3173

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

February 3, 2015

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

AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to prohibiting
    the use of authority funds and property to influence the outcome of an
    election

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

1   Section 1. The public authorities law is amended by adding a new
2   section 2890-a to read as follows:
3   S 2890-A. USE OF AUTHORITY FUNDS AND PROPERTY PROHIBITED FOR CERTAIN
4   PURPOSES. NO MEMBER OF AN AUTHORITY OR COMMISSION, HERETOFORE AND HERE-
5   AFTER CONTINUED OR CREATED BY THIS CHAPTER, OR OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE
6   THEREOF, SHALL USE OR AUTHORIZE THE USE OF AUTHORITY FUNDS OR PROPERTY
7   FOR THE PURPOSE OF INFLUENCING THE VOTE OR POLITICAL ACTION OF ANY CITI-
8   ZEN OR AUTHORITY EMPLOYEE IN RELATION TO NOMINATION OR ELECTION TO
9   PUBLIC OR PARTY OFFICE, OR THE OUTCOME OF ANY CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT,
10   PROPOSITION OR OTHER QUESTION SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS AT ANY ELECTION.
11   NOTHING HEREIN SHALL, HOWEVER, RESTRICT THE RIGHT OF THE AUTHORITY OR
12   COMMISSION TO SELL ADVERTISING SPACE IF SUCH SPACE IS CUSTOMARILY SOLD
13   FOR ADVERTISING PURPOSES TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC, NOR RESTRICT THE RIGHT
14   OF THE AUTHORITY TO RENT PHYSICAL SPACE IF SUCH SPACE IS CUSTOMARILY
15   RENTED OR TO MAKE SPACE AVAILABLE AT NO COST IF SUCH SPACE IS CUSTOMAR-
16   ILY MADE AVAILABLE AT NO COST. NOTHING HEREIN SHALL GIVE THE AUTHORITY
17   THE RIGHT TO PREVENT LAWFUL PUBLIC ASSEMBLY ON AUTHORITY PROPERTY IF
18   SUCH PROPERTY OR PORTION THEREOF IS CUSTOMARILY OPEN TO THE PUBLIC OR
19   QUALIFIES AS PUBLIC FORUM SPACE.
20   S 2.   This act shall take effect on the first of September next
21   succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law.

    EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
                        [ ] is old law to be omitted.
                                                            LBD04954-01-5