34:6B-20 and 10:5-12.12 et al. LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS OF: 2019 **CHAPTER**: 199

NJSA: 34:6B-20 and 10:5-12.12 et al. (Prohibits employer inquiries about worker's wage and salary experience.)

BILL NO: A1094 (Substituted for S3516)

SPONSOR(S) Joann Downey and others

DATE INTRODUCED: 1/9/2018

COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY: Labor

SENATE: Labor

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: 3/25/2019

SENATE: 6/20/2019

DATE OF APPROVAL: 7/25/2019

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (Assembly Committee Substitute enacted)
Yes

A1094

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 14 of introduced bill) Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: Yes

SENATE: Yes

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

S3516

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 6 of introduced bill) Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: No

SENATE: Yes

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

(continued)

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:	Yes
FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED: To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Go Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext.103 or n	
REPORTS:	No
HEARINGS:	No
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:	Yes
"Employers now barred from asking job applicants about current pay,	," NJBIZ, July 25, 2019
"New law bans employers from asking salary history," Associated Pre	ess State Wire: New Jersey, July 26, 2019

No

RWH/CL

VETO MESSAGE:

P.L. 2019, CHAPTER 199, *approved July 25*, *2019*Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly, No. 1094

AN ACT concerning employer inquiries regarding salary history and 2 amending and supplementing various parts of the statutory law.

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

- 1. (New section) a. Except as otherwise provided in this section, it shall be an unlawful employment practice for any employer:
- (1) to screen a job applicant based on the applicant's salary history, including, but not limited to, the applicant's prior wages, salaries or benefits; or
 - (2) to require that the applicant's salary history satisfy any minimum or maximum criteria.
 - b. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection a. of this section, an employer may:
 - (1) consider salary history in determining salary, benefits, and other compensation for the applicant, and may verify the applicant's salary history, if an applicant voluntarily, without employer prompting or coercion, provides the employer with salary history. An applicant's refusal to volunteer compensation information shall not be considered in any employment decisions; and
 - (2) request that an applicant provide the employer with a written authorization to confirm salary history, including, but not limited to, the applicant's compensation and benefits, after an offer of employment that includes an explanation of the overall compensation package has been made to the applicant.
 - c. This section shall not apply to:
 - (1) applications for internal transfer or promotion with an employee's current employer, or use by the employer of previous knowledge obtained as a consequence of prior employment with the employer;
- (2) any actions taken by an employer pursuant to any federal law or regulation that expressly requires the disclosure or verification of salary history for employment purposes, or requires knowledge of salary history to determine an employee's compensation;

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

(3) any attempt by an employer to obtain, or verify a job applicant's disclosure of, non-salary related information when conducting a background check on the job applicant, provided that, when requesting information for the background check, the employer shall specify that salary history information is not to be disclosed. If, notwithstanding that specification, salary history information is disclosed, the employer shall not retain that information or consider it when determining the salary, benefits, or other compensation of the applicant; or

- (4) employer inquiries regarding an applicant's previous experience with incentive and commission plans and the terms and conditions of the plans, provided that the employer shall not seek or require the applicant to report information about the amount of earnings of the applicant in connection with the plans, and that the employer shall not make any inquiry regarding the applicant's previous experience with incentive and commission plans unless the employment opening with the employer includes an incentive or commission component as part of the total compensation program.
- d. An applicant may provide salary history information, including information regarding the applicant's experience with incentive or commission plans, to an employment agency contacted by the applicant for assistance in searching for and identifying employment opportunities, but the employment agency shall not share the information with potential employers without the express written consent of the applicant.
- e. (1) Any employer who violates this section shall be liable for a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for the first violation, \$5,000 for the second violation, and \$10,000 for each subsequent violation collectible by the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development in a summary proceeding pursuant to the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999," P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.).
- (2) If an applicant for a job is a member of a protected class as defined in subsection t. of section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-12), an employer shall be subject to section 2 of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) for any violation of this section.
 - f. Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting an employer from offering an applicant for a job information regarding wage or salary rates set for the job by collective bargaining agreements or by civil service or other laws, or from paying those rates if the applicant is hired.
- g. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit an employer who does business, employs persons, or takes applications for employment in at least one state other than New Jersey, from including an inquiry regarding salary history on an employment application, so long as immediately preceding the salary history inquiry on the employment application it states that an applicant for

a position the physical location of which will be in whole, or 1 2 substantial part, in New Jersey is instructed not to answer the salary 3 history inquiry.

h. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit an employer from acquiring salary history information that is publicly available, but an employer shall not retain or consider that information when determining the salary, benefits, or other compensation of the applicant unless the applicant voluntarily, without employer prompting or coercion, provides the employer with salary history. An applicant's refusal to volunteer compensation information shall not be considered in any employment decisions.

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- 2. (New section) a. Except as otherwise provided by section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), if a job applicant is a member of a protected class as defined in subsection t. of section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-12), it shall be an unlawful employment practice in violation of P.L.1945, c.169
- (C.10:5-1 et seq.) for an employer:
- (1) to screen a job applicant based on the applicant's salary history, including, but not limited to, the applicant's prior wages, salaries, or benefits; or
- (2) to require that the applicant's salary history satisfy any minimum or maximum criteria.
- b. An award of punitive damages shall not be an available remedy for a violation of this section.

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- 3. Section 5 of P.L.1985, c.73 (C.10:5-12.1) is amended to read as follows:
- 5. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, relief for having been required to retire in violation of the provisions of section 11 of P.L.1945, c. 169 (C.10:5-12), shall be available to the person aggrieved by that violation solely through the procedure initiated by filing a complaint with the Attorney General under the provisions of P.L.1945, c. 169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.).

Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary of section 16 of P.L.1945, c. 169 (C.10:5-17) or any other law, relief ordered for or granted to a person in connection with [his] the person being required to retire in violation of the provisions of section 11 of P.L.1945, c. 169 (C.10:5-12) shall be limited to [his] the person's reinstatement with back pay and interest.

- 42 This section shall not apply to a violation regarding an inquiry as to an applicant's salary history pursuant to section 2 of 43 44 P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).
- 45 (cf: P.L.1985, c.73, s.5)

4. Section 16 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-17) is amended to read as follows:

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3 16. If, upon all evidence at the hearing, the director shall find that the respondent has engaged in any unlawful employment 4 5 practice or unlawful discrimination as defined in [this act] P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), the director shall state his 6 7 findings of fact and conclusions of law and shall issue and cause to 8 be served on such respondent an order requiring such respondent to 9 cease and desist from such unlawful employment practice or 10 unlawful discrimination and to take such affirmative action, 11 including, but not limited to, hiring, reinstatement or upgrading of 12 employees, with or without back pay, or restoration to membership, 13 in any respondent labor organization, or extending full and equal 14 accommodations, advantages, facilities, and privileges to all 15 persons, as, in the judgment of the director, will effectuate the 16 purpose of [this act] P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), and 17 including a requirement for report of the manner of compliance. If the conduct violative of [this act] P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-18 19 1 et seq.) constitutes any form of unlawful economic discrimination 20 prohibited in subsection 1., m., or n. of section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-12), or any form of unlawful employment practice 21 22 prohibited by subsection r. or t. of section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 23 (C.10:5-12), the affirmative action taken by the director may 24 include the award of three-fold damages to the person or persons 25 aggrieved by the violation. The director shall have the power to use 26 reasonably certain bases, including but not limited to list, catalogue 27 or market prices or values, or contract or advertised terms and 28 conditions, in order to determine particulars or performance in 29 giving appropriate remedy. In addition to any other remedies 30 provided by P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), a prevailing 31 complainant may recover damages to compensate for emotional 32 distress caused by the activities found to be in violation of 33 P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.) to the same extent as is available 34 in common law tort actions. In any case in which the director, 35 Attorney General, or appropriate organization is a complainant, on 36 behalf of named or unnamed individuals or a class of individuals, 37 any of the remedies or relief allowed by [this act] P.L.1945, c.169 38 (C.10:5-1 et seq.) may be awarded or applied to the named or 39 unnamed individual victims of discrimination. If, upon all evidence, 40 the director shall find that the respondent has not engaged in any 41 such unlawful practice or unlawful discrimination, the director shall 42 state his findings of fact and conclusions of law and shall issue and 43 cause to be served on the complainant an order dismissing the said 44 complaint as to such respondent. 45

This section shall not apply to a violation regarding an inquiry as to an applicant's salary history pursuant to section 2 of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

48 (cf: P.L.2018, c.9, s.4)

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ACS for A1094

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1 5. Section 6 of P.L.1979, c.404 (C.10:5-27.1) is amended to 2 read as follows: 3 6. In any action or proceeding brought under [this act] 4 P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), the prevailing party may be 5 awarded a reasonable attorney's fee as part of the cost, provided 6 however, that no attorney's fee shall be awarded to the respondent 7 unless there is a determination that the complainant brought the 8 charge in bad faith. If the complainant's case was initiated by a 9 housing authority on behalf of a tenant for a violation of paragraph 10 (4) of subsection g. or paragraph (4) of subsection h. of section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-12) and the complainant prevailed, 11 12 reasonable costs, including attorney fees, of the housing authority 13 may be assessed against a nonprevailing respondent. If the 14 complainant's case was presented by the attorney for the division 15 and the complainant prevailed, the reasonable costs, including 16 attorney fees, of such representation may be assessed against a 17 nonprevailing respondent. 18 Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, an 19 award of an attorney's fee in accordance with this section shall not 20 be available as a remedy to violations of section 2 of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). 21 22 (cf: P.L.2002, c.82, s.4) 23 24 6. This act shall take effect on the first day of the sixth month 25 next following enactment. 26 27 28 29 30 Prohibits employer inquiries about worker's wage and salary 31 experience.

ASSEMBLY, No. 1094

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

218th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2018 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman JOANN DOWNEY

District 11 (Monmouth)

Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Assemblyman GARY S. SCHAER

District 36 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblyman ERIC HOUGHTALING

District 11 (Monmouth)

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblywoman ELIZABETH MAHER MUOIO

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman McKeon, Assemblywomen Pinkin, Quijano, Jones, Murphy, Chaparro and Assemblyman Verrelli

SYNOPSIS

Concerns employer inquiries about worker's wage and salary experience.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/11/2018)

AN ACT concerning employer inquiries about wage and salary history and amending P.L.1945, c.169.

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

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

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

employed in a bona fide executive or a high policy-making position, if that employee is entitled to an immediate non-forfeitable annual retirement benefit from a pension, profit sharing, savings or deferred retirement plan, or any combination of those plans, of the employer of that employee which equals in the aggregate at least \$27,000.00; and provided further that an employer may restrict employment to citizens of the United States where such restriction is required by federal law or is otherwise necessary to protect the national interest.

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

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

- For a labor organization, because of the race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, pregnancy, or sex of any individual, or because of the liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States or nationality of any individual, to exclude or to expel from its membership such individual or to discriminate in any way against any of its members, against any applicant for, or individual included in, any apprentice or other training program or against any employer or any individual employed by an employer; provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to bar a labor organization from excluding from its apprentice or other training programs any person on the basis of sex in those certain circumstances where sex is a bona fide occupational qualification reasonably necessary to the normal operation of the particular apprentice or other training program.
- c. For any employer or employment agency to print or circulate or cause to be printed or circulated any statement, advertisement or publication, or to use any form of application for employment, or to make an inquiry in connection with prospective employment, which expresses, directly or indirectly, any limitation, specification or discrimination as to race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality, pregnancy, or 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

1 discrimination, unless based upon a bona fide occupational 2 qualification.

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- 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 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.
- e. For any person, whether an employer or an employee or not, to aid, abet, incite, compel or coerce the doing of any of the acts forbidden under this act, or to attempt to do so.
- 14 (1) For any owner, lessee, proprietor, 15 superintendent, agent, or employee of any place of public 16 accommodation directly or indirectly to refuse, withhold from or 17 deny to any person any of the accommodations, advantages, 18 facilities or privileges thereof, or to discriminate against any person 19 in the furnishing thereof, or directly or indirectly to publish, 20 circulate, issue, display, post or mail any written or printed 21 communication, notice, or advertisement to the effect that any of 22 the accommodations, advantages, facilities, or privileges of any 23 such place will be refused, withheld from, or denied to any person 24 on account of the race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, 25 marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, 26 pregnancy, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual 27 orientation, disability or nationality of such person, or that the 28 patronage or custom thereat of any person of any particular race, 29 creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, civil union 30 status, domestic partnership status, pregnancy status, sex, gender 31 identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, disability or 32 nationality is unwelcome, objectionable or not acceptable, desired 33 or solicited, and the production of any such written or printed 34 communication, notice or advertisement, purporting to relate to any 35 such place and to be made by any owner, lessee, proprietor, 36 superintendent or manager thereof, shall be presumptive evidence in 37 any action that the same was authorized by such person; provided, 38 however, that nothing contained herein shall be construed to bar any 39 place of public accommodation which is in its nature reasonably 40 restricted exclusively to individuals of one sex, and which shall 41 include but not be limited to any summer camp, day camp, or resort 42 camp, bathhouse, dressing room, swimming pool, gymnasium, comfort station, dispensary, clinic or hospital, or school or 43 44 educational institution which is restricted exclusively to individuals 45 of one sex, provided individuals shall be admitted based on their 46 gender identity or expression, from refusing, withholding from or 47 denying to any individual of the opposite sex any of the 48 accommodations, advantages, facilities or privileges thereof on the

basis of sex; provided further, that the foregoing limitation shall not apply to any restaurant as defined in R.S.33:1-1 or place where alcoholic beverages are served.

(2) Notwithstanding the definition of "a place of public accommodation" as set forth in subsection 1. of section 5 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-5), for any owner, lessee, proprietor, manager, superintendent, agent, or employee of any private club or association to directly or indirectly refuse, withhold from or deny to any individual who has been accepted as a club member and has contracted for or is otherwise entitled to full club membership any of the accommodations, advantages, facilities or privileges thereof, or to discriminate against any member in the furnishing thereof on account of the race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, pregnancy, sex, gender identity, or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, disability or nationality of such person.

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

- g. For any person, including but not limited to, any owner, lessee, sublessee, assignee or managing agent of, or other person
- having the right of ownership or possession of or the right to sell, rent, lease, assign, or sublease any real property or part or portion
- 29 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, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, familial status, disability, 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, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, familial status, disability, 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, sex, gender identity, or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, familial status, disability, nationality, or source of lawful income used for rental or mortgage payments, or any intent to make any such limitation, specification or discrimination, and the production of any such statement, advertisement, publicity, sign, form of application, record, or inquiry purporting to be made by any such person shall be presumptive evidence in any action that the same was authorized by such person; provided, however, that nothing contained in this subsection shall be construed to bar any person from refusing to sell, rent, lease, assign or sublease or from advertising or recording a qualification as to sex for any room, apartment, flat in a dwelling or residential facility which is planned exclusively for and occupied by individuals of one sex to any individual of the exclusively opposite sex on the basis of sex provided individuals shall be qualified based on their gender identity or expression;

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

- (5) To refuse to rent or lease any real property to another person because that person's family includes children under 18 years of age, or to make an agreement, rental or lease of any real property which provides that the agreement, rental or lease shall be rendered null and void upon the birth of a child. This paragraph shall not apply to housing for older persons as defined in subsection mm. of section 5 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-5).
- h. For any person, including but not limited to, any real estate broker, real estate salesperson, or employee or agent thereof:
- (1) To refuse to sell, rent, assign, lease or sublease, or offer for sale, rental, lease, assignment, or sublease any real property or part or portion thereof to any person or group of persons or to refuse to negotiate for the sale, rental, lease, assignment, or sublease of any real property or part or portion thereof to any person or group of persons because of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, familial status, pregnancy, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, 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 1 2 inspection, sale, rental, lease, assignment, or sublease when in fact 3 it is so available, or otherwise to deny or withhold any real property 4 or any part or portion of facilities thereof to or from any person or 5 group of persons because of race, creed, color, national origin, 6 ancestry, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership 7 status, familial status, pregnancy, sex, gender identity or expression, 8 affectional or sexual orientation, disability or nationality;

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

(5) To refuse to rent or lease any real property to another person because that person's family includes children under 18 years of age, or to make an agreement, rental or lease of any real property which provides that the agreement, rental or lease shall be rendered null and void upon the birth of a child. This paragraph shall not apply to housing for older persons as defined in subsection mm. of section 5 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-5).

- i. For any person, bank, banking organization, mortgage company, insurance company or other financial institution, lender or credit institution involved in the making or purchasing of any loan or extension of credit, for whatever purpose, whether secured by residential real estate or not, including but not limited to financial assistance for the purchase, acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, repair or maintenance of any real property or part or portion thereof or any agent or employee thereof:
- (1) To discriminate against any person or group of persons because of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, pregnancy, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, disability, 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, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, disability, 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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- 5 k. For any real estate broker, real estate salesperson or 6 employee or agent thereof or any other individual, corporation, 7 partnership, or organization, for the purpose of inducing a 8 transaction for the sale or rental of real property from which 9 transaction such person or any of its members may benefit 10 financially, to represent that a change has occurred or will or may 11 occur in the composition with respect to race, creed, color, national 12 origin, ancestry, marital status, civil union status, domestic 13 partnership status, familial status, pregnancy, sex, gender identity or 14 expression, affectional or sexual orientation, disability, nationality, 15 or source of lawful income used for rental or mortgage payments of 16 the owners or occupants in the block, neighborhood or area in 17 which the real property is located, and to represent, directly or 18 indirectly, that this change will or may result in undesirable 19 consequences in the block, neighborhood or area in which the real 20 property is located, including, but not limited to the lowering of 21 property values, an increase in criminal or anti-social behavior, or a 22 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, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States, disability, nationality, or source of lawful income used for rental or mortgage payments of such other person or of such other person's spouse, partners, members, stockholders, directors, officers, managers, superintendents, agents, employees, business associates, suppliers, or customers. 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, sex, gender identity or expression, affectional or sexual orientation, marital status, civil union status, domestic partnership status, disability, liability for

service in the Armed Forces of the United States, or nationality of such other person or of such other person's spouse, partners, members, stockholders, directors, officers, managers, superintendents, agents, employees, business associates, suppliers, or customers.

 (2) Refuse to grant or accept any letter of credit or other document which evidences the transfer of funds or credit, or refuse to enter into any contract for the exchange of goods or services, on the ground that it does not contain such a discriminatory provision or certification.

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

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

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- 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 religious requirements. Nothing in this subsection q. shall be construed as reducing:
 - (a) The number of the hours worked by the employee which are counted towards the accruing of seniority, pension or other benefits; or
- (b) Any premium wages or benefits provided to an employee pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement.
- (2) For an employer to refuse to permit an employee to utilize leave, as provided for in this subsection q., which is solely used to accommodate the employee's sincerely held religious observance or practice. Except where it would cause an employer to incur an undue hardship, no person shall be required to remain at his place of employment during any day or days or portion thereof that, as a requirement of his religion, he observes as his Sabbath or other holy day, including a reasonable time prior and subsequent thereto for travel between his place of employment and his home; provided that any such absence from work shall, wherever practicable in the reasonable judgment of the employer, be made up by an equivalent amount of time and work at some other mutually convenient time, or shall be charged against any leave with pay ordinarily granted, other than sick leave, and any such absence not so made up or charged, may be treated by the employer of that person as leave taken without pay.
- (3) (a) For purposes of this subsection q., "undue hardship" means an accommodation requiring unreasonable expense or difficulty, unreasonable interference with the safe or efficient operation of the workplace or a violation of a bona fide seniority

system or a violation of any provision of a bona fide collective bargaining agreement.

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- (b) In determining whether the accommodation constitutes an undue hardship, the factors considered shall include:
- (i) The identifiable cost of the accommodation, including the costs of loss of productivity and of retaining or hiring employees or transferring employees from one facility to another, in relation to the size and operating cost of the employer.
- (ii) The number of individuals who will need the particular accommodation for a sincerely held religious observance or practice.
- (iii) For an employer with multiple facilities, the degree to which the geographic separateness or administrative or fiscal relationship of the facilities will make the accommodation more difficult or expensive.
- (c) An accommodation shall be considered to constitute an undue hardship if it will result in the inability of an employee to perform the essential functions of the position in which he or she is employed.
- (d) (i) The provisions of this subsection q. shall be applicable only to reasonable accommodations of religious observances and shall not supersede any definition of undue hardship or standards for reasonable accommodation of the disabilities of employees.
- (ii) This subsection q. shall not apply where the uniform application of terms and conditions of attendance to employees is essential to prevent undue hardship to the employer. The burden of proof regarding the applicability of this subparagraph (d) shall be upon the employer.
- (1) For any employer to take reprisals against any employee for requesting from, or disclosing to, any other employee or former employee of the employer 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, if the purpose of [the request for] the information was to assist in investigating the possibility of the occurrence of, or in taking of legal action regarding, potential discriminatory concerning pay, compensation, bonuses, other compensation, or benefits. 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.
- (2) For any employer to screen a job applicant based on the applicant's wage or salary history, including by requiring the applicant's prior wages, salaries or benefits satisfy any minimum or

1 maximum criteria, or to rely on the applicant's salary in 2 determining a salary amount for the applicant at any stage in the 3 hiring process, including finalizing the employment contract.

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- (3) For any employer to inquire, in writing or otherwise, about the salary history of a job applicant, including, but not limited to, the applicant's compensation and benefits, except that the employer may seek the history if the prospective employee voluntarily, without employer coercion, provides the employer with a written authorization to do so.
- s. For an employer to treat, for employment-related purposes, a woman employee that the employer knows, or should know, is affected by pregnancy in a manner less favorable than the treatment of other persons not affected by pregnancy 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, 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 shall not be provided in a manner less favorable than accommodations or leave provided to other employees not affected by pregnancy 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.

For the purposes of this section "pregnancy" means pregnancy, childbirth, or medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth, 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

A1094 DOWNEY, LAMPITT

requirement of a job as opposed to a tangential or non-business necessity requirement. (cf: P.L.2013, c.220, s.2) 2. This act shall take effect immediately. **STATEMENT** This bill amends the "Law Against Discrimination," P.L.1945,

This bill amends the "Law Against Discrimination," P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), to strengthen protections against employment discrimination and thereby promote equal pay for women by prohibiting any employer from:

- 1. screening a job applicant based on the applicant's wage or salary history, including by requiring the applicant's prior wages, salaries or benefits satisfy any minimum or maximum criteria, or relying on the applicant's salary in determining a salary amount for the applicant at any stage in the hiring process, including finalizing the employment contract;
- 2. inquiring, in writing or otherwise, about the salary history of a job applicant, including, but not limited to, the applicant's compensation and benefits, except that the employer may seek the history if the prospective employee voluntarily, without employer coercion, provides the employer with a written authorization; and
- 3. taking reprisals against any employee for disclosing to any other employee or former employee of the employer information regarding the job title, occupational category, rate of compensation, the gender, race, ethnicity, military status, or national origin of the employee or any other employee or former employee of the employer.

ASSEMBLY LABOR COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR ASSEMBLY, No. 1094

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 14, 2019

The Assembly Labor Committee reports favorably an Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill No. 1094.

This committee substitute makes it an unlawful employment practice for any employer:

- (1) to screen a job applicant based on the applicant's salary history, including, but not limited to, the applicant's prior wages, salaries or benefits; or
- (2) to require that the applicant's salary history satisfy any minimum or maximum criteria.

Under the bill, an employer may:

- (1) consider salary history in determining salary, benefits, and other compensation for the applicant, and may verify the applicant's salary history, if an applicant voluntarily, without employer prompting or coercion, provides the employer with that salary history. An applicant's refusal to volunteer compensation information will not be considered in any employment decisions; and
- (2) request that an applicant provide the employer with a written authorization to confirm salary history, including, but not limited to, the applicant's compensation and benefits, after an offer of employment, which offer includes an explanation of the overall compensation package, has been made to the applicant.

The bill does not apply to:

- (1) applications for internal transfer or promotion with an employee's current employer, or use by the employer of previous knowledge obtained as a consequence of prior employment with the employer;
- (2) any actions taken by an employer pursuant to any federal law or regulation that expressly requires the disclosure or verification of salary history for employment purposes, or requires knowledge of salary history to determine an employee's compensation;
- (3) any attempt by an employer to obtain, or verify a job applicant's disclosure of, non-salary related information when conducting a background check on the job applicant, provided that, when requesting information for the background check, the employer shall specify that salary history information is not to be disclosed. If, notwithstanding that specification, salary history information is

disclosed, the employer shall not retain that information or consider it when determining the salary, benefits, or other compensation of the applicant; or

(4) employer inquiries regarding an applicant's previous experience with incentive and commission plans and the terms and conditions of the plans, provided that the employer shall not seek or require the applicant to report information about the amount of earnings of the applicant in connection with the plans, and that the employer shall not make any inquiry regarding the applicant's previous experience with incentive and commission plans unless the employment opening with the employer includes an incentive or commission component as part of the total compensation program.

An employer who violates these provisions will be liable for a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for the first violation, \$5,000 for the second violation, and \$10,000 for each subsequent violation collectible by the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development in a summary proceeding pursuant to the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999."

If an employee is a member of a protected class, an employer who violates the provisions of the bill will be subject to certain penalties under the "Law Against Discrimination." However, the bill clarifies that certain remedies available with other claims in the "Law Against Discrimination," including punitive damages, will not be available to persons aggrieved by the provisions of the bill.

SENATE LABOR COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR ASSEMBLY, No. 1094

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 17, 2019

The Senate Labor Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1094 (ACS).

This bill makes it an unlawful employment practice for any employer:

- (1) to screen a job applicant based on the applicant's salary history, including, but not limited to, the applicant's prior wages, salaries or benefits; or
- (2) to require that the applicant's salary history satisfy any minimum or maximum criteria.

Under the bill, an employer may:

- (1) consider salary history in determining salary, benefits, and other compensation for the applicant, and may verify the applicant's salary history, if an applicant voluntarily, without employer prompting or coercion, provides the employer with that salary history. An applicant's refusal to volunteer compensation information may not be considered in any employment decisions; and
- (2) request that an applicant provide the employer with a written authorization to confirm salary history, including, but not limited to, the applicant's compensation and benefits, after an offer of employment, which offer includes an explanation of the overall compensation package, has been made to the applicant.

The bill does not apply to:

- (1) applications for internal transfer or promotion with an employee's current employer, or use by the employer of previous knowledge obtained as a consequence of prior employment with the employer;
- (2) any actions taken by an employer pursuant to any federal law or regulation that expressly requires the disclosure or verification of salary history for employment purposes, or requires knowledge of salary history to determine an employee's compensation;
- (3) any attempt by an employer to obtain, or verify a job applicant's disclosure of, non-salary related information when conducting a background check on the job applicant, provided that, when requesting information for the background check, the employer shall specify that salary history information is not to be disclosed. If, notwithstanding that specification, salary history information is

disclosed, the employer shall not retain that information or consider it when determining the salary, benefits, or other compensation of the applicant; or

(4) employer inquiries regarding an applicant's previous experience with incentive and commission plans and the terms and conditions of the plans, provided that the employer shall not seek or require the applicant to report information about the amount of earnings of the applicant in connection with the plans, and that the employer shall not make any inquiry regarding the applicant's previous experience with incentive and commission plans unless the employment opening with the employer includes an incentive or commission component as part of the total compensation program.

An employer who violates these provisions will be liable for a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for the first violation, \$5,000 for the second violation, and \$10,000 for each subsequent violation collectible by the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development in a summary proceeding pursuant to the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999."

If an employee is a member of a protected class, an employer who violates the provisions of the bill will be subject to certain penalties under the "Law Against Discrimination." However, the bill clarifies that certain remedies available with other claims in the "Law Against Discrimination," including punitive damages, will not be available to persons aggrieved by the provisions of the bill.

SENATE, No. 3516

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 4, 2019

Sponsored by: Senator NIA H. GILL District 34 (Essex and Passaic) Senator LORETTA WEINBERG District 37 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by: Senator Turner

SYNOPSIS

Prohibits employer inquiries about worker's wage and salary experience.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/21/2019)

AN ACT concerning employer inquiries regarding salary history and 2 amending and supplementing various parts of the 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) a. Except as otherwise provided in this section, it shall be an unlawful employment practice for any employer:
- (1) to screen a job applicant based on the applicant's salary history, including, but not limited to, the applicant's prior wages, salaries or benefits; or
- (2) to require that the applicant's salary history satisfy any minimum or maximum criteria.
- b. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection a. of this section, an employer may:
- (1) consider salary history in determining salary, benefits, and other compensation for the applicant, and may verify the applicant's salary history, if an applicant voluntarily, without employer prompting or coercion, provides the employer with salary history. An applicant's refusal to volunteer compensation information shall not be considered in any employment decisions; and
- (2) request that an applicant provide the employer with a written authorization to confirm salary history, including, but not limited to, the applicant's compensation and benefits, after an offer of employment that includes an explanation of the overall compensation package has been made to the applicant.
 - This section shall not apply to:
- (1) applications for internal transfer or promotion with an employee's current employer, or use by the employer of previous knowledge obtained as a consequence of prior employment with the
- (2) any actions taken by an employer pursuant to any federal law or regulation that expressly requires the disclosure or verification of salary history for employment purposes, or requires knowledge of salary history to determine an employee's compensation;
- (3) any attempt by an employer to obtain, or verify a job applicant's disclosure of, non-salary related information when conducting a background check on the job applicant, provided that, when requesting information for the background check, the employer shall specify that salary history information is not to be disclosed. If, notwithstanding that specification, salary history information is disclosed, the employer shall not retain that

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

information or consider it when determining the salary, benefits, or other compensation of the applicant; or

- (4) employer inquiries regarding an applicant's previous experience with incentive and commission plans and the terms and conditions of the plans, provided that the employer shall not seek or require the applicant to report information about the amount of earnings of the applicant in connection with the plans, and that the employer shall not make any inquiry regarding the applicant's previous experience with incentive and commission plans unless the employment opening with the employer includes an incentive or commission component as part of the total compensation program.
- d. An applicant may provide salary history information, including information regarding the applicant's experience with incentive or commission plans, to an employment agency contacted by the applicant for assistance in searching for and identifying employment opportunities, but the employment agency shall not share the information with potential employers without the express written consent of the applicant.
- e. (1) Any employer who violates this section shall be liable for a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for the first violation, \$5,000 for the second violation, and \$10,000 for each subsequent violation collectible by the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development in a summary proceeding pursuant to the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999," P.L.1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.).
- (2) If an applicant for a job is a member of a protected class as defined in subsection t. of section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-12), an employer shall be subject to section 2 of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) for any violation of this section.
- f. Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting an employer from offering an applicant for a job information regarding wage or salary rates set for the job by collective bargaining agreements or by civil service or other laws, or from paying those rates if the applicant is hired.
- g. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit an employer who does business, employs persons, or takes applications for employment in at least one state other than New Jersey, from including an inquiry regarding salary history on an employment application, so long as immediately preceding the salary history inquiry on the employment application it states that an applicant for a position the physical location of which will be in whole, or substantial part, in New Jersey is instructed not to answer the salary history inquiry.
- h. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit an employer from acquiring salary history information that is publicly available, but an employer shall not retain or consider that information when determining the salary, benefits, or other

S3516 GILL, WEINBERG

compensation of the applicant unless the applicant voluntarily, without employer prompting or coercion, provides the employer with salary history. An applicant's refusal to volunteer compensation information shall not be considered in any employment decisions.

- 2. (New section) a. Except as otherwise provided by section 1 of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), if a job applicant is a member of a protected class as defined in subsection t. of section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-12), it shall be an unlawful employment practice in violation of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.) for an employer:
- 13 (1) to screen a job applicant based on the applicant's salary 14 history, including, but not limited to, the applicant's prior wages, 15 salaries, or benefits; or
 - (2) to require that the applicant's salary history satisfy any minimum or maximum criteria.
 - b. An award of punitive damages shall not be an available remedy for a violation of this section.

- 3. Section 5 of P.L.1985, c.73 (C.10:5-12.1) is amended to read as follows:
- 5. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, relief for having been required to retire in violation of the provisions of section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-12), shall be available to the person aggrieved by that violation solely through the procedure initiated by filing a complaint with the Attorney General under the provisions of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.).
- Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary of section 16 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-17) or any other law, relief ordered for or granted to a person in connection with [his] the person being required to retire in violation of the provisions of section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-12) shall be limited to [his] the person's reinstatement with back pay and interest.
- This section shall not apply to a violation regarding an inquiry as to an applicant's salary history pursuant to section 2 of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). (cf: P.L.1985, c.73, s.5)

- 4. Section 16 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-17) is amended to read as follows:
- 16. If, upon all evidence at the hearing, the director shall find that the respondent has engaged in any unlawful employment practice or unlawful discrimination as defined in [this act] P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), the director shall state his findings of fact and conclusions of law and shall issue and cause to be served on such respondent an order requiring such respondent to cease and desist from such unlawful employment practice or

1 unlawful discrimination and to take such affirmative action, 2 including, but not limited to, hiring, reinstatement or upgrading of 3 employees, with or without back pay, or restoration to membership, 4 in any respondent labor organization, or extending full and equal 5 accommodations, advantages, facilities, and privileges to all 6 persons, as, in the judgment of the director, will effectuate the purpose of [this act] P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), and 7 8 including a requirement for report of the manner of compliance. If 9 the conduct violative of [this act] P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-10 1 et seq.) constitutes any form of unlawful economic discrimination 11 prohibited in subsection 1., m., or n. of section 11 of P.L.1945, 12 c.169 (C.10:5-12), or any form of unlawful employment practice 13 prohibited by subsection r. or t. of section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 14 (C.10:5-12), the affirmative action taken by the director may 15 include the award of three-fold damages to the person or persons 16 aggrieved by the violation. The director shall have the power to use 17 reasonably certain bases, including but not limited to list, catalogue 18 or market prices or values, or contract or advertised terms and 19 conditions, in order to determine particulars or performance in 20 giving appropriate remedy. In addition to any other remedies 21 provided by P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), a prevailing 22 complainant may recover damages to compensate for emotional 23 distress caused by the activities found to be in violation of 24 P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.) to the same extent as is available 25 in common law tort actions. In any case in which the director, 26 Attorney General, or appropriate organization is a complainant, on 27 behalf of named or unnamed individuals or a class of individuals, 28 any of the remedies or relief allowed by [this act] P.L.1945, c.169 29 (C.10:5-1 et seq.) may be awarded or applied to the named or 30 unnamed individual victims of discrimination. If, upon all evidence, 31 the director shall find that the respondent has not engaged in any 32 such unlawful practice or unlawful discrimination, the director shall 33 state his findings of fact and conclusions of law and shall issue and 34 cause to be served on the complainant an order dismissing the said 35 complaint as to such respondent. 36

This section shall not apply to a violation regarding an inquiry as to an applicant's salary history pursuant to section 2 of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). (cf: P.L.2018, c.9, s.4)

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5. Section 6 of P.L.1979, c.404 (C.10:5-27.1) is amended to read as follows:

6. In any action or proceeding brought under [this act] P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), the prevailing party may be awarded a reasonable attorney's fee as part of the cost, provided however, that no attorney's fee shall be awarded to the respondent unless there is a determination that the complainant brought the charge in bad faith. If the complainant's case was initiated by a

- housing authority on behalf of a tenant for a violation of paragraph (4) of subsection g. or paragraph (4) of subsection h. of section 11 of P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-12) and the complainant prevailed, reasonable costs, including attorney fees, of the housing authority may be assessed against a nonprevailing respondent. If the complainant's case was presented by the attorney for the division and the complainant prevailed, the reasonable costs, including attorney fees, of such representation may be assessed against a nonprevailing respondent.
 - Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, an award of an attorney's fee in accordance with this section shall not be available as a remedy to violations of section 2 of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). (cf: P.L.2002, c.82, s.4)

6. This act shall take effect on the first day of the sixth month next following enactment.

STATEMENT

This bill makes it an unlawful employment practice for any employer:

- (1) to screen a job applicant based on the applicant's salary history, including, but not limited to, the applicant's prior wages, salaries or benefits; or
- (2) to require that the applicant's salary history satisfy any minimum or maximum criteria.

Under the bill, an employer may:

- (1) consider salary history in determining salary, benefits, and other compensation for the applicant, and may verify the applicant's salary history, if an applicant voluntarily, without employer prompting or coercion, provides the employer with that salary history. An applicant's refusal to volunteer compensation information will not be considered in any employment decisions; and
- (2) request that an applicant provide the employer with a written authorization to confirm salary history, including, but not limited to, the applicant's compensation and benefits, after an offer of employment, which offer includes an explanation of the overall compensation package, has been made to the applicant.

The bill does not apply to:

- (1) applications for internal transfer or promotion with an employee's current employer, or use by the employer of previous knowledge obtained as a consequence of prior employment with the employer;
- (2) any actions taken by an employer pursuant to any federal law or regulation that expressly requires the disclosure or verification of

salary history for employment purposes, or requires knowledge of salary history to determine an employee's compensation;

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(3) any attempt by an employer to obtain, or verify a job applicant's disclosure of, non-salary related information when conducting a background check on the job applicant, provided that, when requesting information for the background check, the employer shall specify that salary history information is not to be disclosed. If, notwithstanding that specification, salary history information is disclosed, the employer shall not retain that information or consider it when determining the salary, benefits, or other compensation of the applicant; or

(4) employer inquiries regarding an applicant's previous experience with incentive and commission plans and the terms and conditions of the plans, provided that the employer shall not seek or require the applicant to report information about the amount of earnings of the applicant in connection with the plans, and that the employer shall not make any inquiry regarding the applicant's previous experience with incentive and commission plans unless the employment opening with the employer includes an incentive or commission component as part of the total compensation program.

An employer who violates these provisions will be liable for a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for the first violation, \$5,000 for the second violation, and \$10,000 for each subsequent violation collectible by the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development in a summary proceeding pursuant to the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999."

If an employee is a member of a protected class, an employer who violates the provisions of the bill will be subject to certain penalties under the "Law Against Discrimination." However, the bill clarifies that certain remedies available with other claims in the "Law Against Discrimination," including punitive damages, will not be available to persons aggrieved by the provisions of the bill.

SENATE LABOR COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 3516

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 17, 2019

The Senate Labor Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 3516.

This bill makes it an unlawful employment practice for any employer:

- (1) to screen a job applicant based on the applicant's salary history, including, but not limited to, the applicant's prior wages, salaries or benefits; or
- (2) to require that the applicant's salary history satisfy any minimum or maximum criteria.

Under the bill, an employer may:

- (1) consider salary history in determining salary, benefits, and other compensation for the applicant, and may verify the applicant's salary history, if an applicant voluntarily, without employer prompting or coercion, provides the employer with that salary history. An applicant's refusal to volunteer compensation information may not be considered in any employment decisions; and
- (2) request that an applicant provide the employer with a written authorization to confirm salary history, including, but not limited to, the applicant's compensation and benefits, after an offer of employment, which offer includes an explanation of the overall compensation package, has been made to the applicant.

The bill does not apply to:

- (1) applications for internal transfer or promotion with an employee's current employer, or use by the employer of previous knowledge obtained as a consequence of prior employment with the employer;
- (2) any actions taken by an employer pursuant to any federal law or regulation that expressly requires the disclosure or verification of salary history for employment purposes, or requires knowledge of salary history to determine an employee's compensation;
- (3) any attempt by an employer to obtain, or verify a job applicant's disclosure of, non-salary related information when conducting a background check on the job applicant, provided that, when requesting information for the background check, the employer shall specify that salary history information is not to be disclosed. If, notwithstanding that specification, salary history information is disclosed, the employer shall not retain that information or consider it

when determining the salary, benefits, or other compensation of the applicant; or

(4) employer inquiries regarding an applicant's previous experience with incentive and commission plans and the terms and conditions of the plans, provided that the employer shall not seek or require the applicant to report information about the amount of earnings of the applicant in connection with the plans, and that the employer shall not make any inquiry regarding the applicant's previous experience with incentive and commission plans unless the employment opening with the employer includes an incentive or commission component as part of the total compensation program.

An employer who violates these provisions will be liable for a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for the first violation, \$5,000 for the second violation, and \$10,000 for each subsequent violation collectible by the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development in a summary proceeding pursuant to the "Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999."

If an employee is a member of a protected class, an employer who violates the provisions of the bill will be subject to certain penalties under the "Law Against Discrimination." However, the bill clarifies that certain remedies available with other claims in the "Law Against Discrimination," including punitive damages, will not be available to persons aggrieved by the provisions of the bill.

Acting Governor Oliver Signs Legislation Promoting Equal Pay and Gender Equity

07/25/2019

TRENTON – Today, Acting Governor Sheila Y. Oliver signed A1094 into law, which will prevent employers from asking about workers' wage and salary history. In Governor Murphy's first official act after being sworn into office in January 2018, he signed an executive order combating gender inequality and promoting equal pay for women in New Jersey by banning this discriminatory practice in state government.

"Since day one, the Murphy Administration has been committed to closing the gender wage gap. Governor Murphy's first executive order promoted equal pay across state government and prohibited prospective employees from being asked their salary histories," said Acting Governor Sheila Oliver. "I am proud to sign this bill today for our women, children and families, which will institute this policy as state law, and put an end to this discriminatory workplace practice once and for all."

A1094 makes it an unlawful employment practice in New Jersey for any employer to screen a job applicant based on their salary history, including prior wages, salary, commission, benefits or any other current or previous compensation. The law is designed to ensure that employees in the state receive salaries that are commensurate with their skills, qualifications, and experience.

Studies have shown that women who hold full-time, year-round jobs in New Jersey are paid 82 cents for every dollar paid to men holding full-time, year-round jobs and that this gender wage gap is demonstrated across all industries and education level of workers. The wage gap between Latina women and White men in New Jersey is the largest in the nation.

According to research from the National Partnership for Women and Families, wage inequality leads to a combined loss of \$32.5 billion in New Jersey every year.

Previously, employers were permitted to ask applicants about their salary histories perpetuating the wage gap by allowing prospective employers to offer lower salaries to women and minorities than they otherwise would. Under the new law, any employer who attempts to ask or obtain applicants salary history will be subject to a civil penalty of no more than \$1,000 for a first offense, \$5,000 for a second violation and \$10,000 for any subsequent violations.

Primary sponsors of this bill include Assemblymembers Joann Downey, Pamela Lampitt, Gary Schaer, Eric Houghtaling, Dan Benson, Wayne DeAngelo, Paul Moriarty, and Senators Nia Gill and Loretta Weinberg.

"In an ideal world, your gender would not influence how much you earn at work. But that's not the world we live in," **said Assemblywoman Joann Downey**. "This bill provides a means of narrowing the wage gap by making it less likely for employers to unintentionally perpetuate the gap by basing salary offers for new hires on their previous salary, which has a disproportionate impact on female hires."

"Though equal pay was made law in New Jersey earlier this year, this legislation will take further steps towards leveling what was an unacceptably skewed playing field," **said Assemblywoman Pamela Lampitt**. "Salary offers to new hires based primarily on their previous salaries only perpetuate the wage gap in our workforce. Working women deserve better."

"This is about equity and fairness," **said Assemblyman Gary Schaer**. "Under the protections imposed by this bill, employers would have to make their salary decisions based on what an applicant's worth is to the company, rather than on what he or she made in a previous position."

"The gender wage gap puts women at a disadvantage before they even enter the workforce," **said Assemblyman Eric Houghtaling**. "These provisions can help put an end to this injustice by ensuring that salaries for new hires are not based on a system that is inherently biased against women."

"A woman working full time, year-round earns \$10,800 less per year than a man, based on median annual earnings. This disparity can add up to nearly a half million dollars over a career, and have immediate, as well as lasting, effects" **said Assemblyman Dan Benson**. "There is no question that women should be fairly compensated. This can help us continue to bridge the gap."

"This bill will reinforce and strengthen the groundbreaking equal pay law signed in 2018," said Assemblyman Wayne DeAngelo. "We must continue to fight to level the playing field in order to ensure fairness and equity in the workplace and to protect the rights of all workers."

"We've made great strides to ensure pay equity in New Jersey," **said Assemblyman Paul Moriarty**. "With the passage of this bill, we are another step closer to securing workers' rights to equal pay for equal work for generations to come."

"Employers should be hiring and paying potential employees for the experience and qualifications they have with respect to the demands of the specific position," **said Senator Loretta Weinberg**. "Knowing how much they were paid in the past is irrelevant and often times leads to a cycle of pay inequity. By eliminating inquiries of salary history, we can help curb wage discrimination based not only on gender, but also race, age, and other characteristics."

"Women continue to make less than men for the same work and basing the hiring salary of an employee on their previous wages only continues this wage discrimination," **said Senator Nia Gill**. "This legislation will require businesses focus their assessments of candidates on their education and experience, rather than their previous compensation, creating a fairer application process for everyone."

"The Equal Pay law signed by the Lieutenant Governor Oliver today is another major victory for women, minorities and working families seeking economic security," **said Dena Mottola-Jaborska, Associate Director of New Jersey Citizen Action**. "Last year's landmark Diane. B Allen Act sent a strong message to New Jersey employers that there would be dire consequences for discriminatory behavior against people of color and women. But wage discrimination is a pervasive enough problem that it will require multiple solutions to eliminate it. The bill signed today could have an even greater impact as it gives each and every person the ability to escape past wage discrimination and ensures it doesn't follow them throughout their careers. It will allow experienced workers to reset their careers and ensures fairness for those just entering the workforce. New Jersey Citizen Action applauds Assemblywomen Downey and Lampitt and Senators Gil and Weinberg for their unceasing advocacy on behalf of those who face injustice and discrimination. We also applaud Lieutenant Governor Oliver, who has spent her career fighting for women and working families on issues such as earned sick days, affordable housing, consumer protection and so much more. It is particularly appropriate that she sign this Equal Pay bill into law."

"As long as salary history is used to determine future payments, equal pay for equal work will not be possible for at least a generation," **said Marcia Marley, President at BlueWaveNJ**. "Thanks to this legislation, New Jersey now joins a number of other states where this practice is illegal. I thank Governor Murphy and the legislature for amending existing legislation to include a salary history ban for private sector workers. By signing this important legislation, Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver is ensuring that pay equity will become a reality in the Garden State."