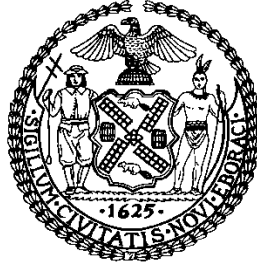


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THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL
Jeffrey Baker, Legislative Director

COMMITTEE REPORT OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE DIVISION
Terzah Nasser, Deputy Director, Infrastructure Division

COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND BUILDINGS
Hon. Robert E. Cornegy, Jr., Chair

May 13, 2020

PROPOSED INT. NO. 1936-A:

By Council Members Torres, the Speaker (Council Member Johnson), Kallos, Van Bramer, Chin, Powers, Rivera, Louis and Rosenthal

TITLE:

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to amending the definition of harassment to include threats based on a person having been impacted by COVID-19

ADMINISTRATIVE CODE:

Amends section 27-2004

INTRODUCTION

On May 13, 2020, the Committee on Housing and Buildings, chaired by Council Member Robert Cornegy, Jr., will hold a hearing on Proposed Int. No. 1936-A, in relation to amending the definition of harassment to include threats based on a person having been impacted by COVID-19, which was first heard on April 28, 2020. More information about this bill, along with the materials for that hearing, can be found at <https://on.nyc.gov/3bkkNa9>.

Proposed Int. No. 1936-A

Proposed Int. No. 1936-A would expand the definition of tenant harassment to protect individuals who may be harassed due to their status as an essential employee or a person impacted by COVID-19, or whether they received a rent concession or forbearance for any rent owed during the COVID-19 crisis.

This legislation would take effect immediately.

Proposed Int. No. 1936-A

By Council Members Torres, the Speaker (Council Member Johnson), Kallos, Van Bramer, Chin, Powers, Rivera, Louis and Rosenthal

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to amending the definition of harassment to include threats based on a person having been impacted by COVID-19

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

1 Section 1. Subparagraph f-4 of paragraph 48 of subdivision a of section 27-2004 of the
2 administrative code of the city of New York, as added by local law number 163 for the year 2017,
3 is amended to read as follows:

4 f-4. repeatedly contacting or visiting any person lawfully entitled to occupancy of such unit
5 (i) on Saturdays, Sundays or legal holidays, (ii) at times other than the hours between 9 a.m. and
6 5 p.m. or (iii) in such a manner as can reasonably be expected to abuse or harass such person,
7 provided that if such person has notified such owner in writing that such person consents to being
8 contacted or visited at specified hours or in a specified manner, such owner may also contact or
9 visit such person during such specified hours and in such specified manner, and provided further
10 that an owner may contact or visit such person for reasons specifically authorized or mandated by
11 law or rule; [or]

12 § 2. Subparagraph f-6 of paragraph 48 of subdivision a of section 27-2004 of the
13 administrative code of the city of New York, as added by local law number 48 for the year 2018,
14 is amended to read as follows:

15 f-6. requesting identifying documentation for any person lawfully entitled to occupancy of
16 such dwelling unit that would disclose the citizenship status of such person, when such person has
17 provided the owner with a current form of government-issued personal identification, as such term

1 is defined in section 21-908, unless such documentation is otherwise required by law or is
2 requested for a specific and limited purpose not inconsistent with this paragraph[.]; or

3 § 3. Paragraph 48 of subdivision a of section 27-2004 of the administrative code of the city
4 of New York is amended by adding a new subparagraph f-7 to read as follows:

5 f-7. threatening any person lawfully entitled to occupancy of such dwelling unit based on
6 such person’s actual or perceived status as an essential employee, status as a person impacted by
7 COVID-19, or receipt of a rent concession or forbearance for any rent owed during the COVID-
8 19 period; provided that for the purposes of this subparagraph:

9 (1) the term “COVID-19” means the 2019 novel coronavirus or 2019-nCoV;

10 (2) the term “COVID-19 period” means March 7, 2020 through the later of (i) the end of
11 the first month that commences after the expiration of the moratorium on enforcement of evictions
12 of any tenant residential or commercial set forth in executive order number 202.8, as issued by the
13 governor on March 20, 2020 and extended thereafter or (ii) September 30, 2020, inclusive;

14 (3) the term “essential employee” means a person employed by or permitted to work at or
15 for a business classified as an essential business by the New York state department of economic
16 development in accordance with executive order number 202.6, as issued by the governor on
17 March 18, 2020 and extended thereafter; and

18 (4) the term “person impacted by COVID-19” means a person who has experienced one or
19 more of the following:

20 (i) such person was diagnosed with COVID-19 or is experiencing symptoms of COVID-
21 19 and seeking a medical diagnosis;

22 (ii) a member of such person’s household was diagnosed with COVID-19;

1 (iii) such person was providing care for a family member or a member of such person's
2 household who was diagnosed with COVID-19;

3 (iv) such person became unemployed, partially unemployed, or could not commence
4 employment as a direct result of COVID-19 or the state disaster emergency declared in executive
5 order number 202, as issued by the governor on March 7, 2020; or

6 (v) such person became primarily responsible for providing financial support for the
7 household of such person because the previous head of the household died as a direct result of
8 COVID-19;

9 § 4. This local law takes effect immediately.

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