STATE OF NEW YORK

5491

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 13, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. LEVENBERG -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the public officers law, in relation to prohibiting members of the legislature from obtaining funding and providing such funds to any business entity or not-for-profit entities in which such officials, members, domestic partners or certain relatives hold official or legal positions

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

Section 1. Subdivision 18 of section 73 of the public officers law, as amended by section 5 of part CC of chapter 56 of the laws of 2015, is amended and renumbered subdivision 19 and a new subdivision 18 is added to read as follows:

18. No statewide elected official or member of the legislature shall obtain any funding through state grants or member items, and subsequently provide such funds to any corporation, partnership, limited liability corporation, other business entity or not-for-profit entity in which such official, member or any relative by blood, marriage or adoption of such official or member, domestic partner or a person working in the employ of such member holds an official or legal position, including but not limited to working on an unpaid, volunteer basis.

19. In addition to any penalty contained in any other provision of law, any person who knowingly and intentionally violates the provisions of subdivisions two through five, seven, seven-a, eight, twelve or fourteen through [~~seventeen~~] **eighteen** of this section shall be subject to a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed forty thousand dollars and the value of any gift, compensation or benefit received in connection with such violation. Assessment of a civil penalty hereunder shall be made by the state oversight body with jurisdiction over such person. A state oversight body acting pursuant to its jurisdiction, may, in lieu of a civil penalty, with respect to a violation of subdivisions two through

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

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five, seven or eight of this section, refer a violation of any such subdivision to the appropriate prosecutor and upon such conviction such violation shall be punishable as a class A misdemeanor.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.