



## MEMO OF SUPPORT

### [S3574-A \(Skoufis\)](#) / [A2507 \(Paulin\)](#)

*Requires financial disclosure statements of candidates for office to be posted on the Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government website*

May 17, 2024

#### **TITLE OF BILL**

An act to amend the public officers law, in relation to posting financial disclosure filings for candidates for statewide office or candidates for a member of the legislature.

#### **SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS**

Section 1 amends Public Officers Law §73-a(2)(k) to require the Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government (COELIG) to post the financial disclosure filings it receives for candidates for statewide office and candidates for state legislature.

Section 2 amends Executive Law §94(13)(b)(i) to require to COELIG to post candidate financial disclosure forms on its website.

Section 3 states that the bill takes effect on January 1st following the year that it becomes law.

#### **STATEMENT OF SUPPORT**

Currently, financial disclosure statements for candidates for state office, including state legislature and statewide offices, must be filed with COELIG but are not published on its website. Instead, the public must request them in order to view them. This is an unnecessary barrier that should be removed. In general, far more financial disclosure forms should be published on COELIG's website, including those for candidates and, at a minimum, senior state and legislative officials.

Reinvent Albany supports this legislation because it will give the public easier access to information about candidates running for state office, including whether or not they have potential conflicts of interest arising from their own personal or family business interests.