



General Assembly

January Session, 2021

Committee Bill No. 761

LCO No. 4988



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:
(GAE)

**AN ACT PERMITTING THE USE OF CITIZENS' ELECTION PROGRAM
GRANT FUNDS TO OFFSET A PARTICIPATING CANDIDATE'S CHILD
CARE COSTS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 9-601 of the general statutes is amended by adding
2 subdivision (32) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

3 (NEW) (32) "Child care services" means services rendered to a
4 candidate for the care of any child who is under thirteen years of age
5 and for whom such candidate is the parent or legal guardian, which
6 services are necessary as a direct result of campaign activity that would
7 not exist but for such candidate's campaign.

8 Sec. 2. Subsection (e) of section 9-706 of the general statutes is
9 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
10 *1, 2021*):

11 (e) (1) The State Elections Enforcement Commission shall (A) adopt
12 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, on
13 permissible expenditures under subsection (g) of section 9-607, as

14 amended by this act, for qualified candidate committees receiving
15 grants from the fund under sections 9-700 to 9-716, inclusive, and (B) on
16 or after July 1, 2021, amend such regulations to permit expenditures for
17 child care services.

18 (2) After the amendment of regulations pursuant to subparagraph (B)
19 of subdivision (1) of this subsection, expenditures for child care services
20 made by the qualified candidate committee of a participating candidate
21 shall be deemed permissible if such expenditures (A) are, in the
22 aggregate, not more than the amount of qualifying contributions
23 permitted under section 9-704, and (B) comply with all regulations
24 adopted or amended, as applicable, pursuant to subdivision (1) of this
25 subsection.

26 Sec. 3. Subsection (c) of section 9-710 of the general statutes is
27 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
28 *1, 2021*):

29 (c) A candidate who intends to participate in the Citizens' Election
30 Program may provide personal funds for such candidate's campaign for
31 nomination or election in an amount not exceeding: (1) For a candidate
32 for the office of Governor, twenty thousand dollars; (2) for a candidate
33 for the office of Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State
34 Comptroller, State Treasurer or Secretary of the State, ten thousand
35 dollars; (3) for a candidate for the office of state senator, two thousand
36 dollars; or (4) for a candidate for the office of state representative, one
37 thousand dollars. Such personal funds shall not constitute a qualifying
38 contribution under section 9-704. For the purposes of this section, and
39 after the amendment of regulations pursuant to subparagraph (B) of
40 subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of section 9-706, as amended by this act,
41 expenditures for child care services made directly from any such
42 candidate's personal funds and for which such candidate does not seek
43 reimbursement from his or her candidate committee, as provided in
44 subsection (k) of section 9-607, shall not count toward the amounts
45 provided in subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, as applicable, of this
46 subsection.

47 Sec. 4. Subdivision (2) of subsection (g) of section 9-607 of the general
48 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
49 (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

50 (2) Unless otherwise provided by this chapter, any treasurer, in
51 accomplishing the lawful purposes of the committee, may pay the
52 expenses of: (A) Advertising in electronic and print media; (B) any other
53 form of printed advertising or communications including "thank you"
54 advertising after the election; (C) campaign items, including, but not
55 limited to, brochures, leaflets, flyers, invitations, stationery, envelopes,
56 reply cards, return envelopes, campaign business cards, direct mailings,
57 postcards, palm cards, "thank you" notes, sample ballots and other
58 similar items; (D) political banners and billboards; (E) political
59 paraphernalia, which is customarily given or sold to supporters
60 including, but not limited to, campaign buttons, stickers, pins, pencils,
61 pens, matchbooks, balloons, pads, calendars, magnets, key chains, hats,
62 tee shirts, sweatshirts, frisbees, pot holders, jar openers and other
63 similar items; (F) purchasing office supplies for campaign or political
64 purposes, campaign photographs, raffle or other fund-raising permits
65 required by law, fund-raiser prizes, postage, express mail delivery
66 services, bulk mail permits, and computer supplies and services; (G)
67 banking service charges to maintain campaign and political accounts;
68 (H) subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals which enhance the
69 candidacy of the candidate or party; (I) lease or rental of office space for
70 campaign or political purposes and expenses in connection therewith
71 including, but not limited to, furniture, parking, storage space, utilities
72 and maintenance, provided a party committee or political committee
73 organized for ongoing political activities may purchase such office
74 space; (J) lease or rental of vehicles for campaign use only; (K) lease,
75 rental or use charges of any ordinary and necessary campaign office
76 equipment including, but not limited to, copy machines, telephones,
77 postage meters, facsimile machines, computer hardware, software and
78 printers, provided a party committee or political committee organized
79 for ongoing political activities may purchase office equipment, and
80 provided further that a candidate committee or a political committee,
81 other than a political committee formed for ongoing political activities

82 or an exploratory committee, may purchase computer equipment; (L)
83 compensation for campaign or committee staff, fringe benefits, [and]
84 payroll taxes and child care services, provided (i) the candidate and any
85 member of his immediate family shall not receive compensation, and (ii)
86 compensation for child care services is reasonable and customary for the
87 services rendered; (M) travel, meals and lodging expenses of speakers,
88 campaign or committee workers, the candidate and the candidate's
89 spouse for political and campaign purposes; (N) fund raising; (O)
90 reimbursements to candidates and campaign or committee workers
91 made in accordance with the provisions of this section for campaign-
92 related expenses for which a receipt is received by the treasurer; (P)
93 campaign or committee services of attorneys, accountants, consultants
94 or other professional persons for campaign activities, obtaining or
95 contesting ballot status, nomination, or election, and compliance with
96 this chapter; (Q) purchasing campaign finance reports; (R) repaying
97 permissible campaign loans made to the committee that are properly
98 reported and refunding contributions received from an impermissible
99 source or in excess of the limitations set forth in this chapter; (S)
100 conducting polls concerning any political party, issue, candidate or
101 individual; (T) gifts to campaign or committee workers or purchasing
102 flowers or other commemorative items for political purposes not to
103 exceed one hundred dollars to any one recipient in a calendar year or
104 for the campaign, as the case may be; (U) purchasing tickets or
105 advertising from charities, inaugural committees, or other civic
106 organizations if for a political purpose, for any candidate, a candidate's
107 spouse, a member of a candidate's campaign staff, or members of
108 committees; (V) the inauguration of an elected candidate by that
109 candidate's candidate committee; (W) hiring of halls, rooms, music and
110 other entertainment for political meetings and events; (X) reasonable
111 compensation for public speakers hired by the committee; (Y)
112 transporting electors to the polls and other get-out-the-vote activities on
113 election day; and (Z) any other necessary campaign or political expense.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	9-601
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	9-706(e)
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	9-710(c)
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	9-607(g)(2)

Statement of Purpose:

To permit the use of Citizens' Election Program grant funds to offset a participating candidate's child care costs.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. FLEXER, 29th Dist.; REP. SIMMONS, 144th Dist.
REP. MORRIN BELLO, 28th Dist.

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