



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Raised Bill No. 7146

LCO No. 4031



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by:
(PS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING INTIMIDATION ON ACCOUNT OF
OCCUPATION AS A PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEE.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 53a-181i of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

3 For the purposes of sections 53a-181j to 53a-181l, inclusive, as
4 amended by this act:

5 (1) "Disability" means physical disability, mental disability or
6 intellectual disability;

7 (2) "Gender identity or expression" means a person's gender-related
8 identity, appearance or behavior, whether or not that gender-related
9 identity, appearance or behavior is different from that traditionally
10 associated with the person's assigned sex at birth;

11 (3) "Mental disability" means one or more mental disorders, as
12 defined in the most recent edition of the American Psychiatric
13 Association's "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders";

14 (4) "Intellectual disability" has the same meaning as provided in
15 section 1-1g; [and]

16 (5) "Physical disability" means any chronic physical handicap,
17 infirmity or impairment, whether congenital or resulting from bodily
18 injury, organic processes or changes or from illness, including, but not
19 limited to, blindness, epilepsy, deafness or being hard of hearing or
20 reliance on a wheelchair or other remedial appliance or device; and

21 (6) "Public safety employee" means a reasonably identifiable police
22 officer, as defined in section 7-294a, firefighter, as defined in section 7-
23 313g, advanced emergency medical technician, as defined in section
24 20-206jj, emergency medical responder, as defined in section 20-206jj,
25 emergency medical technician, as defined in section 20-206jj,
26 paramedic, as defined in section 20-206jj or correction officer employed
27 by the Department of Correction.

28 Sec. 2. Section 53a-181j of the general statutes is repealed and the
29 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

30 (a) A person is guilty of intimidation based on bigotry or bias in the
31 first degree when such person maliciously, and with specific intent to
32 intimidate or harass another person because of the actual or perceived
33 race, religion, ethnicity, disability, sex, sexual orientation or gender
34 identity or expression of such other person or because of such other
35 person's duties as a public safety employee, causes physical injury to
36 such other person or to a third person.

37 (b) Intimidation based on bigotry or bias in the first degree is a class
38 C felony, for which three thousand dollars of the fine imposed may not
39 be remitted or reduced by the court unless the court states on the
40 record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine.

41 Sec. 3. Section 53a-181k of the general statutes is repealed and the
42 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

43 (a) A person is guilty of intimidation based on bigotry or bias in the

44 second degree when such person maliciously, and with specific intent
45 to intimidate or harass another person or group of persons because of
46 the actual or perceived race, religion, ethnicity, disability, sex, sexual
47 orientation or gender identity or expression of such other person or
48 group of persons or because of the public safety employee duties of
49 such other person or group of persons, does any of the following: (1)
50 Causes physical contact with such other person or group of persons,
51 (2) damages, destroys or defaces any real or personal property of such
52 other person or group of persons, or (3) threatens, by word or act, to
53 do an act described in subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection, if there
54 is reasonable cause to believe that an act described in subdivision (1) or
55 (2) of this subsection will occur.

56 (b) Intimidation based on bigotry or bias in the second degree is a
57 class D felony, for which one thousand dollars of the fine imposed may
58 not be remitted or reduced by the court unless the court states on the
59 record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine.

60 Sec. 4. Section 53a-181l of the general statutes is repealed and the
61 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

62 (a) A person is guilty of intimidation based on bigotry or bias in the
63 third degree when such person, with specific intent to intimidate or
64 harass another person or group of persons or because of the public
65 safety employee duties of such other person or group of persons
66 because of the actual or perceived race, religion, ethnicity, disability,
67 sex, sexual orientation or gender identity or expression of such other
68 person or persons: (1) Damages, destroys or defaces any real or
69 personal property, or (2) threatens, by word or act, to do an act
70 described in subdivision (1) of this subsection or advocates or urges
71 another person to do an act described in subdivision (1) of this
72 subsection, if there is reasonable cause to believe that an act described
73 in said subdivision will occur.

74 (b) Intimidation based on bigotry or bias in the third degree is a
75 class E felony, for which one thousand dollars of the fine imposed may

76 not be remitted or reduced by the court unless the court states on the
77 record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	53a-181i
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	53a-181j
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	53a-181k
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	53a-181l

Statement of Purpose:

To include, within the offense of intimidation based on bigotry or bias, the act of a person intimidating or harassing another person because such other person is a police officer, a firefighter, an advanced emergency medical technician, an emergency medical responder, an emergency medical technician, a paramedic or a correction officer.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]