STATE OF NEW YORK

6991

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 27, 2025

Introduced by Sen. GIANARIS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions

AN ACT to amend the religious corporations law, in relation to the court approval process for the sale, mortgage and lease of real property of a religious corporation

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Paragraph (d-1) of subdivision 1 of section 2-b of the religious corporations law, as amended by chapter 193 of the laws of 1985, is amended to read as follows:

(d-1) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter or the not-for-profit corporation law, any church referred to in subdivision two, three, four, five, five-a, five-b, five-c, **five-d** or six of section twelve of this chapter shall not be required to give notice to the attorney general of any application required by subdivision one of section twelve of this chapter or any application or petition required under section five hundred ten or section five hundred eleven of the not-for-profit corporation law.

§ 2. Section 12 of the religious corporations law is amended by adding a new subdivision 5-d to read as follows:

5-d. The trustees of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America shall not make application to the court for leave to mortgage, lease or sell any of its real property without the consent of its archbishop.

§ 3. Subdivision 6 of section 12 of the religious corporations law, as amended by chapter 381 of the laws of 1985, is amended to read as follows:

6. The petition of the trustees of an incorporated Protestant Episcopal church or Roman Catholic church shall, in addition to the matters required by article five of the not-for-profit corporation law to be set forth therein, set forth that this section has also been complied with.

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

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The petition of the trustees of an incorporated African Methodist Episcopal Zion church shall in addition to the matters required by article five of the not-for-profit corporation law to be set forth therein, set forth that this section has also been complied with. The petition of the trustees of an incorporated Presbyterian church in connection with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), shall, in addition to the matters required by article five of the not-for-profit corporation law to be set forth therein, set forth that this section has also been complied with. The petition of the trustees of an incorporated United Methodist church shall, in addition to the matters required by article five of the not-for-profit corporation law to be set forth therein, set forth that this section has also been complied with. **The petition of the trustees of an incorporated Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America church shall, in addition to the matters required by article five of the not-for-profit corporation law to be set forth therein, set forth that this section has also been complied with.**

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately.