ASSEMBLY, No. 3824

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

210th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 19, 2003

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman MATT AHEARN
District 38 (Bergen)

SYNOPSIS
Prohibits corporations of any kind from engaging in political speech, making expenditures to influence legislation or making campaign contributions.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT
As introduced.
AN ACT prohibiting political activities by certain entities,

supplementing chapter 34 of Title 19 of the Revised Statutes and


BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State

of New Jersey:

1. No corporation of any kind organized and incorporated under

the laws in this State, or any other state or any country other than the

United States, and doing business in the State, including any wholly-

owned subsidiary or branch of such a corporation or any partnership

in which such a corporation is involved, shall:

a. engage in political speech in any form that supports the election

or defeat of any candidate for public office in this State or that

supports the passage or defeat of any public question;

b. make any expenditure to influence legislation or to influence

regulation, or make any expenditure providing benefits to a member

of the Legislature, legislative staff, the Governor, the Governor's staff

or an officer or staff member of the Executive Branch of State

government; or

c. pay or make any contribution of money or other thing of value

to, or make any expenditure in support of, any candidate, candidate

committee, joint candidates committee or both a candidates committee

and a joint candidates committee, a political committee, continuing

political committee, legislative leadership committee or a political

party committee, or for any political purpose whatsoever, or to

support the passage or defeat of a public question.

Nothing in this section shall preclude the trustees, directors, officers

or employees of such a corporation from engaging in any of the

activities specified in subsections a., b., or c. of this section as

individuals using personal assets and time outside of the office of the

corporation for such purposes. All contributions to and expenditures

by a lobbyist or a legislative agent to influence legislation or to

influence regulation by communicating with or providing benefits to

a member of the Legislature, legislative staff, the Governor, the

Governor's staff or an officer or staff member of the Executive Branch

of State government shall be made in compliance with the "Legislative


seq.). All contributions and expenditures paid or made to or in

support of candidates for public office or in support of the passage or

defeat of a public question shall be made in compliance with "the New

Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act,"

P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et seq.).

As used in this section, the terms "influence legislation," "influence

regulation," and "expenditure providing benefits" shall have the

meanings set forth in section 3 of the "Legislative Activities Disclosure

2. R.S.19:34-32 and R.S.19:34-45 are repealed.

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill prohibits corporations of any kind, including any wholly-owned subsidiary or branch of such a corporation or any partnership in which such a corporation is involved, from:

1) engaging in political speech in any form that supports the election or defeat of any candidate for public office in this State or that supports the passage or defeat of any public question;

2) making any expenditure to influence legislation or to influence regulation, or making any expenditure providing benefits to a member of the Legislature, legislative staff, the Governor, the Governor's staff or an officer or staff member of the executive branch of State government; or

3) paying or making any contribution of money or other thing of value to, or making any expenditure in support of, any candidate, candidate committee, joint candidates committee, or both a candidates committee and a joint candidates committee, a political committee, continuing political committee, legislative leadership committee or a political party committee, or for any political purpose whatsoever, or to support the passage or defeat of a public question.

Nothing in the bill would preclude the trustees, directors, officers or employees of such a corporation from engaging in any of the activities specified in the above paragraphs as individuals using personal assets and time outside of the office of the corporation for such purposes.

The bill repeals R.S.19:34-32 and R.S.19:34-45, which currently prohibit insurance corporations and certain other types of corporations from making campaign contributions.