237--A

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

(PREFILED)

January 9, 2013

- Introduced by Sens. SQUADRON, ESPAILLAT -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Elections -recommitted to the Committee on Elections in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee
- AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to providing for a state board of elections enforcement unit and counsel

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 3 of section 3-100 of the election law, as 2 amended by chapter 220 of the laws of 2005, is amended to read as 3 follows:

4 3. The commissioners of the state board of elections shall have no 5 other public employment. The commissioners shall receive an annual salaб ry of twenty-five thousand dollars, within the amounts made available 7 therefor by appropriation. The board shall, for the purposes of sections 8 seventy-three and seventy-four of the public officers law, be a "state 9 agency", and such commissioners shall be "officers" of the state board of elections for the purposes of such sections. Within the amounts made 10 available by appropriation therefor, the state board of elections shall 11 12 appoint two co-executive directors, [counsel] AN ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL, A DEPUTY ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL, WHO SHALL BE A MEMBER OF A DIFFERENT MAJOR 13 14 POLITICAL PARTY THAN THE ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL, A SPECIAL COUNSEL, A DEPU-TY SPECIAL COUNSEL, WHO SHALL BE A MEMBER OF A DIFFERENT MAJOR POLITICAL 15 PARTY THAN THE SPECIAL COUNSEL, A DIRECTOR OF ELECTION 16 OPERATIONS, A DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ELECTION OPERATIONS, WHO SHALL BE A MEMBER OF A 17 18 DIFFERENT MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY THAN THE DIRECTOR OF ELECTION OPER-19 ATIONS, A DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INFORMATION, A DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC 20 INFORMATION, WHO SHALL BE A MEMBER OF A DIFFERENT MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY THAN THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INFORMATION and such other staff members as 21

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

LBD00288-02-4

are necessary in the exercise of its functions, and may fix their compensation. [Anytime after the effective date of the chapter of the 1 2 3 laws of two thousand five which amended this subdivision, the] THE 4 commissioners or, in the case of a vacancy on the board, the commission-5 er of each of the major political parties shall appoint one co-executive 6 director. Each co-executive director shall serve a term of four years. 7 THE ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL AND THE SPECIAL COUNSEL SHALL EACH SERVE A TERM 8 FOUR YEARS AND MAY ONLY BE REMOVED FOR CAUSE. ANY TIME AFTER THE OF EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE CHAPTER OF THE LAWS OF TWO THOUSAND 9 FOURTEEN 10 AMENDING THIS SUBDIVISION, THE COMMISSIONERS, OR IN THE CASE OF A VACAN-THE BOARD, THE COMMISSIONER, OF EACH OF THE SAME MAJOR POLITICAL 11 СҮ ON PARTY AS THE INCUMBENT ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL, DEPUTY ENFORCEMENT 12 COUNSEL, 13 SPECIAL COUNSEL, DEPUTY SPECIAL COUNSEL, DIRECTOR OF ELECTION OPER-14 ATIONS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ELECTION OPERATIONS, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INFORMATION, SHALL APPOINT 15 INFORMATION SUCH COUNSELS, DIRECTORS AND DEPUTIES. Any vacancy in the office of co-executive director, ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL, DEPUTY ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL, 16 17 SPECIAL COUNSEL, DEPUTY SPECIAL COUNSEL, DIRECTOR OF 18 ELECTION OPER-19 ATIONS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ELECTION OPERATIONS, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC 20 INFORMATION AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INFORMATION, shall be filled 21 the commissioners or, in the case of a vacancy on the board, the by 22 commissioner of the same major political party as the vacating incumbent for the remaining period of the term of such vacating incumbent, FOR THE 23 REMAINING PERIOD OF THE TERM OF SUCH VACATING INCUMBENT. 24

S 2. Subdivision 3, paragraph (c) of subdivision 9-A and subdivision for section 3-102 of the election law, subdivisions 3 and 17 as amended by chapter 9 of the laws of 1978, paragraph (c) of subdivision 9-A as added by chapter 430 of the laws of 1997 and subdivision 17 as renumbered by chapter 23 of the laws of 2005, are amended to read as follows:

31 conduct any investigation necessary to carry out the provisions of 3. 32 this chapter, PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS 33 ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL, ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 3-104 OF THIS ARTI-CLE, SHALL CONDUCT ANY INVESTIGATION NECESSARY TO ENFORCE THE PROVISIONS 34 OF ARTICLE FOURTEEN OF THIS CHAPTER ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS; 35 (c) establish [a] AN EDUCATIONAL AND training program on ALL REPORTING 36 37 REQUIREMENTS INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO the electronic reporting proc-38 ess and make it EASILY AND READILY available to any such candidate or 39 committee AND NOTIFY ANY SUCH CANDIDATE OR COMMITTEE OF THE AVAILABILITY 40 OF THE MOST RECENT CAMPAIGN FINANCE HANDBOOK;

41 17. HEAR AND CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STATE BOARD OF 42 ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL REGARDING THE ENFORCEMENT OF VIOLATIONS OF 43 ARTICLE FOURTEEN OF THIS CHAPTER;

44 18. perform such other acts as may be necessary to carry out the 45 purposes of this chapter.

46 S 3. Section 3-104 of the election law, subdivisions 1, 3, 4 and 5 as 47 redesignated and subdivision 2 as amended by chapter 9 of the laws of 48 1978, is amended to read as follows:

49 S 3-104. State board of elections AND THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS 50 ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL; enforcement powers. 1. (A) THERE SHALL BE A UNIT 51 KNOWN AS THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT UNIT ESTABLISHED WITH-52 IN THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS. THE HEAD OF SUCH UNIT SHALL BE THE 53 ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL.

54 (B) The state board of elections shall have jurisdiction of, and be 55 responsible for, the execution and enforcement of the provisions of 56 [article fourteen of this chapter and other] statutes governing

campaigns, elections and related procedures; PROVIDED HOWEVER THAT 1 THE 2 ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL SHALL HAVE SOLE AUTHORITY WITHIN THE STATE BOARD OF 3 ELECTIONS TO INVESTIGATE ON HIS OR HER OWN INITIATIVE OR UPON COMPLAINT, 4 ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF ARTICLE FOURTEEN OF THIS CHAPTER AND ALL 5 COMPLAINTS ALLEGING ARTICLE FOURTEEN VIOLATIONS SHALL ΒE ТΟ FORWARDED 6 ENFORCEMENT UNIT. NOTHING THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO THE IN 7 DIMINISH OR ALTER THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS' JURISDICTION PURSUANT TO 8 THIS CHAPTER.

9 2. Whenever [the state board of elections or other] A LOCAL board of 10 elections shall determine, on its own initiative or upon complaint, or 11 otherwise, that there is substantial reason to believe a violation of this chapter or any code or regulation promulgated thereunder has 12 [occurred] BEEN COMMITTED BY A CANDIDATE OR POLITICAL COMMITTEE 13 THAT 14 FILES STATEMENTS OR IS REQUIRED TO DO SO PURSUANT TO ARTICLE FOURTEEN OF 15 THIS CHAPTER SOLELY WITH SUCH LOCAL BOARD, it shall expeditiously make an investigation which shall also include investigation of reports and 16 17 statements made or failed to be made by the complainant and any political committee supporting his candidacy if the complainant is a candi-18 19 date or, if the complaint was made by an officer or member of a political committee, of reports and statements made or failed to be made by 20 21 such political committee and any candidates supported by it. [The state 22 board of elections, in lieu of making such an investigation, may direct 23 appropriate board of elections to make an investigation.] The state the 24 board of elections may request, and shall receive, the assistance of the 25 state police in any investigation it shall conduct.

3. [If, after an investigation, the state or other board of elections finds reasonable cause to believe that a violation warranting criminal prosecution has taken place, it shall forthwith refer the matter to the district attorney of the appropriate county and shall make available to such district attorney all relevant papers, documents, testimony and findings relevant to its investigation.

4. The state or other board of elections may, where appropriate, commence a judicial proceeding with respect to the filing or failure to file any statement of receipts, expenditures, or contributions, under the provisions of this chapter, and the state board of elections may direct the appropriate other board of elections to commence such proceeding.

38 5.] IF THE ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL DETERMINES THAT A VIOLATION OF SUBDI-39 VISION ONE OF SECTION 14-126 OF THIS CHAPTER HAS OCCURRED WHICH COULD 40 WARRANT A CIVIL PENALTY, THE ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL SHALL, UPON HIS OR HER TO RESOLVE THE MATTER EXTRA-JUDICIALLY OR COMMENCE A 41 DISCRETION, SEEK 42 SPECIAL PROCEEDING IN THE SUPREME COURT PURSUANT TO SECTION 16-114 OF 43 THIS CHAPTER.

44 4. UPON RECEIPT OF A COMPLAINT AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION OR AN INTER-45 REFERRAL FROM THE ENFORCEMENT UNIT ALLEGING ANY OTHER VIOLATION OF NAL 46 ARTICLE FOURTEEN OF THIS CHAPTER, THE ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL SHALL ANALYZE AND THE LAW RELEVANT TO SUCH COMPLAINT OR REFERRAL TO DETER-47 FACTS THE 48 MINE IF AN INVESTIGATION SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN. THE ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL 49 SHALL, IF NECESSARY, REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM THE COMPLAINANT 50 TO ASSIST SUCH COUNSEL IN MAKING THIS DETERMINATION. SUCH ANALYSIS SHALL 51 INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING: FIRST, WHETHER THE ALLEGATIONS, IF TRUE, WOULD CONSTITUTE A VIOLATION OF ARTICLE FOURTEEN OF THIS CHAPTER AND, SECOND, 52 WHETHER THE ALLEGATIONS ARE SUPPORTED BY CREDIBLE EVIDENCE. 53

54 5. ΙF THEENFORCEMENT COUNSEL DETERMINES THAT THE ALLEGATIONS 55 CONTAINED IN A COMPLAINT, IF TRUE, WOULD NOT CONSTITUTE A VIOLATION OF 56 CHAPTER OR ARTICLE FOURTEEN OF THIS THAT THE ALLEGATIONS ARE NOT

SUPPORTED BY CREDIBLE EVIDENCE, HE OR SHE SHALL: (A) NOTIFY THE DEPUTY 1 2 ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL OF SUCH DETERMINATION AND (B) PUBLICLY NOTIFY THE 3 STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS OF SUCH DETERMINATION. IF THE STATE BOARD OF 4 ELECTIONS PUBLICLY DETERMINES, AS PROVIDED IN THIS TITLE, THAT THE ALLE-5 GATIONS, IF TRUE, WOULD CONSTITUTE A VIOLATION OF ARTICLE FOURTEEN OF 6 THIS CHAPTER AND THAT THE ALLEGATIONS APPEAR TO BE SUPPORTED BY CREDIBLE 7 EVIDENCE, IT SHALL DIRECT THAT THE ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL CONDUCT AN INVES-8 TIGATION. LACKING SUCH A DETERMINATION, THE ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL SHALL ISSUE A LETTER TO THE COMPLAINANT DISMISSING THE COMPLAINT. 9

10 IF THE ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL DETERMINES THAT THE ALLEGATIONS, IF б. TRUE, WOULD CONSTITUTE A VIOLATION OF ARTICLE FOURTEEN OF THIS CHAPTER 11 AND THAT THE ALLEGATIONS APPEAR TO BE SUPPORTED BY CREDIBLE EVIDENCE, HE 12 SHALL: (A) NOTIFY THE DEPUTY ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL OF (I) HIS OR 13 OR SHE 14 HER INTENT TO RESOLVE THE MATTER EXTRA-JUDICIALLY DUE TO THE DE MINIMUS 15 NATURE OF THE VIOLATION; OR (II) HIS OR HER INTENT TO COMMENCE AN INVES-TIGATION, AND (B) PUBLICLY NOTIFY THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS OF SUCH 16 17 INTENT NO LATER THAN THE BOARD'S NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING. NOTIFICATION SHALL SUMMARIZE THE RELEVANT FACTS AND THE APPLICABLE LAW 18 19 AND SHALL, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, PROTECT FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE THE 20 IDENTITY OF THE COMPLAINANT AND THE INDIVIDUAL SUBJECT TO THE COMPLAINT. 21 THE DEPUTY ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL SHALL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THE 22 ENTIRE FILE OF ANY PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED BY THE ENFORCE-MENT COUNSEL A MINIMUM OF TEN DAYS PRIOR TO SAID REGULARLY SCHEDULED 23 MEETING OF THE BOARD AND TO SUBMIT A PUBLIC, WRITTEN CONCURRENCE WITH OR 24 25 DISSENT FROM THE ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL'S PROPOSAL.

26 7. IF, UPON CONSIDERING THE ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL'S NOTICE OF INTENT TO 27 COMMENCE AN INVESTIGATION AND THE DEPUTY ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL'S RECOMMEN-28 DATION, THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS BELIEVES THAT THE ALLEGATIONS, IF 29 TRUE, WOULD NOT CONSTITUTE A VIOLATION OF ARTICLE FOURTEEN OF THIS CHAP-30 TER, OR THE ALLEGATIONS ARE NOT SUPPORTED BY CREDIBLE EVIDENCE OR, THAT ON BALANCE, THE EQUITIES FAVOR A DISMISSAL OF THE COMPLAINT, THE BOARD 31 32 SHALL PUBLICLY DIRECT THAT AN INVESTIGATION NOT BE UNDERTAKEN NO LATER THAN SIXTY DAYS AFTER THE RECEIPT OF NOTIFICATION FROM THE ENFORCEMENT 33 COUNSEL OF HIS OR HER INTENT TO COMMENCE AN INVESTIGATION. IN DETERMIN-34 35 ING WHETHER THE EQUITIES FAVOR A DISMISSAL OF THE COMPLAINT, THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS SHALL CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING FACTORS: (A) WHETHER THE 36 37 COMPLAINT ALLEGES A DE MINIMUS VIOLATION OF ARTICLE FOURTEEN OF THIS 38 CHAPTER; (B) WHETHER THE SUBJECT OF THE COMPLAINT HAS MADE A GOOD FAITH 39 EFFORT TO CORRECT THE VIOLATION; AND (C) WHETHER THE SUBJECT OF THE 40 COMPLAINT HAS A HISTORY OF SIMILAR VIOLATIONS. DETERMINATIONS OF THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO DISMISS A COMPLAINT AND NOT PROCEED WITH A 41 FORMAL INVESTIGATION SHALL BE VOTED UPON AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION FOUR 42 43 OF SECTION 3-100 OF THIS TITLE AT AN OPEN MEETING PURSUANT TO ARTICLE SEVEN OF THE PUBLIC OFFICERS LAW, AND SHALL BE MADE ON A FAIR AND EQUI-44 45 TABLE BASIS AND WITHOUT REGARD TO THE STATUS OF THE SUBJECT OF THE 46 COMPLAINT.

47 8. ABSENT A TIMELY DETERMINATION BY THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS THAT 48 AN INVESTIGATION SHALL NOT BE UNDERTAKEN, THE ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL SHALL 49 COMMENCE AN INVESTIGATION ON A TIMELY BASIS. IF THE ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL 50 DETERMINES THAT ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATIVE POWERS, AS PROVIDED FOR IN SUBDIVISIONS FOUR, FIVE AND SIX OF SECTION 3-102 OF THIS TITLE, 51 ARE NEEDED TO COMPLETE THE COUNSEL'S INVESTIGATION, HE OR SHE SHALL REQUEST 52 SUCH ADDITIONAL POWERS FROM THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS. SUCH POWERS 53 54 SHALL BE GRANTED BY THE BOARD IN PUBLIC ONLY WHEN THE BOARD FINDS THAT 55 FURTHER INVESTIGATION IS WARRANTED AND JUSTIFIED.

9. AT THE CONCLUSION OF ITS INVESTIGATION, THE ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL 1 2 SHALL PROVIDE THE DEPUTY ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL AND THE STATE BOARD OF 3 ELECTIONS WITH A WRITTEN RECOMMENDATION AS TO: (A) WHETHER SUBSTANTIAL 4 REASON EXISTS TO BELIEVE A VIOLATION OF ARTICLE FOURTEEN OF THIS CHAPTER HAS OCCURRED AND, IF SO, THE NATURE OF THE VIOLATION AND ANY APPLICABLE 5 6 PENALTY, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 14-126 OF THIS CHAPTER, BASED ON THE NATURE OF THE VIOLATION; (B) WHETHER THE MATTER SHOULD BE RESOLVED 7 8 EXTRA-JUDICIALLY; (C) WHETHER A SPECIAL PROCEEDING SHOULD BE COMMENCED IN THE SUPREME COURT TO RECOVER A CIVIL PENALTY; AND (D) WHETHER A 9 10 REFERRAL SHOULD BE MADE TO A DISTRICT ATTORNEY PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION ELEVEN OF THIS SECTION BECAUSE REASONABLE CAUSE EXISTS TO BELIEVE A 11 VIOLATION WARRANTING CRIMINAL PROSECUTION HAS TAKEN PLACE. 12 THE DEPUTY ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL SHALL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THE ENTIRE FILE 13 14 OF ANY INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED BY THE ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL A MINIMUM OF TEN DAYS PRIOR TO SAID REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD AND TO 15 16 SUBMIT A PUBLIC, WRITTEN CONCURRENCE WITH OR DISSENT FROM THE ENFORCE-17 MENT COUNSEL'S RECOMMENDATION.

10. THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS SHALL ACCEPT, MODIFY OR REJECT THE 18 19 ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL'S RECOMMENDATION NO LATER THAN SIXTY DAYS AFTER 20 RECEIPT OF SUCH RECOMMENDATION. IN MAKING ITS DETERMINATION, THE BOARD 21 SHALL AGAIN CONSIDER: (A) WHETHER THE COMPLAINT ALLEGES A DE MINIMUS VIOLATION OF ARTICLE FOURTEEN OF THIS CHAPTER; (B) WHETHER THE 22 SUBJECT THE COMPLAINT HAS MADE A GOOD FAITH EFFORT TO CORRECT THE VIOLATION; 23 OF 24 AND (C) WHETHER THE SUBJECT OF THE COMPLAINT HAS A HISTORY OF SIMILAR 25 VIOLATIONS. ALL SUCH DETERMINATIONS SHALL BE VOTED UPON AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION FOUR OF SECTION 3-100 OF THIS TITLE AT AN OPEN MEETING 26 PURSUANT TO ARTICLE SEVEN OF THE PUBLIC OFFICERS LAW, AND SHALL BE MADE 27 ON A FAIR AND EQUITABLE BASIS, WITHOUT REGARD TO THE STATUS OF 28 THE 29 SUBJECT OF THE COMPLAINT.

30 11. (A) IF THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS DETERMINES, AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION TEN OF THIS SECTION, THAT SUBSTANTIAL REASON EXISTS TO 31 32 BELIEVE THAT A PERSON, ACTING AS OR ON BEHALF OF A CANDIDATE OR POLI-33 TICAL COMMITTEE UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES EVINCING AN INTENT TO VIOLATE SUCH LAW, HAS UNLAWFULLY ACCEPTED A CONTRIBUTION IN EXCESS OF A CONTRIBUTION 34 LIMITATION ESTABLISHED IN ARTICLE FOURTEEN OF THIS CHAPTER, WHICH COULD 35 WARRANT A CIVIL PENALTY AS PROVIDED FOR IN SUBDIVISION THREE OF SECTION 36 14-126 OF THIS CHAPTER, THE BOARD SHALL DIRECT THE COMMENCEMENT OF A 37 38 SPECIAL PROCEEDING IN THE SUPREME COURT.

(B) IF THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS DETERMINES, AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION TEN OF THIS SECTION THAT REASONABLE CAUSE EXISTS TO BELIEVE A
VIOLATION WARRANTING CRIMINAL PROSECUTION HAS TAKEN PLACE, THE BOARD
SHALL REFER THE MATTER TO A DISTRICT ATTORNEY AND SHALL MAKE AVAILABLE
TO SUCH DISTRICT ATTORNEY ALL PAPERS, DOCUMENTS, TESTIMONY AND FINDINGS
RELEVANT TO ITS INVESTIGATION.

12. UPON NOTIFICATION THAT A SPECIAL PROCEEDING HAS BEEN COMMENCED BY
A PARTY OTHER THAN THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS, PURSUANT TO SECTION
16-114 OF THIS CHAPTER, THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS SHALL DIRECT THE
ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL TO INVESTIGATE THE ALLEGED VIOLATIONS UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COURT.

50 13. THE ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL SHALL PREPARE A REPORT, TO BE INCLUDED IN 51 THE ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE, SUMMARIZING THE 52 ACTIVITIES OF THE UNIT DURING THE PREVIOUS YEAR. SUCH REPORT SHALL 53 INCLUDE: (A) THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED; (B) THE NUMBER OF 54 COMPLAINTS THAT WERE FOUND TO NEED INVESTIGATION AND THE NATURE OF EACH 55 COMPLAINT; AND (C) THE NUMBER OF MATTERS THAT HAVE BEEN RESOLVED. THE

REPORT SHALL NOT CONTAIN ANY INFORMATION FOR WHICH DISCLOSURE IS NOT 1 2 PERMITTED.

3 14. The state board of elections may promulgate rules and regulations 4 consistent with law to effectuate the provisions of this section.

S 4. The state of New York shall appropriate during each fiscal year 5 to the New York state board of elections enforcement unit, not less than 6

thirty-five percent of the appropriation available from the general fund 7

for the state board of elections to pay for the expenses of such 8

enforcement unit. 9

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S 5. This act shall take effect immediately.