

5008

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

April 27, 2009

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

AN ACT to amend the business corporation law, in relation to authorizing any shareholder owning twenty percent or more of the issued shares to elect that proportion of the directors which is equal to such shareholder's ownership of corporate shares

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

1     Section 1. Section 618 of the business corporation law is amended to  
2     read as follows:  
3     S 618. Cumulative voting.  
4     (A) The certificate of incorporation of any corporation may provide  
5     that in all elections of directors of such corporation each shareholder  
6     shall be entitled to as many votes as shall equal the number of votes  
7     which, except for such provisions as to cumulative voting, he OR SHE  
8     would be entitled to cast for the election of directors with respect to  
9     his OR HER shares multiplied by the number of directors to be elected,  
10    and that he OR SHE may cast all of such votes for a single director or  
11    may distribute them among the number to be voted for, or any two or more  
12    of them, as he OR SHE may see fit, which right, when exercised, shall be  
13    termed cumulative voting.  
14    (B) IF ANY SHAREHOLDER WHO OWNS TWENTY PERCENT OR MORE OF THE ISSUED  
15    AND OUTSTANDING SHARES OF ANY CORPORATION SHALL PETITION THE BOARD OF  
16    DIRECTORS OF SUCH CORPORATION TO CAUSE THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF  
17    SUCH CORPORATION TO BE AMENDED TO PROVIDE FOR CUMULATIVE VOTING AS  
18    PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (A) OF THIS SECTION, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHALL  
19    PROMPTLY CAUSE SUCH ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION TO BE SO AMENDED BEFORE  
20    THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING  
21    DIRECTORS, UNLESS SUCH NEXT MEETING WAS SCHEDULED AND NOTICED TO BE HELD  
22    LESS THAN NINETY DAYS FROM THE DATE OF SUCH SHAREHOLDER PETITION.  
23    S 2. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeeding  
24    the date on which it shall have become a law, and shall apply to  
25    elections of directors occurring on or after such date.

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

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