

2897--A

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

January 30, 2015

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Introduced by Sens. GIANARIS, ADDABBO, ESPAILLAT, HOYLMAN, SERRANO, SQUADRON, STAVISKY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Elections -- recommitted to the Committee on Elections in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to contributions to candidates and political committees

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

1     Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 14-114 of the election law, as  
2     amended by chapter 79 of the laws of 1992, paragraphs a and b as amended  
3     by chapter 659 of the laws of 1994, is amended to read as follows:  
4     1. The following limitations apply to all contributions to candidates  
5     for election to any public office or for nomination for any such office,  
6     or for election to any party positions, and to all contributions to  
7     political committees working directly or indirectly with any candidate  
8     to aid or participate in such candidate's nomination or election, other  
9     than any contributions to any party committee or constituted committee:  
10    a. In any election for a public office to be voted on by the voters of  
11    the entire state, or for nomination to any such office, no contributor  
12    may make a contribution to any candidate or political committee, and no  
13    candidate or political committee may accept any contribution from any  
14    contributor, which is in the aggregate amount greater than: (i) in the  
15    case of any nomination to public office, the product of the total number  
16    of enrolled voters in the candidate's party in the state, excluding  
17    voters in inactive status, multiplied by \$.005, but such amount shall be  
18    not [less than four thousand dollars nor] more than [twelve] SIX thou-  
19    sand dollars [as increased or decreased by the cost of living adjustment  
20    described in paragraph c of this subdivision,] and (ii) in the case of  
21    any election to [a] SUCH public office, [twenty-five] SIX thousand

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

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1 dollars [as increased or decreased by the cost of living adjustment  
2 described in paragraph c of this subdivision]; provided however, that  
3 the maximum amount which may be so contributed or accepted, in the  
4 aggregate, from any candidate's child, parent, grandparent, brother and  
5 sister, and the spouse of any such persons, shall not exceed in the case  
6 of any nomination to public office an amount equivalent to the product  
7 of the number of enrolled voters in the candidate's party in the state,  
8 excluding voters in inactive status, multiplied by \$.025, and in the  
9 case of any election for a public office, an amount equivalent to the  
10 product of the number of registered voters in the state excluding voters  
11 in inactive status, multiplied by \$.025.

12 b. In any other election for party position or for election to a  
13 public office or for nomination for any such office, no contributor may  
14 make a contribution to any candidate or political committee and no  
15 candidate or political committee may accept any contribution from any  
16 contributor, which is in the aggregate amount greater than: (i) in the  
17 case of any election for party position, or for nomination to public  
18 office, the product of the total number of enrolled voters in the candi-  
19 date's party in the district in which he is a candidate, excluding  
20 voters in inactive status, multiplied by \$.05, and (ii) in the case of  
21 any election for a public office, the product of the total number of  
22 registered voters in the district, excluding voters in inactive status,  
23 multiplied by \$.05, however in the case of a nomination within the city  
24 of New York for the office of mayor, public advocate or comptroller,  
25 such amount shall be not less than four thousand dollars nor more than  
26 twelve thousand dollars as increased or decreased by the cost of living  
27 adjustment described in paragraph c of this subdivision; in the case of  
28 an election within the city of New York for the office of mayor, public  
29 advocate or comptroller, twenty-five thousand dollars as increased or  
30 decreased by the cost of living adjustment described in paragraph c of  
31 this subdivision; in the case of a nomination OR ELECTION for state  
32 senator, four thousand dollars [as increased or decreased by the cost of  
33 living adjustment described in paragraph c of this subdivision; in the  
34 case of an election for state senator, six thousand two hundred fifty  
35 dollars as increased or decreased by the cost of living adjustment  
36 described in paragraph c of this subdivision]; in the case of an  
37 election or nomination for a member of the assembly, [twenty-five  
38 hundred] TWO THOUSAND dollars [as increased or decreased by the cost of  
39 living adjustment described in paragraph c of this subdivision; but in  
40 no event shall any such maximum exceed fifty thousand dollars or be less  
41 than one thousand dollars]; provided however, that the maximum amount  
42 which may be so contributed or accepted, in the aggregate, from any  
43 candidate's child, parent, grandparent, brother and sister, and the  
44 spouse of any such persons, shall not exceed in the case of any election  
45 for party position or nomination for public office an amount equivalent  
46 to the number of enrolled voters in the candidate's party in the  
47 district in which he is a candidate, excluding voters in inactive  
48 status, multiplied by \$.25 and in the case of any election to public  
49 office, an amount equivalent to the number of registered voters in the  
50 district, excluding voters in inactive status, multiplied by \$.25; or  
51 twelve hundred fifty dollars, whichever is greater, or in the case of a  
52 nomination or election of a state senator, twenty thousand dollars,  
53 whichever is greater, or in the case of a nomination or election of a  
54 member of the assembly twelve thousand five hundred dollars, whichever  
55 is greater, but in no event shall any such maximum exceed one hundred  
56 thousand dollars.

1 c. At the beginning of each fourth calendar year, commencing in [nine-  
2 teen hundred ninety-five] TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE, the state board  
3 shall determine the percentage of the difference between the most recent  
4 available monthly consumer price index for all urban consumers published  
5 by the United States bureau of labor statistics and such consumer price  
6 index published for the same month four years previously. The amount of  
7 each contribution limit fixed AND EXPRESSLY IDENTIFIED FOR ADJUSTMENT in  
8 this subdivision shall be adjusted by the amount of such percentage  
9 difference to the closest one hundred dollars by the state board which,  
10 not later than the first day of February in each such year, shall issue  
11 a regulation publishing the amount of each such contribution limit. Each  
12 contribution limit as so adjusted shall be the contribution limit in  
13 effect for any election held before the next such adjustment.  
14 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.