



Legislation Text

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Int. No. 764-A

By Council Members Brewer, Cabrera, Dromm, Ferreras, James, Lander, Levin, Mark-Viverito, Mendez, Recchia, Van Bramer, Williams, Greenfield, Garodnick, Palma and Barron

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to allowing for political contributions via text message.

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Section 3-702 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new subdivision 22 to read as follows:

22. The term "text message contribution" shall mean a contribution, initiated via a text message, to a participating or non-participating candidate.

§2. Section 3-703 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new subdivision 1-c to read as follows:

1-c. Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of this section, a participating and non-participating candidate and his or her principal or authorized committee may accept text message contributions; provided, however, that such contributions may not exceed ninety nine dollars per contributor per candidate for all covered elections in the same calendar year, and further provided that the contributor shall certify via text message that he or she will personally pay the amount specified to the wireless service provider, and shall provide such other certifications as the board shall require. A text message contribution shall be attributed to the individual who is the registered user of the specific mobile device from which the contribution was initiated; shall be reported in accordance with the requirements of subdivision six of this section; and shall be a matchable contribution pursuant to subdivision three of section 3-702, provided such contribution meets the

requirements of that subdivision, of this section, and of the rules of the board.

§3. Paragraph (b) of subdivision two of section 3-719 of the administrative code of the city of New York, as amended by local law number 34 for the year 2007, is amended to read as follows:

(b) A non-participating candidate, and the authorized committees of such a non-participating candidate, shall only accept contributions as limited by the provisions of paragraphs (f) and (l) of subdivision one of section 3-703, and [subdivision] subdivisions 1-a, 1-c [of section 3-703,] and [subdivision] ten of section 3-703 of this chapter. Notwithstanding any contribution limitations in paragraphs (f) and (h) of subdivision one of section 3-703 and subdivision 1-a of section 3-703, a non-participating candidate may contribute to his or her own nomination for election or election with his or her personal funds or property, in-kind contributions made by the candidate to his or her authorized committees with the candidate's personal funds or property, and advances or loans made by the non-participating candidate with the candidate's personal funds or property. A candidate's personal funds or property shall include his or her funds or property jointly held with his or her spouse, domestic partner, or unemancipated children.

§4. This local law shall take effect one year following the date of enactment; provided, however, that the board shall conduct a review of contemporary industry standards, and shall promulgate rules in accordance with the provisions of this local law and such other rules as may be necessary for the purpose of implementing and carrying out the provisions of this local law, prior to its effective date. Such rules shall be consistent with the intent of the council that text message contributions that meet the requirements of subdivision three of section 3-702 and this local law be matchable contributions.

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