STATE OF NEW YORK

1165

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 13, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. JACOBSON, GLICK, WALLACE, ZEBROWSKI, MAGNARELLI, SIMON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Election Law

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to recurring contributions solicited by a candidate, political campaign, political committee, party committee, or not-for-profit or for-profit entity

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

Section 1. The election law is amended by adding a new section 2 14-114-a to read as follows:

- § 14-114-a. Recurring contributions. 1. Any candidate, political 4 campaign, political committee, party committee, not-for-profit entity, 5 or for-profit entity soliciting a recurring contribution to a political campaign, political committee, or party committee shall receive the affirmative consent of the contributor to make a recurring contribution at the time of the initial contribution.
- 9 2. No solicitation of a contribution, whether electronically or by 10 paper, shall provide for recurring contributions as the default contribution. Passive action by the contributor, such as failing to uncheck a 11 12 pre-checked box authorizing a recurring contribution, shall not meet the 13 requirements of affirmative consent under this section.

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- 14 3. All solicitations for contributions as described in subdivision one 15 of this section shall state that such contribution may be cancelled by 16 the contributor at any time.
- 4. Any candidate, political campaign, political committee, party 17 18 committee, not-for-profit entity, or for-profit entity accepting a 19 recurring contribution shall:
- 20 a. provide the contributor with a receipt for the initial contribution 21 and each recurring contribution that clearly and conspicuously discloses all material terms of the contribution within twenty-four hours of the 22 23 initial contribution and each recurring contribution;

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

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b. provide the contributor with all information needed to cancel recurring contributions in each communication with the contributor with respect to the recurring contribution and any solicitation for additional contributions; and

- 5 <u>c. immediately cancel recurring contributions upon request of the</u> 6 <u>contributor.</u>
- 7 5. Any entity that violates the provisions of this section shall 8 return the entire amount of contributions made, less the initial 9 installment of the contribution, and pay a civil fine equal to five times the amount of the contribution to be refunded or one thousand
- 11 <u>dollars, whichever is greater.</u>
 - 2 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.