

ASSEMBLY, No. 2530

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 3, 2020

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman JON M. BRAMNICK
District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)

SYNOPSIS

Expands deadline for filing financial disclosure statements by candidates for Governor and member of Legislature.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning disclosure by certain candidates for elective
2 public office and amending P.L.1981, c.129.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. Section 2 of P.L.1981, c.129 (C.19:44B-2) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 2. a. Every candidate for the office of Governor **and every**
10 candidate for the Senate or General Assembly **shall** file and certify
11 the correctness of a financial disclosure statement on or before the
12 **tenth** 30th day following the last day for filing a petition to
13 appear on the ballot and the financial disclosure statement shall be
14 filed with the Election Law Enforcement Commission in the
15 Department of Law and Public Safety.

16 b. Every candidate for the office of Lieutenant Governor shall
17 file and certify the correctness of a financial disclosure statement on
18 or before the 30th day following the day such candidate is selected
19 by the candidate for the office of Governor of the same political
20 party, and the financial disclosure statement shall be filed with the
21 commission.

22 c. Every candidate for the office of member of the Senate or
23 General Assembly shall file and certify the correctness of a
24 financial disclosure statement on or before the day that members of
25 the Senate and General Assembly are required to file a financial
26 disclosure statement with the Joint Legislative Committee on
27 Ethical Standards, as provided by the legislative code of ethics
28 promulgated pursuant to the “New Jersey Conflicts of Interest
29 Law,” P.L.1971, c.182 (C.52:13D-12 et seq.), and the financial
30 disclosure statement shall be filed with the commission.

31 (cf: P.L.2009, c.66, s.29)

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33 2. This act shall take effect on January 1 next following the
34 date of enactment.

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STATEMENT

38

39 Under current law, every candidate for the office of Governor
40 and every candidate for the office of member of the Senate or
41 General Assembly is required to file a financial disclosure
42 statement on or before the 10th day following the last day for filing
43 a petition to appear on the ballot in the primary election. Under
44 current law, that day is early in April.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 The bill changes the day for filing the financial statement by the
2 Governor to on or before the 30th day following the last day for
3 filing a petition to appear on the ballot in the primary election. For
4 candidates for the office of member of the Senate or General
5 Assembly, the deadline is changed to the day that members of the
6 Senate and General Assembly are required to file a financial
7 disclosure statement with the Joint Legislative Committee on
8 Ethical Standards, pursuant to the legislative code of ethics. At
9 present, that day is May 15th of each year.

10 The bill is based on a recommendation made by the Election Law
11 Enforcement Commission, which receives the candidate financial
12 disclosure statements. In its most recent Annual Report, the
13 commission noted that changing the date will provide “candidates
14 with more time in which to carefully complete these forms, along
15 with a less confusing due date, [which] will enhance compliance
16 and disclosure with the law.”