STATE OF NEW YORK

6688

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

June 13, 2017

Introduced by Sen. STEWART-COUSINS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to amend the state finance law, in relation to establishing the New York state early voting fund

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

Section 1. The state finance law is amended by adding a new section 92-t to read as follows:

§ 92-t. New York state early voting fund. 1. There is hereby established in the joint custody of the state comptroller and the commissioner of taxation and finance a fund to be known as the New York state early voting fund.

2. Such fund shall consist of all revenues received from the abandoned property fund pursuant to subdivision five of section ninety-five of this article.

3. Moneys of the fund, following appropriation by the legislature, may be expended for the purpose of making payments to the board of elections of each county and the city of New York to reimburse any actual costs incurred by such boards of elections to provide polling places for early voting, including the cost of staffing such polling places, in any general, primary, or special election in which early voting is required by the election law. Moneys shall be paid out of the fund upon audit and warrant by the state comptroller on vouchers certified or approved by the state board of elections, or its duly designated representative, in the manner prescribed by law.

4. Boards of elections seeking moneys from this fund shall submit documentation detailing the costs described in subdivision three of this section in a manner prescribed by the state board of elections.

5. The state board of elections and state comptroller shall issue any such rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

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

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§ 2. Section 95 of the state finance law is amended by adding a new subdivision 5 to read as follows:

5. (a) As often as necessary, the co-chairs of the state board of elections shall certify the amount such co-chairs have determined necessary to fund estimated payments from the New York state early voting fund established by section ninety-two-t of this article.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of this section authorizing the transfer of any moneys in the abandoned property fund to the general fund, the comptroller, after reserving amounts sufficient to pay claims against the abandoned property fund, shall, based upon a certification of the state board of elections pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subdivision, and at the direction of the director of the budget, transfer the requested amount from remaining available monies in the abandoned property fund to the New York state early voting fund established by section ninety-two-t of this article.

§ 3. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law; provided, however, that effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized and directed to be made and completed on or before such effective date.