



## MEMO OF SUPPORT

### [A2236 \(Simon\)](#)

*Requires online publishing of NYS judges' financial disclosure statements*

March 14, 2025

#### **TITLE OF BILL**

An act to amend the Judiciary Law, in relation to requiring the Ethics Commission of the Unified Court System to post judges' annual financial disclosures on the Commission's website.

#### **STATEMENT OF SUPPORT**

Our groups support this legislation because it increases public access to the financial disclosure statements submitted by NYS judges. Currently, statements [are only available upon written request](#) from the Unified Court System's Ethics Commission. Financial disclosure statements of state legislators and statewide elected officials are published [online by the Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government](#), so we see no reason why statements from judges – many of whom are elected – should not also be published online.

Financial disclosure statements allow the public to see potential conflicts of interest among public officials, and whether governmental decisions being made are being improperly influenced.

We urge the Legislature to pass this bill and consider other measures to [further increase transparency of financial disclosure statements](#).

#### **SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS**

Section 1 adds a new subsection (b) to Judiciary Law §211(4) to require that financial disclosures and amendments filed by any state-paid judge or justice be published on the Ethics Commission website within 30 days of receipt of the statement, or 10 days of receipt of an amendment.

Section 2 sets the effective date as immediate.