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

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2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

(PREFILED)

January 7, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. DINOWITZ, COLTON -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. DIAZ, JOHN, V. LOPEZ, SWEENEY -- read once and referred to the Committee on Election Law

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to candidate biographies

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

Section 1. The election law is amended by adding a new section 6-170 to read as follows:

S 6-170. CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES. 1. ANY CANDIDATE SEEKING NOMINATION OR ELECTION AT THE NEXT PRIMARY, GENERAL, OR SPECIAL ELECTION TO ANY PUBLIC OFFICE, OR A DESIGNATED AGENT ACTING ON BEHALF OF SUCH CANDIDATE, MAY, AT LEAST SIX WEEKS PRIOR TO A PRIMARY OR GENERAL ELECTION OR THREE WEEKS PRIOR TO A SPECIAL ELECTION, FILE WITH THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS WITH WHICH NOMINATING AND DESIGNATING PETITIONS AND CERTIFICATES FOR SUCH OFFICE ARE FILED PURSUANT TO SECTION 6-144 OF THIS ARTICLE A SWORN STATEMENT SETTING FORTH THE CANDIDATE'S OCCUPATION, EDUCATIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND, PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE AND ANY OTHER PERSONAL BACKGROUND OR EXPERIENCE WHICH THE CANDIDATE DEEMS RELEVANT TO THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

2. THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS SHALL BY REGULATION ESTABLISH THE FORMAT AND LENGTH OF THE STATEMENT AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SECTION AND SHALL PROVIDE TO CANDIDATES A STANDARDIZED FORM FOR PREPARING SUCH STATEMENT.

3. WITHIN FIVE DAYS AFTER THE LAST DAY FOR FILING STATEMENTS UNDER THIS SECTION, ALL LOCAL BOARDS OF ELECTIONS SHALL FORWARD ALL SUCH CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES TO THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS IN ELECTRONIC FORM IN A MANNER TO BE PRESCRIBED BY THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS.

4. WITHIN FIVE DAYS OF RECEIPT OF ANY CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES FROM THE LOCAL BOARDS OF ELECTIONS, THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS SHALL CAUSE ALL SUCH INFORMATION CONTAINED IN SAID CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES TO BE MADE

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

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AVAILABLE AT ALL TIMES ON THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS WEBSITE UNTIL ONE DAY AFTER THE ELECTION.

5. IN THE EVENT THAT ANY CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES RECEIVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS, FROM ANY LOCAL BOARD OF ELECTIONS, IS NOT IN ELECTRONIC FORM, THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS SHALL, WITHIN TEN DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF SUCH CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHY, CONVERT SUCH CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHY TO ELECTRONIC FORM, AND CAUSE SAID CANDIDATE INFORMATION TO BE MADE AVAILABLE AT ALL TIMES ON THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS WEBSITE UNTIL ONE DAY AFTER THE ELECTION.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.