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

7581

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

May 23, 2013

Introduced by M. of A. KATZ -- read once and referred to the Committee on Election Law

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to instituting greater transparence in contributions made to any elected officials

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 14-125 to read as follows:

S 14-125. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REPORTS ONLINE. 1. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW TO THE CONTRARY THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS FOR EACH COUNTY OF THE STATE AND IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK FOR THE FIVE COUNTIES THEREOF SHALL IMPLEMENT AND ESTABLISH AN ONLINE DATA BASE DETAILING ALL CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REPORTS FILED BY EVERY ELECTED OFFICIAL RUNNING FOR OR VOTED INTO A PUBLIC OFFICE IN NEW YORK STATE AND FOR EVERY CANDIDATE FOR PUBLIC OFFICE. SUCH DATA BASE SHALL CONSIST OF ALL CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REPORTS FILED IN CONNECTION WITH EACH ELECTION (PRIMARY, GENERAL AND SPECIAL) PURSUANT TO SECTION 14-108 OF THIS ARTICLE AND NYCRR 6200.2.

(A) A LINK TO SUCH DATA BASE SHALL BE CLEARLY VISIBLE ON THE OPENING PAGE OF THE WEBSITE FOR THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS OF EACH COUNTY AND SHALL BE ENTITLED "CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REPORTS FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS AND CANDIDATES IN YOUR COUNTY". IF, AN ELECTED OFFICIAL OR CANDIDATE FILES THEIR CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS WITH THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS THE VISITOR SHALL BE DIRECTED TO THE NEW YORK STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS WEBSITE. BY CLICKING ON SUCH LINK THE WEBSITE VISITOR SHALL BE ABLE TO VIEW A LIST OF ALL THE ELECTED OFFICIALS WITHIN THE COUNTY AND CANDIDATES ON THE BALLOT IN PRIMARY, GENERAL AND SPECIAL ELECTIONS. FROM SUCH LIST THE VISITOR SHALL THEN BE ABLE TO SELECT THE NAME OF A PARTICULAR ELECTED OFFICIAL OR CANDIDATE AND VIEW ALL REPORTED CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL DISCLO-

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

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SURE REPORTS FILED BY SUCH ELECTED OFFICIAL OR CANDIDATE WITHIN THE CURRENT CALENDAR YEAR. ADDITIONALLY, CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REPORTS MADE IN PREVIOUS YEARS SHALL BE ARCHIVED ON THE SAME WEBPAGE FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS.

(B) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW TO THE CONTRARY ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS AND CANDIDATES WHO MAINTAIN ANY WEBSITE, OTHER THAN THE WEBSITE MAINTAINED FOR SERVICE IN THEIR OFFICIAL CAPACITY, SHALL ESTABLISH A CLEARLY VISIBLE LINK ENTITLED "MY CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REPORTS". SUCH LINK SHALL DIRECT WEBSITE VISITORS TO THE STATE OR THEIR RESPECTIVE BOARD OF ELECTIONS COUNTY WEBSITE. ALL CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE SHALL BE REQUIRED ON THEIR CAMPAIGN WEBSITE OR SITE THAT INCLUDES CAMPAIGN INFORMATION TO ESTABLISH A CLEARLY VISIBLE LINK ENTITLED "MY CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REPORTS" ON THEIR HOME PAGE. SUCH LINK SHALL DIRECT WEBSITE VISITORS TO THE STATE OR THEIR RESPECTIVE BOARD OF ELECTIONS COUNTY WEBSITE. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION ANY WEBSITE WHICH CONTAINS INFORMATION ON AN ELECTED OFFICIAL'S CAMPAIGN SHALL BE CONSIDERED A CAMPAIGN WEBSITE.

2. (A) ALL THREE CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REPORTS FILED IN CONNECTION WITH EACH ELECTION: THIRTY-TWO DAY PRE-ELECTION; ELEVEN DAY PRE-ELECTION; TEN DAY POST-ELECTION FOR PRIMARY ELECTIONS (ONLY FOR THOSE PARTICIPATING FINANCIALLY IN THE PRIMARY); OR TWENTY-SEVEN DAY POST-ELECTION FOR GENERAL OR SPECIAL ELECTIONS SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE ON THE STATE OR COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS WEBSITE WITHIN FIVE DAYS OF THEIR FILING DATE.

(B) CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE PERIODIC REPORTS SHALL ALSO BE MADE AVAILABLE ON THE CITY, COUNTY OR STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS WEBSITES WITHIN FIVE DAYS OF THEIR FILING DATE AS SPECIFIED IN THE ANNUAL FILING CALENDAR.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to all campaign financial disclosure reports filed one hundred twenty days after this act shall have become a law.