STATE OF NEW YORK

1030

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

(Prefiled)

January 8, 2025

Introduced by Sen. GONZALEZ -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Elections

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to public-facing websites operated by political committees

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

Section 1. Subdivision 2 of section 14-106 of the election law, as added by chapter 454 of the laws of 2019, is amended to read as follows:

2. All political committees that make an expenditure for a political communication shall be required to disclose the identity of the political committee which made the expenditure for such political communication. The disclosure on printed or digital political communications, including but not limited to brochures, flyers, posters, mailings, **public-facing websites,** or internet advertising shall be printed or typed in an appropriate legible form to read as follows: "Paid for by:" followed by the name of the political committee making the expenditure. The disclosure on non-printed or digital political communications shall clearly and prominently display and/or speak the following statement: "Paid for by:" followed by the name of the political committee making the expenditure. In the case of a political communication that is not visual, such as radio or automated telephone calls, clearly speaking the statement will satisfy the requirements of this section. **In the case of a public-facing website paid for, hosted, and/or operated by a political committee, the disclosure shall be clearly displayed within each navigable webpage of such website.**

§ 2. Paragraph (a) and subparagraph (v) of paragraph (b) of subdivision 1 of section 14-107 of the election law, paragraph (a) as amended by section 4 of part JJJ of chapter 59 of the laws of 2018 and subparagraph (v) of paragraph (b) as amended by section 1 of part A of chapter 286 of the laws of 2016, are amended to read as follows:

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

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(a) "Independent expenditure" means an expenditure made by an independent expenditure committee in the form of (i) an audio or video communication via broadcast, cable or satellite, (ii) a written communication via advertisements, pamphlets, circulars, flyers, brochures, letterheads or (iii) other published statements, where such expenditure is conveyed to five hundred or more members of a general public audience, or in the form of any paid internet or digital advertisement targeted to fifty or more members of a general public audience, **or in the form of a public-facing website,** which: (i) irrespective of when such communication is made, contains words such as "vote," "oppose," "support," "elect," "defeat," or "reject," which call for the election or defeat of the clearly identified candidate, (ii) refers to and advocates for or against a clearly identified candidate or ballot proposal on or after January first of the year of the election in which such candidate is seeking office or such proposal shall appear on the ballot, or (iii) within sixty days before a general or special election for the office sought by the candidate or thirty days before a primary election, includes or references a clearly identified candidate. An independent expenditure shall not include communications where such candidate, the candidate's political committee or its agents, a party committee or its agents, or a constituted committee or its agents or a political committee formed to promote the success or defeat of a ballot proposal or its agents, did authorize, request, suggest, foster or cooperate in such communication.

(v) a communication published on the Internet, unless the communication is a paid advertisement **or a public-facing website paid for, hosted, and/or operated by a political committee**.

§ 3. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall have become a law.