S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

1297

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

(PREFILED)

January 7, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. WRIGHT -- read once and referred to the Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions

AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to prohibiting the use of authority funds and property to influence the outcome of an election

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

Section 1. The public authorities law is amended by adding a new section 2890-a to read as follows:

S 2890-A. USE OF AUTHORITY FUNDS AND PROPERTY PROHIBITED FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES. NO MEMBER OF AN AUTHORITY OR COMMISSION, HERETOFORE AND HEREAFTER CONTINUED OR CREATED BY THIS CHAPTER, OR OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE THEREOF, SHALL USE OR AUTHORIZE THE USE OF AUTHORITY FUNDS OR PROPERTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF INFLUENCING THE VOTE OR POLITICAL ACTION OF ANY CITIZEN OR AUTHORITY EMPLOYEE IN RELATION TO NOMINATION OR ELECTION TO PUBLIC OR PARTY OFFICE, OR THE OUTCOME OF ANY CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT, PROPOSITION OR OTHER QUESTION SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS AT ANY ELECTION. NOTHING HEREIN SHALL, HOWEVER, RESTRICT THE RIGHT OF THE AUTHORITY OR COMMISSION TO SELL ADVERTISING SPACE IF SUCH SPACE IS CUSTOMARILY SOLD FOR ADVERTISING PURPOSES TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC, NOR RESTRICT THE RIGHT OF THE AUTHORITY TO RENT PHYSICAL SPACE IF SUCH SPACE IS CUSTOMARILY RENTED OR TO MAKE SPACE AVAILABLE AT NO COST IF SUCH SPACE IS CUSTOMARILY MADE AVAILABLE AT NO COST. NOTHING HEREIN SHALL GIVE THE AUTHORITY THE RIGHT TO PREVENT LAWFUL PUBLIC ASSEMBLY ON AUTHORITY PROPERTY IF SUCH PROPERTY OR PORTION THEREOF IS CUSTOMARILY OPEN TO THE PUBLIC OR QUALIFIES AS PUBLIC FORUM SPACE.

S 2. This act shall take effect on the first of September next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law.

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

LBD00209-01-9