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SENATE BILL 119

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015

INTRODUCED BY

Bill B. O'Neill

FOR THE COURTS, CORRECTIONS AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO CRIMINAL LAW; PROVIDING FOR THE ALTERATION OF A
BASIC SENTENCE WHEN A CRIME IS MOTIVATED BY HATE AGAINST A
HOMELESS PERSON; AMENDING THE HATE CRIMES ACT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 31-18B-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003,
Chapter 384, Section 1) is amended to read:

"31-18B-1. SHORT TITLE.--~~[This act]~~ Chapter 31, Article
18B NMSA 1978 may be cited as the "Hate Crimes Act"."

SECTION 2. Section 31-18B-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003,
Chapter 384, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

"31-18B-2. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Hate Crimes Act:

A. "age" means sixty years of age or older;

B. "gender identity" means a person's self-

perception, or perception of that person by another, of the

1 person's identity as a male or female based upon the person's
2 appearance, behavior or physical characteristics that are in
3 accord or opposed to the person's physical anatomy, chromosomal
4 sex or sex at birth;

5 C. "disability" means that the person has a
6 physical or mental disability that substantially limits one or
7 more of that person's functions, such as caring for oneself,
8 performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking,
9 breathing, learning and working;

10 D. "homelessness" means that a person lacks a
11 fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence or has a
12 primary nighttime residence that is:

13 (1) a place not designated for or ordinarily
14 used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; or

15 (2) a publicly or privately operated shelter
16 designed to provide temporary living accommodations;

17 ~~[D.]~~ E. "motivated by hate" means the commission of
18 a crime with the intent to commit the crime because of the
19 actual or perceived race, religion, color, national origin,
20 ancestry, age, ~~[handicapped status]~~ disability, homelessness,
21 gender, sexual orientation or gender identity of the victim,
22 whether or not the offender's belief or perception was correct;
23 and

24 ~~[E.]~~ F. "sexual orientation" means heterosexuality,
25 homosexuality or bisexuality, whether actual or perceived."

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SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the provisions of this act is July 1, 2015.