

STATE OF NEW YORK

2237

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 25, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. SIMON, EPSTEIN, ZINERMAN, BUTTENSCHON, JACKSON --
read once and referred to the Committee on Election Law

AN ACT to amend the election law and the administrative code of the city
of New York, in relation to allowing certain campaign funds to be used
for disability access services and language interpretation and trans-
lation services

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

1 Section 1. Section 14-130 of the election law is amended by adding two
2 new subdivisions 4-a and 4-b to read as follows:

3 4-a. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a candidate from using
4 campaign contributions to pay for disability access services, including
5 but not limited to captioning, sign language interpretation, assistive
6 listening device, Braille, large print, communication access real-time
7 translation (CART) and accessible transportation services.

8 4-b. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a candidate from using
9 campaign contributions to pay for language interpretation or trans-
10 lation services.

11 § 2. Subdivision 1 of section 14-206 of the election law, as added by
12 section 4 of part ZZZ of chapter 58 of the laws of 2020, is amended to
13 read as follows:

14 1. Public matching funds provided pursuant to this title may be used
15 only by an authorized committee for expenditures to further the partic-
16 ipating candidate's nomination for election or election~~[-including]~~.
17 Such expenditures may include paying for debts incurred within one year
18 prior to an election to further the participating candidate's nomination
19 for election or election and paying for disability access services or
20 language interpretation or translation services.

21 § 3. Section 14-204 of the election law is amended by adding a new
22 subdivision 6 to read as follows:

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

LBD03026-01-3

1 6. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the amount of
2 public funds that may be provided to a candidate for the purpose of
3 paying for disability access services or language interpretation or
4 translation services.

5 § 4. Subparagraphs 12 and 13 of paragraph a of subdivision 21 of
6 section 3-702 of the administrative code of the city of New York,
7 subparagraph 12 as amended and subparagraph 13 as added by local law
8 number 196 of the city of New York for the year 2018, are amended and
9 two new subparagraphs 14 and 15 are added to read as follows:

10 12. Expenditures to facilitate, support, or otherwise assist in the
11 execution or performance of the duties of public office; [~~and~~]

12 13. Childcare services, provided that: (i) the candidate has received
13 an approved statement of campaign childcare eligibility, pursuant to
14 subdivision 23 of this section, demonstrating that such services are for
15 a child or children under thirteen years of age for whom the candidate
16 is a primary caregiver and that either the need for such services would
17 not exist but for the campaign or the candidate has experienced a
18 significant loss of salary or wage earnings that would not have occurred
19 but for the campaign; and (ii) that expenditures for such services may
20 only be incurred during the calendar year of the election, and the year
21 immediately preceding the calendar year of the election, and may not be
22 incurred after such election is held[~~+~~];

23 14. Disability access services, including but not limited to caption-
24 ing, sign language interpretation, assistive listening device, Braille,
25 large print, communication access real-time translation (CART) and
26 accessible transportation services; and

27 15. Language interpretation and translation services.

28 § 5. Section 3-706 of the administrative code of the city of New York
29 is amended by adding a new subdivision 6 to read as follows:

30 6. Expenditures made for the purpose of disability access services
31 pursuant to subparagraph 14 or language interpretation and translation
32 services pursuant to subparagraph 15 of paragraph a of subdivision 21 of
33 section 3-702 of this chapter shall not be limited by the expenditure
34 limitations of this section.

35 § 6. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after
36 it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amend-
37 ment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implemen-
38 tation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and
39 completed on or before such effective date.