STATE OF NEW YORK

4503

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 16, 2017

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

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to requiring the joint commission on public ethics to develop and maintain a campaign finance training course; and to amend the legislative law, in relation to requiring all members of the legislature, their staff treasurer and all individuals running for elected office to complete the campaign finance training course

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Paragraph (m) and subparagraph (iv) of paragraph (n) of subdivision 9 of section 94 of the executive law, paragraph (m) as amended and subparagraph (iv) of paragraph (n) as added by section 6 of part A of chapter 399 of the laws of 2011, are amended and a new paragraph (o) is added to read as follows:

(m) Determine a question common to a class or defined category of persons or items of information required to be disclosed, where determination of the question will prevent undue repetition of requests for exemption or deletion or prevent undue complication in complying with the requirements of such section; [~~and~~]

(iv) if thereafter sufficient cause exists, the commission shall take additional actions, as appropriate and consistent with law[~~.~~]*; and*

(o) The commission shall develop and maintain a campaign finance training course for members of the legislature, their staff treasurers and members of the general public running for elected office. Such course shall be designed to help individuals in understanding and complying with current campaign finance requirements under state law, legislative rules and federal law. The course shall be available in person and on the internet and shall include provisions for verifying when an individual has successfully completed the course.

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

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§ 2. The legislative law is amended by adding a new section 81 to read as follows:

§ 81. Campaign finance training course. 1. Each member of the legislature, their staff treasurer and any member of the general public who is running for elected office shall annually complete the campaign finance training course developed by the joint commission on public ethics pursuant to paragraph (o) of subdivision nine of section ninety-four of the executive law.

2. Legislators and staff treasurers shall verify the completion on his or her annual legislative financial disclosure form. Members of the general public running for elected office shall verify the completion on his or her required campaign finance forms.

3. Failure to comply with the provisions of this section shall be punishable by a fine of three hundred dollars. If failure is not remedied within ninety days then there will be an additional three hundred dollar fine imposed.

§ 3. This act shall take effect January 1, 2018.