civil subdivision thereof, and all public officers, 39 agencies, boards, or bodies; and, in the employment of any individual to perform domestic work, includes any person who 40 employs the individual to perform domestic work in the person's 41 42 private residence, who employs an individual to perform domestic 43 work in the private residence of a family member of the person, or 44 who is 18 years of age or older and resides in a private residence in 45 which an individual performs domestic work.
- f. "Employee" [does not include any individual employed in the domestic service of any person] includes all individuals

- 1 employed by an employer, without regard to whether the individual,
- 2 including an intern or independent contractor, performs services in
- 3 exchange for a salary or wage, and regardless of whether the
- 4 individual owns shares of stocks in the employer; provided,
- 5 however, that nothing in this subsection shall be construed to alter
- 6 the definition of employee under any other law or regulation other
- 7 than for purposes of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.).
- 8 g. "Liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States" means subject to being ordered as an individual or member 9 10 of an organized unit into active service in the Armed Forces of the 11 United States by reason of membership in the National Guard, naval
- 12 militia or a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United
- 13 States, or subject to being inducted into such armed forces through
- 14 a system of national selective service.
- 15 h. "Division" means the "Division on Civil Rights" created by 16 P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.).
- 17 "Attorney General" means the Attorney General of the State 18 of New Jersey or the Attorney General's representative or designee.
- 19 "Commission" means the Commission on Civil Rights 20 created by P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.).
- k. "Director" means the Director of the Division on Civil 21 22 Rights.
- 23 "A place of public accommodation" shall include, but not be 1.
- 24 limited to: any tavern, roadhouse, hotel, motel, trailer camp,
- 25 summer camp, day camp, or resort camp, whether for entertainment
- 26 of transient guests or accommodation of those seeking health, 27
- recreation, or rest; any producer, manufacturer, wholesaler, 28 distributor, retail shop, store, establishment, or concession dealing
- 29 with goods or services of any kind; any restaurant, eating house, or
- 30 place where food is sold for consumption on the premises; any
- 31 place maintained for the sale of ice cream, ice and fruit preparations
- 32 or their derivatives, soda water or confections, or where any
- 33 beverages of any kind are retailed for consumption on the premises;
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- any garage, any public conveyance operated on land or water or in
- 35 the air or any stations and terminals thereof; any bathhouse, 36
- boardwalk, or seashore accommodation; any auditorium, meeting 37 place, or hall; any theatre, motion-picture house, music hall, roof
- 38 garden, skating rink, swimming pool, amusement and recreation
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- park, fair, bowling alley, gymnasium, shooting gallery, billiard and 40
- pool parlor, or other place of amusement; any comfort station; any 41 dispensary, clinic, or hospital; any public library; and any
- 42 kindergarten, primary and secondary school, trade or business
- 43 school, high school, academy, college and university, or any
- 44 educational institution under the supervision of the State Board of
- 45 Education or the Commissioner of Education of the State of New
- 46 Jersey. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to include or to 47 apply to any institution, bona fide club, or place of accommodation,
- 48 which is in its nature distinctly private; nor shall anything herein

contained apply to any educational facility operated or maintained by a bona fide religious or sectarian institution, and the right of a natural parent or one in loco parentis to direct the education and upbringing of a child under his is hereby affirmed; nor shall anything herein contained be construed to bar any private secondary or post-secondary school from using in good faith criteria other than race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, gender identity or expression or affectional or sexual orientation in the admission of students.

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.

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

o. "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, and includes access to public services.
- 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.
- "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 components (hemoglobin A, hemoglobin A2, 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
- 7 individual is shown to have only normal hemoglobin components 8 (hemoglobin A, hemoglobin A2, hemoglobin F) in normal
- 9 proportions by standard chemical and physical analytic tests.

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- 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.
 - 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.
- 33 hh. "Affectional or sexual orientation" means male or female 34 heterosexuality, homosexuality, or bisexuality by inclination, 35 practice, identity, or expression, having a history thereof or being 36 perceived, presumed, or identified by others as having such an 37 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.
- 44 kk. "Bisexuality" means affectional, emotional, or physical 45 attraction or behavior which is directed towards persons of either 46 gender.
- 11. "Familial status" means being the natural parent of a child, the adoptive parent of a child, the resource family parent of a child,

- 1 having a "parent and child relationship" with a child as defined by
- 2 State law, or having sole or joint legal or physical custody, care,
- 3 guardianship, or visitation with a child, or any person who is
- 4 pregnant or is in the process of securing legal custody of any
- 5 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:
 - (a) the existence of significant facilities and services 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).
- 5 rr. "Gender identity or expression" means having or being 6 perceived as having a gender related identity or expression whether 7 or not stereotypically associated with a person's assigned sex.

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- 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.
- vv. "Race" is inclusive of traits historically associated with race, including, but not limited to, hair texture, hair type, and protective hairstyles.
 - ww. "Protective hair styles" includes, but is not limited to, such hairstyles as braids, locks, and twists.
 - xx. "Family member" means a child, parent, parent-in-law, sibling, grandparent, grandchild, spouse, domestic partner, or one partner in a civil union couple, or any other individual related by blood to the person, and any other individual that the person shows to have a close association with the person which is the equivalent of a family relationship.
 - yy. "Domestic work" means services related to the care of persons in private residences or maintenance of private residences or their premises, including, but not limited to, services performed by a nanny, au pair, babysitter, house cleaner, housekeeper, maid, caretaker, home care worker, cook, chef, butler, gardener, or household manager; except that "domestic work" shall not include:
- (1) services provided by a parent, grandparent, spouse, sibling,
 child, or other immediate family member of the employer; or
- 38 (2) services limited to casual and occasional house- or pet-39 sitting duties performed when members of the household are not on 40 the premises.
- 41 <u>zz. "Intern" means an individual who performs services for an</u> 42 <u>employer on a temporary basis whose work:</u>
- 43 (1) provides training or supplements training given in an 44 educational environment such that the employability of the 45 individual performing the work may be enhanced;
- 46 (2) provides experience for the benefit of the individual
- 47 performing the work; and
- 48 (3) is performed under the supervision of existing staff.

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The term "intern" shall include individuals without regard to whether the employer pays them a salary or wage.

(cf: P.L.2019, c.436, s.2)

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- 8. Section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-12) is amended to read:
- 11. It shall be an unlawful employment practice, or, as the case may be, an unlawful discrimination:
- 9 a. For an employer, because of the race, creed, color, national 10 origin, ancestry, age, marital status, familial status, civil union 11 status, domestic partnership status, affectional or sexual orientation, 12 genetic information, pregnancy or breastfeeding, sex, gender 13 identity or expression, disability or perceived disability, or atypical 14 hereditary cellular or blood trait of any individual, or because of the 15 liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States or the 16 nationality of any individual, or because of the refusal to submit to 17 a genetic test or make available the results of a genetic test to an 18 employer, to refuse to hire or employ or to bar or to discharge or 19 require to retire, unless justified by lawful considerations other than 20 age, from employment such individual or to discriminate against 21 such individual in compensation or in terms, conditions or 22 privileges of employment or to subject any individual to sexual 23 harassment or other unlawful harassment; provided, however, it 24 shall not be an unlawful employment practice to refuse to accept for 25 employment an applicant who has received a notice of induction or 26 orders to report for active duty in the armed forces; provided further 27 that nothing herein contained shall be construed to bar an employer 28 from refusing to accept for employment any person on the basis of 29 sex in those certain circumstances where sex is a bona fide 30 occupational qualification, reasonably necessary to the normal 31 operation of the particular business or enterprise; [provided further 32 that nothing herein contained shall be construed to bar an employer 33 from refusing to accept for employment or to promote any person 34 over 70 years of age]; provided further that it shall not be an 35 unlawful employment practice for a club exclusively social or 36 fraternal to use club membership as a uniform qualification for employment, or for a religious association or organization to utilize 37 38 religious affiliation as a uniform qualification in the employment of 39 clergy, religious teachers or other employees engaged in the 40 religious activities of the association or organization, or in 41 following the tenets of its religion in establishing and utilizing 42 criteria for employment of an employee; [provided further, that it 43 shall not be an unlawful employment practice to require the 44 retirement of any employee who, for the two-year period 45 immediately before retirement, is employed in a bona fide executive 46 or a high policy-making position, if that employee is entitled to an 47 immediate non-forfeitable annual retirement benefit from a pension, 48 profit sharing, savings or deferred retirement plan, or any

- 1 combination of those plans, of the employer of that employee which
- equals in the aggregate at least \$27,000.00; and provided further
- 3 that an employer may restrict employment to citizens of the United
- 4 States where such restriction is required by federal law or is
- 5 otherwise necessary to protect the national interest; and provided
- 6 <u>further that no provision of this section shall apply to decisions</u>
- 7 regarding the hiring of individual for the performance of domestic
- 8 work.

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, prior complaints of harassment or unlawful discriminatory practices at the same employer or relevant organization are discoverable and relevant regardless of whether the individual complaining of harassment, discrimination or retaliation witnessed or was aware of the prior complaints.

For purposes of this subsection, sexual harassment or other unlawful harassment shall be an unlawful discriminatory practice when it subjects an individual to inferior terms, conditions or privileges of employment because of the individual's membership in any category protected by this subsection. The complainant need not show that the harassment was severe or pervasive. The fact that the individual did not make a complaint about the harassment to the individual's employer or other relevant organization shall not be determinative of whether the employer or organization is liable. Nothing in this section shall require an employee to demonstrate the existence of an individual to whom the employee's treatment is to be compared. It shall be an affirmative defense to liability under this subsection that the harassment does not rise above the level of what a reasonable victim of discrimination of the same protected category would consider petty slights or trivial inconveniences.

For purposes of claims regarding sexual or other unlawful harassment brought by an employee who performs domestic work, it shall also be an unlawful employment practice for an employer to allow any family member or member of the employer's household, regardless of age, to engage in sexual harassment or other unlawful harassment based on any other category protected by this subsection, or for an employer to keep or request to keep permanent or continuing possession of the employee's passport or other identifying documents.

For the purposes of a claim brought under this subsection alleging that an employer is liable for an unlawful employment practice because an employee was subjected to sexual harassment or other unlawful harassment based on any other category protected by this subsection, it shall not be necessary to demonstrate loss of tangible job benefits to establish a violation of this subsection, nor shall it be necessary for the complainant to prove that the complainant's tangible productivity declined because of the harassing conduct.

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, identity or gender expression, disability, pregnancy breastfeeding, 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

1 bona fide occupational qualification reasonably necessary to the 2 normal operation of the particular apprentice or other training program.

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- 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 breastfeeding, 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. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit an employee from applying this subsection to retaliatory actions on the part of the employer, regardless of the length of time between the protected action of the employee and the retaliation, provided the retaliation is directly connected to the protected action of the employee.
 - e. For any person, whether an employer or an employee or not, including a co-employee, supervisor, customer, vendor, landlord, subordinate, or any other category of person, to engage in, participate in, aid, abet, incite, compel or coerce the doing of any of the acts forbidden under this act, or to attempt to do so, or to subject an employee to sexual harassment or other unlawful harassment, discrimination, or retaliation.
 - any owner, lessee, proprietor, For 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 to subject any individual to sexual harassment or other unlawful harassment, 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

1 such place will be refused, withheld from, or denied to any person 2 on account of the race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, 3 marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, 4 pregnancy or breastfeeding, sex, gender identity or expression, 5 affectional or sexual orientation, disability, liability for service in 6 the Armed Forces of the United States or nationality of such person, 7 or that the patronage or custom thereat of any person of any 8 particular race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, 9 civil union status, domestic partnership status, pregnancy or 10 breastfeeding status, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional 11 or sexual orientation, disability, liability for service in the Armed 12 Forces of the United States or nationality is unwelcome, objectionable or not acceptable, desired or solicited, and the 13 14 production of any such written or printed communication, notice or 15 advertisement, purporting to relate to any such place and to be made 16 by any owner, lessee, proprietor, superintendent or manager thereof, 17 shall be presumptive evidence in any action that the same was 18 authorized by such person; provided, however, that nothing 19 contained herein shall be construed to bar any place of public 20 accommodation which is in its nature reasonably restricted 21 exclusively to individuals of one sex, and which shall include but 22 not be limited to any summer camp, day camp, or resort camp, 23 bathhouse, dressing room, swimming pool, gymnasium, comfort 24 station, dispensary, clinic or hospital, or school or educational 25 institution which is restricted exclusively to individuals of one sex, 26 provided individuals shall be admitted based on their gender 27 identity or expression, from refusing, withholding from or denying 28 to any individual of the opposite sex any of the accommodations, 29 advantages, facilities or privileges thereof on the basis of sex; 30 provided further, that the foregoing limitation shall not apply to any 31 restaurant as defined in R.S.33:1-1 or place where alcoholic beverages are served. 32 33

(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 breastfeeding, 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.

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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 breastfeeding, 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 breastfeeding, 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 status, domestic partnership status, pregnancy or breastfeeding, 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

1 person shall be presumptive evidence in any action that the same 2 was authorized by such person; provided, however, that nothing 3 contained in this subsection shall be construed to bar any person 4 from refusing to sell, rent, lease, assign or sublease or from 5 advertising or recording a qualification as to sex for any room, 6 apartment, flat in a dwelling or residential facility which is planned 7 exclusively for and occupied by individuals of one sex to any 8 individual of the exclusively opposite sex on the basis of sex 9 provided individuals shall be qualified based on their gender 10 identity or expression;

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- (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); or
- (6) To subject any individual to sexual harassment or other unlawful harassment.
- 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 breastfeeding, 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 thereof is not available for inspection, sale, rental, lease, assignment, or sublease when in fact it is so available, or otherwise to deny or withhold any real property or any part or portion of facilities thereof to or from 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 breastfeeding, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, disability, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States, or nationality;

1 (2) To discriminate against any person because of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, civil union status, partnership status, familial status, pregnancy or 4 breastfeeding, 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 9 real property or part or portion thereof or in the furnishing of 10 facilities or services in connection therewith;

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- (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 breastfeeding, 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); or

- (6) To subject any individual to sexual harassment or other unlawful harassment.
- 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 breastfeeding, 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 breastfeeding, 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).
- (4) To discriminate against any person or group of persons 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 discriminate against any person or group of persons because that person's family includes children under 18 years of age, or to make an agreement or mortgage which provides that the agreement or mortgage 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).

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.

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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, 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 breastfeeding, 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 family members, partners, members, stockholders, directors, officers, superintendents, agents, employees, business associates, suppliers, or customers. This 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 breastfeeding, sex,

- 1 gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation,
- 2 marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status,
- disability, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United
- 4 States, or nationality of such other person or of such other person's
- 5 family members, partners, members, stockholders, directors,
- 6 officers, managers, superintendents, agents, employees, business
- 7 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 l. 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 business of selling or renting dwellings to deny any person access to or membership or participation in such organization, or to discriminate against such person in the terms or conditions of such access, membership, or participation, on account of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, familial status, pregnancy or breastfeeding, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or

sexual orientation, disability, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States or nationality.

- 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 which do not impose requirements on individuals who are members af a protected class not imposed on individuals not members of the protected class or otherwise have the effect of discriminating against members of a protected class, and are not precluded by other provisions of State or federal law, [except] provided further that an employer shall allow an employee to appear, groom and dress consistent with the employee's gender identity or expression.
- q. (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] the employer's 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] the person's place of employment during any day or days or portion thereof that, as a requirement of [his] the person's religion, [his] the person observes as [his] the person's Sabbath or other holy day, including a reasonable time prior and subsequent thereto for travel between [his] the person's place of employment and [his] the person's 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] the employee 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 of employment, any employee or prospective employee to sign a

waiver, or to otherwise require an employee or prospective employee to agree, not to make those requests or disclosures. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require an employee to disclose such information about the employee herself to any other employee or former employee of the employer or to any authorized representative of the other employee or former 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 to work. 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, 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.

Nothing in this subsection shall be interpreted to preclude employers from engaging interns in unpaid positions or paying

- 1 <u>interns at a different rate than other staff, provided, however, that if</u>
- 2 <u>an employer provides compensation to interns, the employer shall</u>
- 3 not provide compensation to interns who are members of a
- 4 protected class at a rate less than interns who are not members of
- 5 the protected class for substantially similar work, when viewed as a
- 6 composite of skill, effort and responsibility.
- 7 <u>u. This section shall be liberally construed for the</u>
- 8 <u>accomplishment of the remedial purposes of P.L.1945, c.169</u>
- 9 (C.10:5-1 et seq.). The construction of similar laws in federal
- 10 courts or other jurisdictions shall not be used to limit the
- 11 availability of remedies under P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.),
- 12 the purpose of which is to maximize deterrence of discriminatory,
- 13 <u>harassing and retaliatory conduct.</u>
- 14 (cf: P.L.2019, c.436, s.3)

- 9. Section 1 of P.L.2019, c.39 (C.10:5-12.7) is amended to read as follows:
- 18 1. a. A provision in any employment contract, including any
- 19 contract for the performance of domestic work, that waives any
- 20 substantive or procedural right or remedy relating to a claim of
- 21 discrimination, retaliation, or harassment shall be deemed against
- 22 public policy and unenforceable.
- b. No right or remedy under the "Law Against Discrimination,"
- P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.) or any other statute or case law
- shall be prospectively waived.
- 26 c. This section shall not apply to the terms of any collective
- 27 bargaining agreement between an employer and the collective
- 28 bargaining representative of the employees.
- 29 (cf: P.L.2019, c.39, s.1)

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- 31 10. Section 5 of P.L.2019, c.39 (C.10:5-12.11) is amended to read as follows:
- 33 5. Any person claiming to be aggrieved by a violation of
- 34 P.L.2019, c.39 (C.10:5-12.7 et seq.) may initiate suit in Superior
- 35 Court. An action pursuant to this section shall be commenced
- within [two] three years [next] after the cause of any such action
- 37 shall have accrued, or after the person became aware of the
- 38 <u>violation</u>. All remedies available in common law tort actions shall
- 39 be available to prevailing plaintiffs. These remedies are in addition
- 40 to any provided by P.L.2019, c.39 (C.10:5-12.7 et seq.) or any other
- 41 statute. A prevailing plaintiff shall be awarded reasonable
- 42 [attorney] attorney's fees and costs, and punitive damages may be
- 43 awarded by the jury.
- 44 (cf: P.L.2019, c.39, s.5)

- 46 11. Section 12 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-13) is amended to
- 47 read as follows:

S3352 WEINBERG

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1 12. a. (1) Any person claiming to be aggrieved by an unlawful 2 employment practice or an unlawful discrimination may, personally 3 or by an attorney-at-law, make, sign, and file with the division a 4 verified complaint in writing which shall state the name and address 5 of the person, employer, labor organization, employment agency, 6 owner, lessee, proprietor, manager, superintendent, or agent alleged 7 to have committed the unlawful employment practice or unlawful 8 discrimination complained of and which shall set forth the 9 particulars thereof and shall contain such other information as may 10 be required by the division. The complaint shall be filed with the 11 division or in any municipal office pursuant to P.L.1945, c.169 12 (C.10:5-1 et seq.) within one year after the occurrence of, or within one year after the person became aware of, an alleged unlawful 13 14 employment practice or unlawful discrimination based on any other 15 category protected by P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.). Upon 16 receipt of the complaint, the division shall notify the complainant 17 on a form promulgated by the director of the division and approved 18 by the Attorney General of the complainant's rights under P.L.1945, 19 c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), including the right to file a complaint in 20 the Superior Court to be heard before a jury; of the jurisdictional 21 limitations of the division; and any other provisions of P.L.1945, 22 c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), without interpretation, that may apply to 23 the complaint. The Commissioner of Labor and Workforce 24 Development, the Attorney General, the director, or the 25 Commissioner of Education may, in like manner, make, sign, and 26 file such complaint. Any employer whose employees, or some of 27 them, refuse, or threaten to refuse to cooperate with the provisions 28 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), may file with the division a verified complaint asking for assistance by conciliation or other 29 30 remedial action. The division shall issue a notice of right to sue at 31 the time the division closes an investigation, except that a 32 complainant may request such notice and the termination of an 33 investigation at any time. 34

(2) Any complainant, including any person claiming to be aggrieved by an unlawful employment practice or an unlawful discrimination, the Attorney General, the director, Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development, or the Commissioner of Education, may initiate suit in Superior Court under P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.) without first filing a complaint with the division or any municipal office. complaint with the division shall not cause a complainant to waive the complainant's right to initiate suit in Superior Court. The division's finding of no probable cause shall not preclude the filing of a complaint in Superior Court for a de novo trial. Any such action, other than an action by the Attorney General or the director, shall be commenced within three years after the cause of action shall have accrued, except that this right shall be tolled while the division is conducting any investigation or proceedings under this

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subsection. The failure to file a complaint or otherwise participate in a relevant process created by the employer prior to filing suit in Superior Court shall not bar the complainant from filing suit or receiving a full recovery. In such proceedings:

- (a) Upon the application of any party, a jury trial shall be directed to try the validity of any claim under P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.) specified in the suit.
- (b) All remedies available in common law tort actions shall be available to prevailing plaintiffs, and if the Attorney General or the director is a prevailing plaintiff, those remedies shall be available on behalf of named or unnamed victims. If the suit seeks relief for one or more unnamed members of a protected class, the Attorney General or the director shall have the discretion to settle the suit on such terms as the Attorney General or the director deems appropriate. The injunctive relief set forth in section 16 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-17) shall also be available to prevailing plaintiffs. These remedies are in addition to any other provided by P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.) or any other statute.
- (c) In addition to the remedies set forth in subparagraph (b) of this paragraph, the Attorney General or director may seek and obtain from the Superior Court penalties pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1983, c.412 (C.10:5-14.1a). In the alternative, in lieu of these penalties, the Attorney General or director may seek and obtain punitive damages payable to the State upon a finding that the provisions of P.L.1995, c.142 (C.2A:15-5.9 et al.) are satisfied.

Prosecution of such suit in Superior Court under P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.) shall bar the filing of a complaint with the division or any municipal office during the pendency of any such suit.

(d) If a jury or court determines that an employer has committed an unlawful employment practice prohibited by subsection r. or t. of section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-12), the judge shall award three times any monetary damages to the person or persons aggrieved by the violation.

In accordance with existing law, the employer shall remain wholly liable for damages awarded under this subsection and there shall be no apportionment of damages except between co-employers or successive and predecessor employers. Nothing in this subsection should be construed to limit a jury or court from awarding separate damages against other liable defendants. The defendant shall have the burden of proving the plaintiff failed to mitigate applicable damages.

If a jury or court determines that an employer has committed an unlawful employment practice which would lead a reasonable person in the same protected category to find the workplace intolerable or damaging to their health or emotional wellbeing, the jury or court shall determine an employee's voluntary exit from the workplace to be a constructive discharge.

S3352 WEINBERG

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- 1 (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 6 of P.L.1979, c.404 (C.10:5-27.1), if the Attorney General or the director is a prevailing plaintiff, the court shall award reasonable attorney's fees and litigation and investigation costs.
 - b. At any time after 180 days from the filing of a complaint with the division, a complainant may file a request with the division to present the action personally or through counsel to the Office of Administrative Law. Upon such request, the director of the division shall file the action with the Office of Administrative Law, provided that no action may be filed with the Office of Administrative Law, where the director of the division has found that no probable cause exists to credit the allegations of the complaint or has otherwise dismissed the complaint.
- 14 c. A party to an action based upon a violation of P.L.1945, 15 c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.) shall mail a copy of the initial pleadings or claims, amended pleadings or claims, counterclaims, briefs, and 16 17 legal memoranda to the division at the same time as filing such 18 documents with the Office of Administrative Law or the court. Upon application to the Office of Administrative Law or to the 19 20 court wherein the matter is pending, the division shall be permitted 21 to intervene.

(cf: P.L.2019, c.436, s.5)

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12. Section 17 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-18) is amended to read as follows:

The Attorney General shall establish rules of practice to govern, expedite and effectuate the foregoing procedure and [his] the Attorney General's own actions thereunder. Any complaint filed in the division or in any municipal office pursuant to this act must be so filed within [180 days] one year after the alleged act of discrimination or from the discovery of the alleged act of discrimination.

33 (cf: P.L.1979, c.404, s.4)

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35 13. Section 4 of P.L.1985, c.73 (C.10:5-2.2) and section 5 of P.L.1385, c.73 (C.10:5-12.1) are repealed.

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14. This act shall take effect of the first day of the third month following enactment.

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STATEMENT

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This bill makes it an unlawful discrimination in violation of the "Law Against Discrimination," P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.)("LAD") to subject an individual, in employment, public accommodations, or housing, to sexual harassment or other unlawful harassment.

- The bill extends the protections of the LAD to cover domestic workers, interns, and independent contractors.
- 3 bill requires employers establish written nondiscrimination workplace policies 4 to prevent unlawful 5 discrimination and harassment, which explain the policies, and stipulate procedures and remedies for violations. 6

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- The bill requires all employers to provide interactive training to all supervisory employees and all other employees regarding the prevention of unlawful discrimination and harassment in the workplace, and sets standards for the training and the responsibilities of supervisors under the bill. Each employer with 50 or more employees is required to provide the training in a live, in-person setting where participants can ask questions.
- The bill also sets requirements for each employer with 50 or more employees regarding the collection and reporting to the division by an employer of data regarding complaints of violations of the provisions of the bill.
- The bill sets standards and procedures for determining when unlawful harassment occurs. It provides that:
- 1. Prior complaints of harassment or unlawful discriminatory practices by the same employer or relevant organization are discoverable and relevant, whether or not the complainant witnessed or had been aware of those complaints;
- 2. The harassment is unlawful when it subjects an individual to inferior terms, conditions, or privileges of employment, even if the harassment is not shown to be severe or pervasive;
- 3. An individual does not have to make a complaint about the harassment to the individual's employer or other relevant organization for the employer to be liable;
- 4. An employee is not required to demonstrate the existence of an individual to whom the employee's treatment must be compared;
- 5. It is a defense against liability that the harassing conduct does not rise above the level of what a reasonable victim of discrimination would consider petty slights or trivial inconveniences.
- 6. It is an unlawful for an employer to allow any family member or member of their household, regardless of age, to engage in sexual or other unlawful harassment, or for an employer to request or keep possession of the employee identification documents;
- 7. A complainant of unlawful harassment is not required to demonstrate loss of job benefits or to prove that the complainant's productivity declined because of the harassment.
- The bill extends protections against age discrimination by:
- 1. Deleting the provisions of law permitting a governmental employer to require retirement when an employee attains a particular age if the employer can show "that the retirement age bears a manifest relationship to the employment in question";

2. Deleting the provisions of the LAD that permit an employer to refuse to hire a person for the sole reason of being more than 70 years old;

- 3. Providing that, if an employer unlawfully requires an employee to retire because of age, the employee has available all of the remedies provided by the LAD, instead of, as under current law, being limited to filing a complaint with the Attorney General, and limiting relief to reinstatement with back pay and interest; and
- 4. Repealing the law permitting institutions of higher education to compel tenured employees to retire at 70 years of age.

The bill provides that a claim made by an employee or a dependent of the employee for compensation under the workers' compensation law, R.S. 34:15-1 et seq., for an injury, occupational disease, or death shall not preclude the filing by, or on behalf of, the employee or dependent of a complaint regarding an unlawful employment practice with the Division on Civil Rights or in Superior Court pursuant to P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.) seeking relief for damages caused by the unlawful employment practice, even if the damages include damages from injury, occupational disease, or death which may be compensable under the claim made for workers' compensation.

Finally, the bill sets or extends the periods of time in which certain actions regarding unlawful discrimination may be taken.