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

5029

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

April 27, 2009

Introduced by Sen. ADDABBO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Elections

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to the use of certain buildings as polling places accessible to persons with disabilities

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

Section 1. Subdivisions 3-a and 3-b of section 4-104 of the election law, as added by chapter 694 of the laws of 1989, are amended to read as follows:

3-a. [In cities with populations of more than one hundred thousand, any] ANY person or entity which controls a building for which a tax exemption, tax abatement, subsidy, grant or loan for construction, renovation, rehabilitation or operation has been provided by any agency of the state or any political subdivision thereof on or after the effective date of this subdivision shall agree to make available for registration and voting purposes the room or rooms in such building which the board or body empowered to designate polling places determines are suitable for registration and voting, are accessible to physically disabled voters and are as close as possible to a convenient entrance to such building. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any agency of the state or any political subdivision thereof may deny a tax exemption, tax abatement, subsidy, grant or loan for construction, renovation, rehabilitation or operation to a building [in any such city] which is otherwise eligible for such exemption, abatement, subsidy, grant or loan if the person or entity which controls such building refuses to agree to make available for registration and voting purposes the room or rooms in such building which the board or body empowered to designate polling places determines are suitable for registration and voting, are accessible to physically disabled voters and are as close as possible to a convenient entrance to such building. The provisions of this subdivision shall not

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

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apply to buildings used solely for residential purposes which contain less than twenty-five dwelling units.

3-b. Any person or entity conducting any program, activity or service for which a loan, grant, contract, subsidy or reimbursement has been provided by any agency of the state or a political subdivision thereof on or after the effective date of this subdivision shall make available for registration and voting purposes the room or rooms under the control of such person or entity in a building [in any such city] in which such program, activity or service is conducted which the board or body empowered to designate polling places determines are suitable for registration and voting, are accessible to physically disabled voters and are as close as possible to a convenient entrance to such building. Any such person, organization or entity shall agree to facilitate the use of such room or rooms, to the maximum extent possible, by making efforts to obtain the permission and cooperation of any person or entity which controls the building in which such room or rooms are located. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any agency of the state or any political subdivision thereof may deny a loan, grant, contract, subsidy or reimbursement to any such person or entity otherwise eligible for such loan, grant, contract, subsidy or reimbursement unless such person or entity agrees to make available for registration and voting purposes the room or rooms in such building which the board or body empowered to designate polling places determines are suitable for registration and voting, are accessible to physically disabled voters as provided in subdivision one-a of this section and are as close as possible to a convenient entrance to such building and agrees to facilitate the use of such room or rooms, to the maximum extent possible, by making efforts to obtain the permission and cooperation of any person or entity which controls the building in which such room or rooms are located.

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