AGENDA
COMMISSIONERS’ MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2009
AT 1:30 P.M.

1. Minutes
   a) 06/09/09 – Meeting of the Finance Committee
   b) 06/16/09 – Meeting of the Finance Committee
   c) 06/16/09
   d) 06/23/09
   e) 06/30/09
   f) 07/14/09
   g) 07/14/09 – Meeting of the Finance Committee

2. Marcus Cederqvist
   a) HAVA Update

3. Steven Richman
   a) Referral from Commissioners’ Cover Sheet Review Committee
   b) Appointment of Cover Sheet Review Committees
   c) State Legislation

4. Rosanna Rahmouni
   a) 2009 BMD DVD Video

5. John Ward
   a) Vacancy Report

For Your Information
- NYS Board of Elections Weekly Status Report for the Week of 7/10/09 – 7/16/09
- Ruben Franco V. BOE (Index No. 260416-09)
- City Board’s Statement of Cost, May 2009
- Bill No. S552
- Bill No. S1554
- Bill No. A06825 – signed chap. 116
July 21, 2009

TO: President Umane and Secretary Dent

FROM: Steven H. Richman, General Counsel

COPIES: Commissioners of Elections, Marcus Cederqvist, George Gonzalez, Pamela Perkins, Troy Johnson, Steven Denkberg, Charles Webb, Joel Bermejo, Giacomo Kmet, Christopher Manos, Diana Scopelliti & Eleanor Guerrieri

RE: REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT OF A PETITION & COVER SHEET REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR DESIGNATING PETITION MATTERS – WEEK OF JULY 21-27, 2009

Pursuant to the provisions of the NYS Election Law, the Rules and Regulations of the NYS Board of Elections (9 NYCRR 6215) as well as the Board’s Designating Petition Rules (Parts D and Rule J), I respectfully request that you appoint a Commissioners’ Committee for the purposes of Petition and Cover Sheet Review. We request that the Committee convene on the following dates:

**DATE:**

**REP. COMM.**

**DEM. COMM.**

TUESDAY, JULY 21

(immediately after the Commissioners' Mtg)
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE:</th>
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In the unlikely event that there are no defects to be presented to the Committee for action, I will advise the Committee members by 1 PM that day of that fact.

I hope that additional committees will not be needed for the following week.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in this matter.
Monday, July 20, 2009

Summary - A00584

Back | New York State Bill Search | Assembly Home

See Text

A00584 Summary:

BILL NO    A00584A
SAME AS    Same as S 1058-A
SPONSOR    Cahill (MS)
COSPNSR    Weisenberg, John, Eddington, Wright, Paulin, Bradley, Espaillat,
            Titus, Kavanagh, Brook-Krasny, Kellner, Spano, Schimel, Gordon,
            Benjamin, Latimer, Zebrowski, Maisel, Alessi, Magnarelli, Titone,
            Pheffer, Lancman
MLTSPNSR   Abbate, Benedetto, Bing, Boyland, Brennan, Brodsky, Canestrari,
            Carrozza, Christensen, Clark, Colton, Cook, Cusick, Cymbrowitz,
            DelMonte, Destito, Diaz, Dinowitz, Englebright, Farrell, Fields,
            Galef, Gianaris, Glick, Gottfried, Greene, Gunther, Hastie, Hevesi,
            Hoyt, Jacobs, Koon, Lavine, Lentol, Lifton, Lupardo, Magee, Markey,
            McEneny, Millman, Morelle, Ortiz, Peoples, Peralta, Perry, Pretlow,
            Ramos, Reilly, Rivera J, Rivera P, Rosenthal, Scarborough, Schroeder,
            Sweeney, Towns, Walker, Weinstein

Amd S4-104, El L

Requires each polling place to be accessible to physically disabled voters and
provides guidelines which shall be in accordance with the accessibility
requirements mandated pursuant to the federal Americans with Disabilities Act
of 1990, as amended.

A00584 Actions:

BILL NO    A00584A
01/07/2009 referred to election law
03/25/2009 amend and recommit to election law
03/25/2009 print number 584a
05/05/2009 reported
05/07/2009 advanced to third reading cal.501
05/11/2009 passed assembly
05/11/2009 delivered to senate
05/11/2009 REFERRED TO ELECTIONS
07/16/2009 SUBSTITUTED FOR S1058A
A00584 Votes:

BILL: A00584A DATE: 05/11/2009  MOTION:  YEA/NAY: 137/000

Abbate Y  Cahill Y  Errigo Y  Hyer-Sp Y  Maysoro Y  Quinn Y  Stirpe Y
Alessi Y  Calhoun Y  Espaill Y  Jacobs Y  McDonou Y  Rabbitt Y  Sweeney Y
Alfano Y  Camara Y  Farrell Y  Jaffee Y  McEneny Y  Raia Y  Tedisco Y
Amedore Y  Canestr Y  Fields Y  Jeffrie Y  McKevit Y  Ramos ER  Thiele Y
Arroyo Y  Carrozz Y  Finch Y  John Y  Meng Y  Reilich Y  Titone Y
Aubry Y  Castro Y  Fitzpat Y  Jordan Y  Miller Y  Reilly Y  Titus Y
Bacalle Y  Christe Y  Gabrysz Y  Kavanag Y  Millman Y  Rive J Y  Tobacco Y
Ball Y  Clark Y  Galef Y  Kellner Y  Molinar ER  Rive N Y  Towns ER
Barclay Y  Colton Y  Gantt ER  Kolb Y  Morelle Y  Rive PM Y  Townsen Y
Barra Y  Conte Y  Gianari Y  Koon Y  Nolan Y  Robinson Y  Walker Y
Barron Y  Cook Y  Giglio Y  Lancman Y  Oaks Y  Rosenth Y  Weinste ER
Benedet Y  Corwin Y  Glick Y  Latimer Y  O'Donne Y  Russell Y  Weisenb Y
Benjami Y  Crouch Y  Gordon Y  Lavine Y  O'Mara Y  Saladin Y  Weprin Y
Bing Y  Cusick Y  Gottfri Y  Lentol Y  Ortiz Y  Sayward Y  Wright Y
Boyland ER  Cymbrow Y  Gunther Y  Lifton Y  Parment Y  Scarbor ER  Zebrows Y
Boyle Y  DelMont Y  Hawley Y  Lope PD Y  Paulin Y  Schimel Y  Mr Spkr Y
Bradley Y  DenDekk Y  Hayes Y  Lope VJ Y  Peoples Y  Schimm Y
Brennan Y  Destito Y  Heastie Y  Lupardo Y  Peralta Y  Schroed Y
Brodsky Y  Dinowit Y  Hevesi Y  Magee Y  Perry Y  Scozzaf Y
Brook-K Y  Duprey Y  Hikind Y  Magnare Y  Pheffer Y  Seminer Y
Burling Y  Eddingt Y  Hooper ER  Maisel ER  Powell ER  Skartad Y
Butler Y  Englebr Y  Hoyt Y  Markey ER  Pretlow Y  Spano Y

A00584 Memo:

Contact Webmaster
Page display time = 0.0304 sec
Monday, July 20, 2009

Summary - A03367

See Text

A03367 Summary:

BILL NO A03367A
SAME AS Same as S 5990, S 6020
SPONSOR Englebright (MS)
COSPNSR Lopez V, Morelle, Lupardo, Kavanagh
MLTSPNSR Cahill, Christensen, Cymbrowitz, Farrell, Galef, Pheffer, Ramos, Weinstein

Amd S8-400, El L

Provides that people who are primary care givers and who have responsibilities in which they cannot leave the person for whom they are caring shall be entitled to absentee ballots in general elections and school district elections.

A03367 Actions:

BILL NO A03367A

01/27/2009 referred to election law
03/17/2009 amend (t) and recommit to election law
03/17/2009 print number 3367a
06/10/2009 reported referred to rules
06/15/2009 reported
06/15/2009 rules report cal.229
06/15/2009 ordered to third reading rules cal.229
06/15/2009 passed assembly
06/16/2009 delivered to senate
06/15/2009 REFERRED TO RULES
07/16/2009 SUBSTITUTED FOR S5990
07/16/2009 3RD READING CAL.934
07/16/2009 PASSED SENATE
07/16/2009 RETURNED TO ASSEMBLY
A03367 Votes:

BILL: A03367A DATE: 06/15/2009 MOTION:  
YEA/NAY: 142/000

Abbate Y Cahill Y Englebr Y Hoover ER Maisel Y Powell Y Skartad Y  
Alessi Y Calhoun Y Errigo Y Hoyt Y Markey Y Pretlow Y Spano Y  
Alfano Y Camara Y Espaill Y Hyer-Sp Y Mayerso Y Quinn Y Stirpe Y  
Amedore Y Canestr Y Farrell Y Jacobs Y McDonou Y Rabbitt Y Sweeney Y  
Arroyo Y Carrozz Y Fields Y Jaffee Y McEneny Y Raia Y Tedisco Y  
Aubry Y Castro ER Finch ER Jeffrie Y McKevit Y Ramos Y Thiele Y  
Bacalle Y Christe Y Fitzpat Y John Y Meng Y Reilich Y Titone Y  
Ball Y Clark Y Gabrysz Y Jordan Y Miller Y Reilly Y Titus ER  
Barclay Y Colton Y Galef Y Kavanag Y Millman Y Rive J Y Tobacco Y  
Barra Y Conte Y Gantt Y Killner Y Molinar Y Rive N Y Towns Y  
Barron ER Cook Y Gianari Y Kolb Y Morelle Y Rive PM Y Townsen Y  
Benedet Y Corwin Y Gibson Y Koon Y Nolan Y Robinson ER Walker Y  
Benjami Y Crespo Y Gligio Y Lancman Y Oaks Y Rosenth Y Weinst Y  
Bing Y Crouch Y Glick Y Latimer Y O'Donne Y Russell Y Weisenb Y  
Boyland ER Cusick Y Gordon Y Lavine Y O'Mara Y Saladin Y Weprin Y  
Boyle Y Cymbrow Y Gottfri Y Lentol Y Ortiz Y Sayward Y Wright Y  
Bradley Y DelMont Y Gunther Y Lifton Y Parment Y Scarbor Y Zebrows Y  
Brennan Y DenDekk Y Hawley Y Lope PD Y Paulin Y Schimel Y Mr Spkr Y  
Brodsky Y Destito Y Hayes Y Lope VJ ER Peoples Y Schimm Y  
Brook-K Y Dinowit Y Heastie Y Lupardo Y Peralta Y Schroed Y  
Burling Y Duprey Y Hevesi Y Magee Y Perry Y Scozzaf Y  
Butler Y Eddingt Y Hikind Y Magnare Y Pheffer Y Semin Y

A03367 Memo:

BILL NUMBER:A3367A

TITLE OF BILL: An act to amend the election law, in relation to absentee voting for primary care givers

PURPOSE OR GENERAL IDEA OF THE BILL: To allow primary care givers of persons who are suffering from a physical disability or illness to vote by absentee ballot.

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS: Section 1 of the bill amends paragraph (c) of subdivision 1 of section 8-400 of the election law to allow primary care givers of persons who are suffering from a physical disability or illness to vote by absentee ballot.

Section 2 of the bill amends subparagraph (iii) of paragraph (c) of subdivision 3 of section 8-400 of the election law to modify the absentee ballot application to reflect the additional category of persons who may vote by absentee ballot.

JUSTIFICATION: Voting is the most important right that the citizens of a democracy possess. Unfortunately, some people who desire to vote are unable to do so because they cannot appear at their polling site because they are the primary care givers of one or more individuals who are ill or physically disabled. This bill will allow these care givers to apply for an absentee ballot so that they can provide the care needed and still exercise their right to vote.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS: None.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act shall take effect immediately.

Contact Webmaster

Page display time = 0.0235 sec
DATE: July 21, 2009  
TO: Commissioners  
FROM: John Ward  
Finance Officer.  
RE: Vacancies  

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<th>Adm. Asst.</th>
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<th>Dem.</th>
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<th>$37,562</th>
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<td>Dem.</td>
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Total Inc. $75,000
State of New York  
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS  

James A. Walsh  
Chair  
Douglas A. Kellner  
Chair  
Gregory P. Peterson  
Commissioner  
Evelyn J. Aquila  
Commissioner  

40 STEUBEN STREET  
ALBANY, N.Y. 12207  
Phone: 518/474-6367  Fax: 518/486-4546  
website: www.elections.state.ny.us  

Todd D. Valentine  
Executive Director  
Stanley L. Zalen  
Executive Director  
Kimberly A. Galvin  
Special Counsel  
Paul M. Collins  
Deputy Counsel  

July 17, 2009  

Honorable Gary L. Sharpe  
United States District Court  
for the Northern District of New York  
James T. Foley U.S. Courthouse  
445 Broadway, Room 441  
Albany, New York 12207  

Civil Action No. 06-CV-0263 (GLS)  

Dear Judge Sharpe,  

We enclose herewith Status Report of the Defendant New York State Board of Elections  
for the week ending July 16, 2009.  

Respectfully submitted,  

s/  
Kimberly A. Galvin (505011)  
Special Counsel  

s/  
Paul M. Collins (101384)  
Deputy Special Counsel
NEW YORK STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

HAVA COMPLIANCE UPDATE
Activities & Progress for the Week of 7/10/09-7/16/09

Following is a detailed report concerning the previous week’s progress in implementing the terms of the Court’s Orders.

PLAN A

Overall Compliance Status Summary
Overall, activities and progress toward HAVA compliance are on schedule.

Contracting with Voting System Vendors
Status of tasks in this category: on schedule

- SBOE is working with OGS on the Sequoia/Dominion contract assignment.

- SBOE continues to work on regular contract adds with OGS, OSC and the vendors.

Testing, Certification, and Selection of Voting Systems & Devices
Status of tasks in this category: on schedule with the revised time line

- Overall progress of testing:

  - NYSTEC is currently reviewing updated accuracy test scope documents and questions related to augmented source code review.

  - SysTest reports that while it is experiencing some testing delays adjustments can be made to ensure compliance with the time line.
NEW YORK STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

- Regular calls continue between SBOE, NYSTEC, SysTest, and Dominion and ES&S, to discuss and resolve any testing issues that may arise. The frequency of the calls has increased to several times a week.

**Delivery and Implementation of Voting Systems & Devices**

Status of tasks in this category: on schedule

- Acceptance and Functional testing for the pilot voting systems is ongoing.

- On July 15, 2009 the Board approved a new software version for use in this fall’s elections. Procedures are underway to securely provide this upgrade to the counties.

**HAVA COMPLAINT PROCESS**

**NYC HAVA Complaint**

The public comment period on the proposed regulation addressing the issue in question will be closed on July 27, 2009. It is anticipated that the Board will vote to adopt the resolution at the August board meeting.
At an Ex-Parte and Urgent Motion Part – Elections Matters of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, held in and for the County of Bronx, at the Courthouse located at 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY, on the 16th day of July 2009.

PRESENT: HON. MARK FRIEDLANDER, JSC

In the Matter of the Application of Ruben Franco, ORDER

- against -

Frederic M. Umane, Julie Dent, Jose Miguel Araujo, Nancy Mottola-Schacher, Naomi C. Silie, J.P. Sipp, Gergory C. Soumas, and Judith D. Stupp,
Being the Commissioners of the Board of Elections in the City of New York,

ORDER

For an Order directing that the Board of Elections located at 1780 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY remain open from Friday, July 17, 2009 through Tuesday, July 28, 2009.

An application having been made by the Petitioner for an Order directing that the Office of the Board of Elections located and maintained at 1780 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY remain open for business during the hours and dates as follows:

During the date of July 17, 2009 through and including July 28, 2009 during the following hours: on weekdays from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m., on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., and on Sundays from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

NOW, on reading and filing the Stipulation, dated July 16, 2009, submitted in support thereof, and the Petitioner having appeared by his attorney, Howard R. Vargas,
Esq., and Respondents having appeared by Stephen Kitzinger, Esq., Assistant Corporation Counsel for the City of New York,

NOW, on motion of Howard R. Vargas, Esq., attorney for the Petitioner, it is

ORDERED, that the relief requested in this application be granted in all respects, and it is further,

ORDERED, that the Respondents, being the Commissioners of the Board of Elections in the City of New York, are directed to keep the Board of Elections office located and maintained at 1780 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY open during the dates of July 17, 2009 through and including July 28, 2009, during the following hours: on weekdays from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m., on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., and on Sundays from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

[Signature]

MARK FRIEDLANDER
Attached is your agency's statement for May 2009. We have arranged the cases by division to assist you in identifying the matters. We have included all or part of both the plaintiff and defendant names, also to help identify the matters. Included is a running total of each division's hours. This is located after the last matter for each division.

As before, if you see a case you believe is erroneously attributed to your agency, please let me know.

Thank you.

Ken Majerus  
Chief of Operations  
City of New York Law Department  
100 Church Street  
New York, NY 10007  
(212) 788-0373  
(212) 788-0386 - fax  
kmajerus@law.nyc.gov
Date: 6/29/2009

**Summary Charges to BOARD OF ELECTIONS** for May 1, 2009 - May 31, 2009

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<th>Number of Matters</th>
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<td><strong>Total Workers' Compensation Administrative Cost</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td>$12,017.11</td>
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| **Attorney Hours YTD** | 1,179.5 |
| **Attorney Charges YTD** | $161,404.84 |
| **Disbursement YTD** | $1,807.93 |
| **WC Admin Cost YTD** | $4,485.00 |
| **Tort Labor Costs YTD** | $0.00 |
| **Grand Total YTD** | $167,697.77 |

| **Total Workers' Compensation Actual Expenditure** | $18,784.00 |
| **Workers' Comp Actual Expenditure YTD *\right** | $177,793.00 |

YTD = July 1, 2008 to Present

* = WC Actual Expenditure July 1, 2008 to Present

*Page 1 of 1*
Appendix A

Matters Detail  BOARD OF ELECTIONS

for May 1, 2009 - May 31, 2009

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<tr>
<th>Caption</th>
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**Total Hours:** 14.50

**Case Attorney Total YTD:** $5,501.09  
**Case Attorney Total:** $1,824.72  
**Disbursement YTD:** $0.00  
**Disbursement Total:** $0.00  
**Matter Total YTD:** $5,501.09  
**Matter Total:** $1,824.72

**Division Attorney Total YTD:** $5,501.09  
**Division Attorney Total:** $1,824.72  
**Disbursement YTD:** $0.00  
**Disbursement Total:** $0.00  
**Matter Total YTD:** $5,501.09  
**Matter Total:** $1,824.72
### Appendix A

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<th>Caption</th>
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**Total Hours:** 4.50

**Case Attorney Total YTD:** $668.31

**Disbursement YTD:** $0.00

**Case Attorney Total:** $668.31

**Disbursement Total:** $0.00

**Matter Total YTD:** $668.31

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<th>Hour</th>
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Appendix A
MASLOW, LORI S., ET AL., VS WILSON, LLOYD, ET AL.

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- **Case Attorney Total:** 31.50
- **Disbursement Total:** $0.00
- **Matter Total:** $355.03

- **Case Attorney Total:** 3.00
- **Disbursement Total:** $0.00
- **Matter Total:** $475.17

- **Division Attorney Total:** 39.00
- **Disbursement Total:** $0.00
- **Matter Total:** $5,616.92

**Caption**

**Contracts and Real Estate**

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Appendix A
CONT & RE ADM TIME-BD OF EL

04CR000036 5/27/2009 COHEN, ANDREA 0.50 $145.83 Counselling/Opinion/Memo $72.92

Total Hours: 4.00

Case Attorney Total YTD: $3,089.33
Disbursement YTD: $0.00
Matter Total YTD: $3,089.33

Case Attorney Total: $583.33
Disbursement Total: $0.00
Matter Total: $583.33

Total Hours: 4.00

Division Attorney Total YTD: $3,089.33
Disbursement YTD: $0.00
Matter Total YTD: $3,089.33

Division Attorney Total: $583.33
Disbursement Total: $0.00
Matter Total: $583.33

Caption | Matter Number | Date | Staff | Hour | Rate | Description | Amount |
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
General Litigation
CHINATOWN VOTE ED. ALL., ET AL vs RAVITZ, JOHN, ET AL. 06GL000031 5/20/2009 KITZINGER, STEPHEN 0.50 $147.76 Communication with Client $73.88
CHINATOWN VOTE ED. ALL., ET AL vs RAVITZ, JOHN, ET AL. 06GL000031 5/20/2009 KITZINGER, STEPHEN 1.00 $147.76 Intra Office Conf/Communicatn $147.76
CHINATOWN VOTE ED. ALL., ET AL vs RAVITZ, JOHN, ET AL. 06GL000031 5/21/2009 KITZINGER, STEPHEN 1.00 $147.76 Communication with Client $147.76
CHINATOWN VOTE ED. ALL., ET AL vs RAVITZ, JOHN, ET AL. 06GL000031 5/26/2009 KITZINGER, STEPHEN 1.00 $147.76 Communication with Client $147.76

Total Hours: 3.50

Case Attorney Total YTD: $1,920.50
Disbursement YTD: $111.50
Matter Total YTD: $2,032.06

Case Attorney Total: $517.17
Disbursement Total: $0.00
Matter Total: $517.17

GEN LIT ADM TIME - ELECTIONS, BOARD OF vs 04GL900014 5/4/2009 KITZINGER, STEPHEN 0.50 $147.76 Intra Office Conf/Communicatn $73.88
GEN LIT ADM TIME - ELECTIONS, BOARD OF vs 04GL900014 5/19/2009 KITZINGER, STEPHEN 1.00 $147.76 Intra Office Conf/Communicatn $147.76

Monday, June 29, 2009
### Appendix A

<table>
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<th>Case Description</th>
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Monday, June 29, 2009
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- **Total Hours:** 5.00
- **Case Attorney Total:** $738.81

| Matter Total YTD: |  |  |
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| $738.81           |                  |

#### 2008031296

- **Date:** 5/13/2009
- **Staff:** RAUCHBERG, ANDREW
- **Hours:** 1.00
- **Description:** Review of Documents
- **Amount:** $113.03

- **Date:** 5/14/2009
- **Staff:** RAUCHBERG, ANDREW
- **Hours:** 1.00
- **Description:** Review of Documents
- **Amount:** $113.03

- **Date:** 5/15/2009
- **Staff:** RAUCHBERG, ANDREW
- **Hours:** 3.00
- **Description:** Case Review
- **Amount:** $339.09

- **Date:** 5/18/2009
- **Staff:** RAUCHBERG, ANDREW
- **Hours:** 1.50
- **Description:** Court Appearance
- **Amount:** $169.55

- **Date:** 5/18/2009
- **Staff:** RAUCHBERG, ANDREW
- **Hours:** 2.00
- **Description:** Travel Time
- **Amount:** $226.06

### Total Hours: 8.50

| Case Attorney Total YTD: |  |  |
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#### Disbursement YTD:

- **Total:** $0.00

#### Matter Total YTD:

- **Total:** $4,195.50

### Total Hours: 25.25

| Division Attorney Total YTD: |  |  |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
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#### Disbursement YTD:

- **Total:** $604.50

#### Matter Total YTD:

- **Total:** $84,709.82

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### Appendix A

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TO:  Peter J. Kiernan, Esq.
     Counsel to the Governor of the State of New York

FROM:  Steven H. Richman
        General Counsel

RE:  S. 552

DATE:  July 15, 2009

The Board of Elections in the City of New York is in receipt of the e-mail message sent to the Board on July 2, 2009 by the Legislative Secretary of your office concerning S. 552.

The Board of Elections in the City of New York seeks to provide the Governor with the following comments and concerns with respect to this bill.

This bill, if enacted, would mandate this Board of Elections to pay for the printing and other expenses required by the bill from the insufficient funds allocated to the Board of Elections by the City of New York to pay its existing expenses. This bill is an unfunded mandate which would be imposed by the State of New York on a Board of Elections which has begun the most significant transition in the conduct of elections in our lifetimes. The Governor has
expressed his concerns with such unfunded mandates and his goal not to impose any new ones.

The Board’s staff has prepared a preliminary estimate of the initial costs to implement the bill (copy attached). The estimate does not provide for any modifications to the materials that may be required as a result of other statutory changes. For example, the City Board is awaiting action by the State Board of Elections and the State Department of Health that will change the current voter registration form to include an option relating to organ donation. If this bill is enacted, the City Board will be required to comply with its terms as of January 1, 2010. The initial cost of approximately $50,000 (and the resulting materials) may be only valid for a few months, if a new voter registration form is promulgated.

In addition to the direct cost implications, the City Board is concerned about potential litigation relating to claims of denial of equal protection under the United States and New York State Constitutions by individuals or group representing language minorities not covered by this bill. The City of New York may be most diverse community in the world. It is estimated that over 100 languages are spoken every day within this City’s limits. The City Board may be forced to incur additional expenses in a similar amount for translation of documents into other languages as a result of litigation resulting from the City Board’s compliance with this legislation.

To date, the Board of Elections has provided assistance to voters in languages other than English, in accordance with the specific statutory requirements of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended. Please note that this Board has had difficulty in being fully compliant with the federal requirements, in part due to inadequate funding for both full and part-time staff (including multi-lingual poll workers). The enactment of this bill may further adversely affect the Board’s ability to meet all of its constitutional and legal obligations.

The Board appreciates this opportunity to share with your its concerns with respect to S. 552. As always, if you have any questions or require additional feel free to contact me.
Copy: Commissioners of Elections in the City of New York
Marcus Cederqvist, Executive Director
George Gonzalez, Deputy Executive Director
Pamela Perkins, Administrative Manager
John Ward, Finance Officer
John Owens, Esq., Director of Campaign Finance Enforcement
Charles Webb, Esq., Counsel to the Commissioners
Steven Denkberg, Esq., Counsel to the Commissioners

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PRELIMINARY COST ESTIMATE FOR THE INITIAL IMPLEMENTATION OF S. 552
Prepared by the Finance Office, Board of Elections in the City of New York

WEBSITE

- Board of Elections Management Information Services (MIS) salary cost to update website with Russian language voter information - $5,000 to $8,000.
- Cost estimate of translation of voter material (text, audio, video) into Russian is as follows:
  To translate all the documents currently on the website “Accessible Voting in the Fall 2008 Elections” and “The FAQs” and the document “Registration and Voting” (which includes a registration form with instructions in Russian) plus voiceovers for all videos currently on the website plus layover is $10,880.
- Cost estimate is from Corporate Language Services (the vendor that handled the other language translations for the Board’s website). Prices do include translation certification.

BOOKLET

Production

- Cost estimate of printing 50,000 of our “Registration and Voting” booklets that includes a voter registration form, in English, with the instructions in Russian. – $30,000 (rounded).
- Translation costs would be broken down as follows:
  22 pages of text and 2 pages for registration form: estimate 34 to 40 hours.
  Price: $75/hour = $2,550 to $3,000
  Cost for test page - $260 (3 day turnaround)
- Estimates are from Vanguard (the vendor that prints most of our election related materials).
- Prices do include translation certification.

Distribution

- All materials downloadable from the Board of Elections Website at no cost to agency.
- Distribution of hard copies at street fairs, and voter registration drives throughout the year.
- Copies mailed to any New York City resident, voter and or organization who requests one.

TOTAL COST ESTIMATE

- $48,880

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TO: Peter J. Kiernan, Esq.
Counsel to the Governor of the State of New York

FROM: Steven H. Richman
General Counsel

RE: S. 1554

DATE: July 18, 2009

The Board of Elections in the City of New York is in receipt of the e-mail message sent to the Board on July 8, 2009 by the Legislative Secretary of your office concerning S. 1554.

The Board of Elections in the City of New York seeks to provide the Governor with the following comments and concerns with respect to this bill.

This bill reflects the practice and procedure followed by the Board of Elections in the City of New York with respect to the casting and canvassing of affidavit ballots within the City of New York. This Board has interpreted Section 9-209, subdivision (2)(a)(2) relating to ministerial error by the board or any of its employees to cause an affidavit ballot to be invalid on its face, to provide that if an affidavit ballot is cast in the incorrect election district contained in the voter's correct poll site, the ballot would be cast and canvass. The Board
has established the presumption that such an act is a consequence of a ministerial error of the Board’s Election Day staff in not directing the voter to the proper election district within the poll site.

The City Board’s practice and procedure has been affirmed by the New York State Court of Appeals. In Panio v. Sunderland et al., the Court of Appeals held that "we can reasonably infer that casting an affidavit ballot at the correct polling place but the wrong election district is the result of ministerial error on the part of the poll worker in failing to direct the voter to the correct table, and instead providing the voter with an affidavit ballot without first verifying such voter’s right to vote in the election district”.

The enactment of this bill merely codifies the Court of Appeals decision.

Accordingly, the Board recommends that the Governor approve S. 1554. The Board appreciates this opportunity to share its views with your its. As always, if you have any questions or require additional feel free to contact me.
TO: Peter J. Kiernan, Esq.
Counsel to the Governor of the State of New York

FROM: Steven H. Richman
General Counsel

RE: S. 4244

DATE: July 18, 2009

The Board of Elections in the City of New York is in receipt of the e-mail message sent to the Board on July 8, 2009 by the Legislative Secretary of your office concerning S. 4244.

The Board of Elections in the City of New York seeks to provide the Governor with the following comments and concerns with respect to this bill.

The Board is concerned that the bill would require Boards of Elections to send the only direct correspondence a voter receives with the dates for the upcoming elections, the location of their poll site and information on their election district/assembly district and party enrollment, earlier than now required by Section 4-117(1) of the Election Law. It has been the Board's experience that notices and information relating to an election that are received closer to the election have a more beneficial impact on the voter. Under the
current statute, the notice is received a week or so before the September primary election.

Another concern we have if this bill is enacted is that this change reduces the time that the Board has to update its records with changes submitted by registered voters before the notice is produced and mailed (which in itself takes several weeks to do for over 4.3 million registered voters in the City of New York). In addition, the time frame to mail these notices as set forth in S. 4244, will further burden this Board during the petition filing and review period, one of the most intensive work periods of any election year.

Finally, this Board has not experienced any significant problems in fulfilling its legal obligations under the statute as now written.

The Board appreciates this opportunity to share with you its concerns with respect to S. 4244. As always, if you have any questions or require additional feel free to contact me.
Summary - A06825

A06825 Summary:

BILL NO      A06825
SAME AS      Same as S 5695, S60424, S65023
SPONSOR     Wright
COSPNSR     
MLTSPNSR     

Amd S3, Chap 92 of 2001

Extends certain provisions relating to the election ballot for an additional year, canvassing write-in votes.

A06825 Actions:

BILL NO      A06825

03/12/2009 referred to election law
06/10/2009 reported referred to rules
06/15/2009 reported
06/15/2009 rules report cal.240
06/15/2009 ordered to third reading rules cal.240
06/15/2009 passed assembly
06/16/2009 delivered to senate
06/15/2009 REFERRED TO RULES
06/30/2009 SUBSTITUTED FOR S5695
06/30/2009 3RD READING CAL.685
06/30/2009 PASSED SENATE
07/09/2009 VOTE RECONSIDERED - RESTORED TO THIRD READING
07/09/2009 REPASSED SENATE
07/09/2009 RETURNED TO ASSEMBLY
07/10/2009 delivered to governor
07/11/2009 signed chap.116

A06825 Votes:

http://assembly.state.ny.us/leg/?bn=A06825
A06825 Memo:

BILL NUMBER: A6825

TITLE OF BILL: An act to amend chapter 92 of the laws of 2001, amending the election law relating to the election ballot and canvassing write-in votes, in relation to extending the expiration of the provisions of such chapter

PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF SPECIFIC PROVISIONS:
This bill extends for one year the provisions of chapter 92 of the laws of 2001.
That chapter added a new subdivision (3) to 7-114 of the Election Law empowering local boards of elections-when necessary for reasons of ballot configuration and efficient election administration-to provide write-in vote opportunities in elections for party positions only when a valid petition for an opportunity to ballot is filed.
Write-in vote opportunities must always be provided with respect to each contested nomination for public office. Section 2 of that chapter amended paragraph a of subdivision 2 of section 9-102 of the Election Law to allow local boards the option of canvassing write-in votes at the time of the recall poll.

JUSTIFICATION:
This bill extends for one year the provisions of chapter 92 of the laws of 2001.

PRIOR LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:
Chapter 92 of 2001 has been extended every year since 2001.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:
None.

EFFECTIVE DATE:
Immediately.

Contact Webmaster

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