

REVISED LEGISLATIVE DIGEST
(Amended in Committee – September 24, 2020)

[Police Code - Discriminatory Reports to Law Enforcement]

Ordinance amending the Police Code to make it unlawful to cause a peace officer to contact a person with the specific intent to discriminate against the person on the basis of the person’s race, color, ancestry, national origin, place of birth, sex, age, religion, creed, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, weight, or height; and creating a civil cause of action and providing for damages for violating the prohibition.

Existing Law

It is not currently unlawful under City law to cause a peace officer to contact a person with the intent to discriminate against that person on the basis of the person’s race, color, ancestry, national origin, place of birth, sex, age, religion, creed, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, weight, or height.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposed ordinance would make it unlawful to cause a peace officer to contact a person with the specific intent to discriminate against that person or otherwise infringe the person’s rights or cause the person specified harms on the basis of the person’s race, color, ancestry, national origin, place of birth, sex, age, religion, creed, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, weight, or height. The ordinance creates a civil cause of action for the victim of such discrimination against the person who caused such contact to occur, allowing a successful plaintiff to recover special and general damages of at least \$1,000 plus costs and attorney’s fees, and punitive damages in the proper case.

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