

# STATE OF NEW YORK

594

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

(Prefiled)

January 8, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. SOLAGES, JACOBSON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions

AN ACT to amend the public service law, in relation to semi-annual expenditures and lobbying reports

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

1 Section 1. The public service law is amended by adding a new section  
2 53-b to read as follows:

3 § 53-b. Semi-annual expenditure and lobbying report. 1. On or before  
4 March thirty-first, two thousand twenty-six and every semi-annual period  
5 thereafter, every utility corporation shall report to the department  
6 regarding advertising and lobbying on behalf of the utility corporation  
7 by the utility corporation, the officers or trustees of the corporation,  
8 or any employee of such corporation.

9 2. For the purposes of this section, the following terms shall have  
10 the following meanings:

11 (a) "Lobbying" shall mean any attempt to influence:

12 (i) the passage or defeat of any legislation or resolution by either  
13 house of the state legislature including but not limited to the intro-  
14 duction or intended introduction of such legislation or resolution or  
15 approval or disapproval of any legislation;

16 (ii) the adoption, issuance, rescission or modification of a guberna-  
17 torial executive order;

18 (iii) the adoption or rejection of any rule or regulation having the  
19 force and effect of law by a state agency;

20 (iv) the passage or defeat of any local law, ordinance, resolution, or  
21 regulation by any municipality;

22 (v) the adoption, issuance, rescission, modification or terms of any  
23 executive order issued by the chief executive officer of a municipality;  
24 and

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

LBD02173-01-5

1 (vi) the adoption or rejection of any rule, regulation, or resolution  
2 having the force and effect of a local law, ordinance, resolution or  
3 regulation.

4 (b) "Advertising" shall mean any promotional activity or public  
5 service announcement that requires the purchase of media space, includ-  
6 ing television airtime, radio airtime, internet media space, billboards,  
7 newspaper space, magazine space; any private publication which requires  
8 the expenditure of any public funds; or any mass letter or other written  
9 communication delivered by mail or by comparable delivery service,  
10 including email, telephone, or other digital format.

11 3. The utility corporation shall prepare reports to include the  
12 following information:

13 (a) For lobbying, such report shall include, but not be limited to:  
14 the name of the trustee, officer, employee of the corporation engaging  
15 in lobbying; the name of the public official or public employee that was  
16 lobbied; the date and time of the meeting or communication; the subject  
17 matter of the lobbying, and any expenses incurred by the corporation for  
18 travel, lodging, or meals in connection with such lobbying.

19 (b) For advertising, such report shall include, but not be limited to,  
20 itemization of any public funds spent on advertising and information  
21 pertaining to the advertising marketing plan including measurable goals  
22 and objectives for the advertising campaign.

23 4. The requirements of this section shall not be construed to require  
24 the disclosure of information that is otherwise protected from disclo-  
25 sure by any law, regulation, order, or the civil practice law and rules.

26 § 2. The public service law is amended by adding a new section 66-x to  
27 read as follows:

28 § 66-x. Semi-annual expenditure and lobbying report. 1. On or before  
29 March thirty-first, two thousand twenty-six and every semi-annual period  
30 thereafter, every utility corporation shall report to the department  
31 regarding advertising and lobbying on behalf of the utility corporation  
32 by the utility corporation, the officers or trustees of the corporation,  
33 or any employee of such corporation.

34 2. For the purposes of this section, the following terms shall have  
35 the following meanings:

36 (a) "Lobbying" shall mean any attempt to influence:

37 (i) the passage or defeat of any legislation or resolution by either  
38 house of the state legislature including but not limited to the intro-  
39 duction or intended introduction of such legislation or resolution or  
40 approval or disapproval of any legislation;

41 (ii) the adoption, issuance, rescission or modification of a gubernat-  
42 orial executive order;

43 (iii) the adoption or rejection of any rule or regulation having the  
44 force and effect of law by a state agency;

45 (iv) the passage or defeat of any local law, ordinance, resolution, or  
46 regulation by any municipality;

47 (v) the adoption, issuance, rescission, modification or terms of any  
48 executive order issued by the chief executive officer of a municipality;  
49 and

50 (vi) the adoption or rejection of any rule, regulation, or resolution  
51 having the force and effect of a local law, ordinance, resolution or  
52 regulation.

53 (b) "Advertising" shall mean any promotional activity or public  
54 service announcement that requires the purchase of media space, includ-  
55 ing television airtime, radio airtime, internet media space, billboards,  
56 newspaper space, magazine space, any private publication which requires

1 the expenditure of any public funds, or any mass letter or other written  
2 communication delivered by mail or by comparable delivery service,  
3 including email, telephone, or other digital format.

4 3. The utility corporation shall prepare reports to include the  
5 following information:

6 (a) For lobbying, such report shall include, but not be limited to:  
7 the name of the trustee, officer, employee of the corporation engaging  
8 in lobbying; the name of the public official or public employee that was  
9 lobbied; the date and time of the meeting or communication; the subject  
10 matter of the lobbying, and any expenses incurred by the corporation for  
11 travel, lodging, or meals in connection with such lobbying.

12 (b) For advertising, such report shall include, but not be limited to,  
13 itemization of any public funds spent on advertising and information  
14 pertaining to the advertising marketing plan including measurable goals  
15 and objectives for the advertising campaign.

16 4. The requirements of this section shall not be construed to require  
17 the disclosure of information that is otherwise protected from disclo-  
18 sure by any law, regulation, order, or the civil practice law and rules.

19 § 3. The public service law is amended by adding a new section 78-a to  
20 read as follows:

21 § 78-a. Semi-annual expenditure and lobbying report. 1. On or before  
22 March thirty-first, two thousand twenty-six and every semi-annual period  
23 thereafter, every utility corporation shall report to the department  
24 regarding advertising and lobbying on behalf of the utility corporation  
25 by the utility corporation, the officers or trustees of the corporation,  
26 or any employee of such corporation.

27 2. For the purposes of this section, the following terms shall have  
28 the following meanings:

29 (a) "Lobbying" shall mean any attempt to influence:

30 (i) the passage or defeat of any legislation or resolution by either  
31 house of the state legislature including but not limited to the intro-  
32 duction or intended introduction of such legislation or resolution or  
33 approval or disapproval of any legislation;

34 (ii) the adoption, issuance, rescission or modification of a guberna-  
35 torial executive order;

36 (iii) the adoption or rejection of any rule or regulation having the  
37 force and effect of law by a state agency;

38 (iv) the passage or defeat of any local law, ordinance, resolution, or  
39 regulation by any municipality;

40 (v) the adoption, issuance, rescission, modification or terms of any  
41 executive order issued by the chief executive officer of a municipality;  
42 and

43 (vi) the adoption or rejection of any rule, regulation, or resolution  
44 having the force and effect of a local law, ordinance, resolution or  
45 regulation.

46 (b) "Advertising" shall mean any promotional activity or public  
47 service announcement that requires the purchase of media space, includ-  
48 ing television airtime, radio airtime, internet media space, billboards,  
49 newspaper space, magazine space, any private publication which requires  
50 the expenditure of any public funds, or any mass letter or other written  
51 communication delivered by mail or by comparable delivery service,  
52 including email, telephone, or other digital format.

53 3. The utility corporation shall prepare reports to include the  
54 following information:

55 (a) For lobbying, such report shall include, but not be limited to:  
56 the name of the trustee, officer, employee of the corporation engaging

1 in lobbying; the name of the public official or public employee that was  
2 lobbied; the date and time of the meeting or communication; the subject  
3 matter of the lobbying, and any expenses incurred by the corporation for  
4 travel, lodging, or meals in connection with such lobbying.

5 (b) For advertising, such report shall include, but not be limited to,  
6 itemization of any public funds spent on advertising and information  
7 pertaining to the advertising marketing plan including measurable goals  
8 and objectives for the advertising campaign.

9 4. The requirements of this section shall not be construed to require  
10 the disclosure of information that is otherwise protected from disclo-  
11 sure by any law, regulation, order, or the civil practice law and rules.

12 § 4. The public service law is amended by adding a new section 89-q to  
13 read as follows:

14 § 89-q. Semi-annual expenditure and lobbying report. 1. On or before  
15 March thirty-first, two thousand twenty-six and every semi-annual period  
16 thereafter, every water-works corporation shall report to the department  
17 regarding advertising and lobbying on behalf of the utility corporation  
18 by the utility corporation, the officers or trustees of the corporation,  
19 or any employee of such corporation.

20 2. For the purposes of this section, the following terms shall have  
21 the following meanings:

22 (a) "Lobbying" shall mean any attempt to influence:

23 (i) the passage or defeat of any legislation or resolution by either  
24 house of the state legislature including but not limited to the intro-  
25 duction or intended introduction of such legislation or resolution or  
26 approval or disapproval of any legislation;

27 (ii) the adoption, issuance, rescission or modification of a gubernatorial  
28 executive order;

29 (iii) the adoption or rejection of any rule or regulation having the  
30 force and effect of law by a state agency;

31 (iv) the passage or defeat of any local law, ordinance, resolution, or  
32 regulation by any municipality;

33 (v) the adoption, issuance, rescission, modification or terms of any  
34 executive order issued by the chief executive officer of a municipality;  
35 and

36 (vi) the adoption or rejection of any rule, regulation, or resolution  
37 having the force and effect of a local law, ordinance, resolution or  
38 regulation.

39 (b) "Advertising" shall mean any promotional activity or public  
40 service announcement that requires the purchase of media space, includ-  
41 ing television airtime, radio airtime, internet media space, billboards,  
42 newspaper space, magazine space, any private publication which requires  
43 the expenditure of any public funds, or any mass letter or other written  
44 communication delivered by mail or by comparable delivery service,  
45 including email, telephone, or other digital format.

46 3. The utility corporation shall prepare reports to include the  
47 following information:

48 (a) For lobbying, such report shall include, but not be limited to:  
49 the name of the trustee, officer, employee of the corporation engaging  
50 in lobbying; the name of the public official or public employee that was  
51 lobbied; the date and time of the meeting or communication; the subject  
52 matter of the lobbying, and any expenses incurred by the corporation for  
53 travel, lodging, or meals in connection with such lobbying.

54 (b) For advertising, such report shall include, but not be limited to,  
55 itemization of any public funds spent on advertising and information

1 pertaining to the advertising marketing plan including measurable goals  
2 and objectives for the advertising campaign.

3 4. The requirements of this section shall not be construed to require  
4 the disclosure of information that is otherwise protected from disclo-  
5 sure by any law, regulation, order, or the civil practice law and rules.

6 § 5. This act shall take effect immediately.