

5074

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

April 29, 2015

---

Introduced by Sen. SQUADRON -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Elections

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to contribution limitations

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 thousand  
19 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 public office, twenty-five thousand dollars as  
22 increased or decreased by the cost of living adjustment described in  
23 paragraph c of this subdivision; provided however, that the maximum  
24 amount which may be so contributed or accepted, in the aggregate, from  
25 any candidate's child, parent, grandparent, brother and sister, and the

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

LBD00968-03-5

1 spouse of any such persons, shall not exceed in the case of any nomi-  
2 nation to public office an amount equivalent to the product of the  
3 number of enrolled voters in the candidate's party in the state, exclud-  
4 ing voters in inactive status, multiplied by \$.025, and in the case of  
5 any election for a public office, an amount equivalent to the product of  
6 the number of registered voters in the state excluding voters in inac-  
7 tive status, multiplied by \$.025.

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

52 c.] A. NO CONTRIBUTOR MAY MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO ANY CANDIDATE FOR  
53 ELECTION TO ANY PUBLIC OFFICE OR FOR NOMINATION FOR ANY SUCH OFFICE, OR  
54 FOR ELECTION TO ANY PARTY POSITIONS, OR MAKE ANY CONTRIBUTION TO POLI-  
55 TICAL COMMITTEES WORKING DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY WITH ANY CANDIDATE TO  
56 AID OR PARTICIPATE IN SUCH CANDIDATE'S NOMINATION OR ELECTION, AND NO

1 CANDIDATE OR POLITICAL COMMITTEE MAY ACCEPT ANY CONTRIBUTION FROM ANY  
2 CONTRIBUTOR, WHICH, IN THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT, IS GREATER THAN TWO THOU-  
3 SAND SEVEN HUNDRED DOLLARS, AS INCREASED OR DECREASED BY THE COST OF  
4 LIVING ADJUSTMENT DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH B OF THIS SUBDIVISION.  
5 B. At the beginning of each [fourth] SECOND calendar year, commencing  
6 in [nineteen hundred ninety-five] TWO THOUSAND SEVENTEEN, the state  
7 board shall determine the percentage of the difference between the most  
8 recent available monthly consumer price index for all urban consumers  
9 published by the United States bureau of labor statistics and such  
10 consumer price index published for the same month [four] TWO years  
11 previously. The amount of each contribution limit fixed in this subdivi-  
12 sion shall be adjusted by the amount of such percentage difference to  
13 the closest one hundred dollars by the state board which, not later than  
14 the first day of February in each such year, shall issue a regulation  
15 publishing the amount of each such contribution limit. Each contribution  
16 limit as so adjusted shall be the contribution limit in effect for any  
17 election held before the next such adjustment.  
18 S 2. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeed-  
19 ing the date on which it shall have become a law.