



General Assembly

**Amendment**

*January Session, 2025*

LCO No. 9775



\* H B 0 6 8 7 2 0 9 7 7 5 H D 0 \*

Offered by:

REP. STAFSTROM, 129<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. WINFIELD, 10<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. KISSEL, 7<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 6872

File No. 763

Cal. No. 476

**"AN ACT REVISING AND CONSOLIDATING THE HATE CRIMES STATUTES."**

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1        Strike section 5 in its entirety and insert the following in lieu thereof:

2        "Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) A person is guilty of hate  
3        crime affecting a house of religious worship when such person, having  
4        no reasonable ground to believe that such person has a right to do so,  
5        intentionally damages, destroys or defaces any house of religious  
6        worship.

7        (b) A violation of subsection (a) of this section shall be a (1) class D  
8        felony, for which the court shall impose a fine of not less than one  
9        thousand dollars if property is damaged as a consequence of such  
10      violation in an amount up to and including ten thousand dollars, or (2)  
11      class C felony, for which the court shall impose a fine of not less than  
12      three thousand dollars if the property damaged as a consequence of  
13      such violation is in an amount in excess of ten thousand dollars.

14       (c) A minimum fine imposed pursuant to this section may not be  
15       remitted or the amount reduced by the court unless the court states on  
16       the record its reasons for remitting or reducing such fine."

17       In line 313, strike "(A)"

18       In line 316, strike the second "or"

19       Strike line 317 in its entirety

20       In line 318, strike "23 of this act,"

21       Strike section 23 in its entirety and insert the following in lieu thereof:

22       "Sec. 23. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) Except as otherwise  
23       provided in this section, for any defendant guilty of any crime set forth  
24       in sections 53a-54a, 53a-55, 53a-55a, 53a-56, 53a-56a, 53a-59, 53a-59b,  
25       53a-59c, 53a-60, 53a-60a, 53a-60d, 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-70c, 53a-71, 53a-  
26       72a, 53a-72b, 53a-73a, 53a-167c, 53a-167d and 53a-167e of the general  
27       statutes or subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 53a-134 of the general  
28       statutes, conspiracy to commit any such crime in accordance  
29       with section 53a-48 of the general statutes, or attempt to commit any  
30       such crime in accordance with section 53-49 of the general statutes, for  
31       which (1) the defendant enters a plea of guilty or nolo contendere  
32       admitting, or (2) a finder of fact determines beyond a reasonable doubt  
33       at trial, that the defendant intentionally selected any person against  
34       whom the crime was committed and was motivated in whole or in  
35       substantial part by any protected social category of such person or  
36       another person, any official record of such crime may indicate that such  
37       crime was sentenced as a hate crime under this section.

38       (b) The provisions of this section shall only apply in cases where the  
39       criminal complaint or information provide notice that the defendant's  
40       offense may be recorded as a hate crime pursuant to subsection (a) of  
41       this section. It shall be sufficient to provide such notice to the defendant  
42       by setting forth a count in the criminal complaint or information  
43       alleging the underlying offense and providing reference to subsection

44 (a) of this section, as applicable.

45 (c) No person shall be found guilty of a hate crime offense and for  
46 any other offense having all of its elements contained in such hate crime  
47 offense upon the same transaction, but such person may be charged and  
48 prosecuted for both the hate crime offense and the other offense upon  
49 the same criminal complaint or information. For purposes of this  
50 subsection, "hate crime" means any offense committed against any  
51 person in which the defendant intentionally selected such person or any  
52 real or personal property of such person and such offense was  
53 motivated in whole or in substantial part by any protected social  
54 category of such person."

55 In line 412, strike "the penalty was increased" and insert "the violation  
56 may be sentenced as a hate crime" in lieu thereof

57 In line 1209, strike "for"

58 In line 1210, strike "which the penalty was increased" and insert "that  
59 was sentenced as a hate crime" in lieu thereof

60 Strike section 46 in its entirety and renumber the remaining sections  
61 and internal references accordingly

62 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and  
63 internal references accordingly:

64 "Sec. 501. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The State-Wide Hate Crimes  
65 Advisory Council established pursuant to section 51-279f of the general  
66 statutes, as amended by this act, shall review and make  
67 recommendations concerning changes to hate crimes, including, but not  
68 limited to, (1) the classification of crimes, (2) section 53-37a of the general  
69 statutes concerning deprivation of a person's civil rights by a person  
70 wearing a mask or hood, (3) the charging of juveniles with hate crimes,  
71 and (4) defining "ethnicity" within the term "protected social category",  
72 as defined in section 1 of this act.

73       (b) Not later than February 1, 2026, the council shall report, in  
74       accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,  
75       its recommendations to the joint standing committees of the General  
76       Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary and  
77       public safety."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 23	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 501	<i>from passage</i>	New section