S 4817 KRUEGER Same as A 1141 Paulin ON FILE: 02/12/21 Executive Law

TITLE....Prohibits the disclosure of the names, addresses TITLE....Prohibits the disclosure of the names, addresses and telephone numbers of contributors and the amounts contributed that are reported on financial disclosure reports of certain not-for-profit organizations

**Currently on Senate Committee Agenda** 

Senate Standing Committee on Finance Senator Liz Krueger, Chair 10:30 AM, Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Virtual

02/12/21 REFERRED TO FINANCE A1141 Paulin Same as S 4817 KRUEGER Executive Law

and telephone numbers of contributors and the amounts contributed that are reported on financial disclosure reports of certain not-for-profit organizations 01/07/21 referred to governmental operations

3

7

8

9 10

15

16 17

18

### STATE OF NEW YORK

4817

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

### IN SENATE

February 12, 2021

Introduced by Sen. KRUEGER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Finance

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to prohibiting the disclosure of certain information required on financial disclosure reports of certain not-for-profit organizations

### The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Subdivision 8 of section 172 of the executive law, as amended by chapter 43 of the laws of 2002, is amended to read as follows:

- 8. Forms, financial reports, professional fund raisers' contracts, and other documents required to be filed pursuant to this article become public records of the attorney general, except that where such records include the names, addresses or telephone numbers of contributors and amounts contributed by them, such information shall not be a public record and shall not be subject to disclosure pursuant to article six of the public officers law, and the attorney general shall keep such infor-11 mation confidential and use it solely for the purpose of enforcing the 12 not-for-profit corporation and religious corporation laws, the provisions of this article, article eight of the estates, powers and trusts law, and the attorney general's other charitable trust oversight responsibilities.
  - § 2. Subdivision 9 of section 172-b of the executive law, as added by section 1 of part UU of chapter 55 of the laws of 2020, is amended to read as follows:
- 19 9. Any registered charitable organization [that is required to file an 20 annual financial report pursuant to subdivision one or two of this 21 section, or that is required to file a funding disclosure report pursu-22 ant to section one hundred seventy-two-e of this article, and/or a 23 financial disclosure report pursuant to section one hundred 24 seventy-two-f of this article for a reporting period during the applica-

EXPLANATION -- Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD02800-01-1

S. 4817

ble fiscal year shall also be required to file such annual financial report, including all required forms and attachments, with the department of state. Where such records include the names, addresses or telephone numbers of contributors and amounts contributed by them, such 5 information shall not be a public record and shall not be subject to disclosure pursuant to article six of the public officers law, and the 6 7 department of state shall use such information solely for the purposes of enforcing sections one hundred seventy-two-e and one hundred seven-8 ty-two-f of this article and shall keep the information confidential 9 except as provided in sections one hundred seventy-two-e and one hundred 10 11 seventy-two-f of this article.

12 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

# NEW YORK STATE SENATE INTRODUCER'S MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT submitted in accordance with Senate Rule VI. Sec 1

BILL NUMBER: S4817

**SPONSOR:** KRUEGER

#### TITLE OF BILL:

An act to amend the executive law, in relation to prohibiting the disclosure of certain information required on financial disclosure reports of certain not-for-profit organizations

### PURPOSE OR GENERAL IDEA OF BILL:

To ensure that constitutionally protected personal and private data such as names, addresses and telephone numbers of those who choose to contribute to 501(c)3 Not For Profits are protected from unnecessary disclosure.

### **SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:**

This legislation ensures that when certain sensitive data concerning 501(c)3 Not For Profits is reported to the Office of the Attorney General and the Department of State it shall be used solely for the purpose of enforcing existing laws-but constitutionally protected personal and private data such as names, addresses, and telephone numbers of individual contributors shall not be part of the public record and shall remain private and not be subject to disclosure.

#### **JUSTIFICATION:**

Most 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organizations are required to file their federal tax filing with the New York Attorney General's Charities Bureau, annually. However, as of January 1, 2021, those organizations will have to file identical documents with the Department of State in addition to the Charities Bureau.

This new filing requirement will make New York the only state that requires 501(c)(3) organizations to file IRS Form 990 Schedule B information with a. state agency without also requiring that agency keep the information confidential. If identifiable information is not redacted from public record, it is likely that potential donors who want to contribute to nonpolitical 501(c)(3) organizations but prefer to maintain their anonymity will be discouraged from donating altogether.

The additional requirement for 501(c) (3) organizations to file with the Department of State in addition to the Charities Bureau is both redundant and burdensome for not-for-profits. Therefore, this bill would remove the added filing requirement with the Department of State. Lastly, this bill would protect the privacy of donors by prohibiting the publication of financial disclosure records that include the names, addresses, or telephone numbers of donors and the amounts donated by them.

## PRIOR LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

2021-22 New Bill/A.1411 Paulin 2019-20 A.11154 Paulin

## **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:**

None.

# **EFFECTIVE DATE:**

Immediately.