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

9767

I N A S S E M B L Y

January 22, 2010

Introduced by M. of A. MENG -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the legislative law, in relation to prohibiting the public presentation by legislators of certain funds within twenty days of the date of an election in which the legislator is a candidate and in relation to requiring public hearings prior to allocation of member items

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

Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "20/20 Member Items Real Reform Of Rules Act" or the "MIRROR Act".

S 2. The legislative law is amended by adding two new sections 31-a and 31-b to read as follows:

S 31-A. PUBLIC PRESENTATION OF GRANTS OR AWARDS BEFORE AN ELECTION. NO MEMBER OF THE ASSEMBLY OR THE SENATE SHALL, WITHIN TWENTY DAYS PRIOR TO AN ELECTION IN WHICH THE MEMBER IS A CANDIDATE, PUBLICLY PRESENT OR AWARD ANY LEGISLATIVE GRANTS OR FUNDS OR MONIES FROM PUBLIC FUNDS ALLOCATED THROUGH THE STATE BUDGET AS A MEMBER ITEM.

S 31-B. PUBLIC HEARINGS PRIOR TO THE ALLOCATION OF MEMBER ITEM FUNDS. 1. PRIOR TO THE ALLOCATION OF ANY LEGISLATIVE GRANTS OR PUBLIC MONIES OR FUNDS DESIGNATED AS A MEMBER ITEM IN THE STATE BUDGET, THE MEMBER OF THE ASSEMBLY OR THE SENATE TO WHOM THE MEMBER ITEM IS ALLOCATED SHALL CONDUCT AND PRESIDE OVER A PUBLIC HEARING WITHIN THAT MEMBER'S DISTRICT FOR THE PURPOSES OF ALLOWING INTERESTED ORGANIZATIONS TO PRESENT THEIR REQUESTS FOR LEGISLATIVE GRANTS AND ALLOW THE PUBLIC TO VIEW THE PROCESS IN WHICH TAXPAYERS' MONIES ARE DISTRIBUTED. EACH HEARING SHALL BE CONDUCTED NO LATER THAN TWENTY DAYS PRIOR TO THE DEADLINE OF THE ALLOCATION OF MEMBER ITEMS AND SHALL BE PUBLICIZED IN GOOD-FAITH WITHIN THE DISTRICT FOR ANY ORGANIZATIONS THAT MAY WISH TO APPLY FOR MEMBER ITEMS.

2. THE MEMBER OF THE ASSEMBLY OR SENATE, OR HIS OR HER AGENT, SHALL MAKE GOOD FAITH EFFORTS TO PUBLICIZE THE TIME, DATE AND LOCATION OF THE HEARING WITHIN THE DISTRICT THROUGH TELEVISION AND PRINT MEDIA, INCLUDING THE PREDOMINANT NEWSPAPER OF THE DISTRICT, WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE HEARING.

S 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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