STATE OF NEW YORK

8505

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

September 12, 2025

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

AN ACT to amend the state finance law, in relation to prohibiting line-item appropriations for organizations engaged in political activities

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

Section 1. The state finance law is amended by adding a new section 53-e to read as follows:

§ 53-e. Prohibition on line-item appropriations for organizations engaged in political activities. 1. For the purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "Political activity" means any action, communication or expenditure which constitutes participation or intervention, directly or indirectly, in any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for office, political party, fundraising, or voter registration.

(b) "Candidate for public office" means an individual who offers themself, or is proposed by others, as a contestant for a national, state, or local elective public office, whether such office is to be filled at a primary, general, or special election. An individual shall be deemed to be a candidate for public office for the purposes of this section upon the occurrence of any of the actions specified in subdivision one of section 14-100 of the election law.

2. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, it shall be prohibited for any line-item appropriation, grant, or disbursement from a lump sum appropriation pursuant to a resolution or memorandum of understanding to be directed to any organization or entity engaged in political activity.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

LBD13695-01-5