STATE OF NEW YORK

7488

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 31, 2023

Introduced by Sen. RYAN -- (at request of the Office of Court Administration) -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Judiciary

AN ACT to amend the judiciary law and the state finance law, in relation to the attorney licensing fund

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

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 465 of the judiciary law, as amended by section 6 of part K of chapter 56 of the laws of 2010, is amended to read as follows:

1. Every person applying for examination for admission to practice as an attorney and counselor at law shall pay a fee of two hundred fifty dollars, or seven hundred fifty dollars if, to qualify to take the bar examination, the person must satisfy the rules of the court of appeals for the admission of attorneys and counselors at law governing the study of law in a foreign country, for each taking or retaking of the examination, or if dispensation has been received from the taking of the examination, four hundred dollars for credential review for admission on motion. All such fees shall be paid into the state treasury [~~in the manner provided by section one hundred twenty-one~~] **and thereupon transferred to the attorney licensing fund established by section ninety-four-c** of the state finance law.

§ 2. The state finance law is amended by adding a new section 94-c to read as follows:

§ 94-c. Attorney licensing fund. 1. The attorney licensing fund is hereby continued in the joint custody of the state comptroller and the commissioner of taxation and finance.

2. Such fund shall consist of that portion of the biennial attorney registration fee deposited therein pursuant to section four hundred sixty-eight-a of the judiciary law and any other moneys deposited therein or transferred thereto pursuant to law.

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

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3. All moneys in the attorney licensing fund shall be available, subject to appropriation and in addition to any other moneys available pursuant to law, for the payment of services and expenses of the judiciary in operating its candidate examination (state board of law examiners), candidate fitness (committees on character and fitness) and attorney disciplinary programs pursuant to section ninety of the judiciary law, including liabilities incurred in a prior fiscal year.

4. All payments of moneys from the attorney licensing fund shall be made on the audit and warrant of the comptroller on vouchers certified and approved by the chief administrator of the courts.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.