



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 630**

January Session, 2023

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1225

*Senate, April 17, 2023*

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. FLEXER of the 29th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING REFERENDA, INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES, STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION COMPLAINTS AND REPAYMENT OF SURPLUS CITIZENS' ELECTION PROGRAM GRANT FUNDS.***

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 (33) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

3 (NEW) (33) "Independent expenditure political committee" means a  
4 political committee that makes only (A) independent expenditures (i) to  
5 promote the success or defeat of any candidate seeking (I) the  
6 nomination for election, or (II) election, or (ii) for the purpose of aiding  
7 or promoting the success or defeat of any (I) referendum question, or  
8 (II) political party, and (B) contributions to other independent  
9 expenditure political committees.

10 Sec. 2. Subdivision (3) of section 9-601 of the general statutes is  
11 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*

12 *passage*):

13 (3) "Political committee" means (A) a committee organized by a  
14 business entity or organization, (B) persons other than individuals, or  
15 two or more individuals organized or acting jointly conducting their  
16 activities in or outside the state, (C) an exploratory committee, (D) a  
17 committee established by or on behalf of a slate of candidates in a  
18 primary for the office of justice of the peace, but does not mean a  
19 candidate committee or a party committee, (E) a legislative caucus  
20 committee, [or] (F) a legislative leadership committee, or (G) an  
21 independent expenditure political committee.

22 Sec. 3. Section 9-601c of the general statutes is amended by adding  
23 subsection (e) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

24 (NEW) (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (d),  
25 inclusive, of this section, an independent expenditure political  
26 committee may coordinate with one or more other independent  
27 expenditure political committees for the purpose of making one or more  
28 independent expenditures.

29 Sec. 4. Subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of section 9-601d of the general  
30 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
31 (*Effective from passage*):

32 (a) Any person [, as defined in section 9-601,] may, unless otherwise  
33 restricted or prohibited by law, including, but not limited to, any  
34 provision of this chapter or chapter 157, make unlimited independent  
35 expenditures [, as defined in section 9-601c,] and accept unlimited  
36 covered transfers. [, as defined in said section 9-601.] Except as provided  
37 [pursuant to] in this section, any such person who makes or obligates to  
38 make an independent expenditure or expenditures in excess of one  
39 thousand dollars, in the aggregate, shall file statements according to the  
40 same schedule and in the same manner as is required of a treasurer of a  
41 [candidate] political committee pursuant to section 9-608, as amended  
42 by this act. Any such person, other than a committee, shall file with the  
43 proper authority, as provided in section 9-603, (1) a long-form report

44 and a short-form report pursuant to subsection (c) of this section for  
45 such independent expenditure or expenditures, and (2) a short-form  
46 report pursuant to subsection (d) of this section for each subsequent  
47 independent expenditure made or obligated to be made.

48 (b) Any person who makes or obligates to make an independent  
49 expenditure or expenditures in an election or primary for the office of  
50 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, State Treasurer,  
51 State Comptroller, Attorney General, state senator or state  
52 representative, [which] or to promote the success or defeat of a  
53 referendum question proposing a constitutional convention,  
54 constitutional amendment or revision of the Constitution, that exceed  
55 one thousand dollars, in the aggregate, during [a primary campaign or  
56 a general election campaign, as defined in section 9-700, shall file,  
57 electronically, a long-form and a short-form report of such independent  
58 expenditure or expenditures with the State Elections Enforcement  
59 Commission pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of this section. The  
60 person that makes or obligates to make such independent expenditure  
61 or expenditures shall file such reports] the period beginning on June first  
62 in the year of a regular election, or on the day the Governor issues writs  
63 of election pursuant to section 9-215 in the case of a special election for  
64 the office of state senator or state representative, and ending on the day  
65 following the primary or election for which such person made or  
66 obligated to make such independent expenditure or expenditures, shall  
67 electronically file, in the case of a committee, a report pursuant to section  
68 9-608, as amended by this act, or, in the case of any person other than a  
69 committee, a long-form report and a short-form report pursuant to  
70 subsections (c) and (d) of this section not later than twenty-four hours  
71 after (1) making any such payment, or (2) obligating to make any such  
72 payment, with respect to the primary, [or] election [. If any such person  
73 makes or incurs a subsequent independent expenditure, such person  
74 shall report such expenditure pursuant to subsection (d) of this section]  
75 or referendum. In the case of a special election for the office of state  
76 senator or state representative, if any person makes or obligates to make  
77 an independent expenditure or expenditures for such special election  
78 that exceeds one thousand dollars, in the aggregate, prior to the day the

79 Governor issues writs of election pursuant to section 9-215, such person  
80 shall file a report not later than twenty-four hours after such writs of  
81 election are issued. Such reports shall be filed under penalty of false  
82 statement.

83 (c) The independent expenditure long-form report shall identify: (1)  
84 The name of the person making or obligating to make such independent  
85 expenditure or expenditures and, in the case of a person other than an  
86 individual, provide (A) the name of a human being who had direct,  
87 extensive and substantive decision-making authority over such  
88 independent expenditure or expenditures, and (B) a certification that the  
89 person making such independent expenditure is not a foreign national,  
90 as defined in 52 USC 30121(b), as amended from time to time; (2) the tax  
91 exempt status of such person and, if [applicable] such person files a  
92 report with the Federal Election Commission, the Internal Revenue  
93 Service or any similar out-of-state agency, provide identifying  
94 information under which any such filing is made; (3) the mailing  
95 address, and street address if different, of such person; (4) the principal  
96 business address of the person, if different from either the mailing  
97 address or street address; (5) the mailing address, and street address if  
98 different, telephone number and electronic mail address of the agent for  
99 service of process in this state of such person and of the human being  
100 described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection; (6)  
101 the date of the primary, [or] election or referendum for which [the] such  
102 independent expenditure or expenditures were made or obligated to be  
103 made; (7) the name of any candidate who, or the text of any referendum  
104 question that, was the subject of [any] such independent expenditure or  
105 expenditures and whether [the] such independent expenditure or  
106 expenditures were in support of or in opposition to such candidate or  
107 referendum question; and (8) the name, telephone number and  
108 electronic mail address for the individual filing such report. Such  
109 individual filing such report shall, under penalty of false statement,  
110 affirm that the expenditure reported is an independent expenditure.  
111 [under penalty of false statement.]

112 (d) As part of any filing made pursuant to subsection (c) of this

113 section and for each subsequent independent expenditure made or  
114 obligated to be made by a person with respect to the primary, [or]  
115 election or referendum for which a long-form report pursuant to  
116 subsection (c) of this section has been filed on behalf of such person, an  
117 individual shall file [, electronically,] a short-form report for each such  
118 independent expenditure, [, not later than twenty-four hours after such  
119 person makes a payment for an independent expenditure or obligates  
120 to make such an independent expenditure.] Such short-form report shall  
121 identify: (1) The name of the person making or obligating to make such  
122 independent expenditure; (2) the amount of the independent  
123 expenditure; (3) whether the independent expenditure was in support  
124 of or in opposition to a candidate or referendum question and the name  
125 of such candidate or text of such referendum question; (4) a brief  
126 description of the independent expenditure made, including the type of  
127 communication, based on categories determined by the State Elections  
128 Enforcement Commission, and the allocation of such independent  
129 expenditure in support of or in opposition to each such candidate or  
130 referendum question, if such independent expenditure was made in  
131 support of or in opposition to more than one candidate or question; and  
132 (5) the name, telephone number and electronic mail address for the  
133 individual filing such report. Such individual filing such report shall,  
134 under penalty of false statement, affirm that the expenditure reported is  
135 an independent expenditure. [under penalty of false statement.]

136 (e) No person reporting an independent expenditure pursuant to the  
137 provisions of subsection (c) or (d) of this section shall be required to file  
138 a statement pursuant to section 9-608, as amended by this act, for such  
139 independent expenditure.

140 (f) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, as part  
141 of any statement filed pursuant to this section, if a person who makes or  
142 obligates to make an independent expenditure (A) has received a  
143 covered transfer during the twelve-month period prior to (i) a primary  
144 or election, as applicable to the reported independent expenditure, for  
145 an office that a candidate described in subdivision (7) of subsection (c)  
146 of this section is seeking, or (ii) a referendum on a question proposing a

147 constitutional convention, constitutional amendment or revision of the  
148 Constitution, and (B) such independent expenditure is made or  
149 obligated to be made on or after the date that is one hundred eighty days  
150 prior to such primary, [or] election or referendum, such person shall  
151 disclose the source and the amount of any such covered transfer such  
152 person received that is in an amount that is five thousand dollars or  
153 more, in the aggregate, during the twelve-month period prior to such  
154 primary, [or] election or referendum, as applicable to the reported  
155 independent expenditure.

156 (2) The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not apply  
157 to any person who discloses the source and amount of a covered transfer  
158 described in subdivision (1) of this subsection as part of any report to  
159 the Federal Election Commission, [or] the Internal Revenue Service or  
160 any similar out-of-state agency, provided such person includes a copy  
161 of, or information sufficient to find, any such report as part of the report  
162 of each applicable independent expenditure filed pursuant to this  
163 section. If a source and amount of a covered transfer is not included as  
164 part of any such report, the maker of the independent expenditure shall  
165 disclose the source and amount of such covered transfer pursuant to  
166 subdivision (1) of this subsection, if applicable.

167 (g) (1) A person may, unless otherwise restricted or prohibited by  
168 law, including, but not limited to, any provision of this chapter or  
169 chapter 157, establish a dedicated independent expenditure account [,  
170 for the purpose of engaging in] that may be used to make independent  
171 expenditures, [that] provided such account is segregated from all other  
172 accounts controlled by such person. Such dedicated independent  
173 expenditure account may receive covered transfers directly from  
174 persons other than the person establishing the dedicated account and  
175 may not receive transfers from another account controlled by the person  
176 establishing the dedicated account, except as provided in subdivision  
177 (2) of this subsection. If an independent expenditure is made from such  
178 segregated account, any report required pursuant to this section or  
179 disclaimer required pursuant to section 9-621, as amended by this act,  
180 [may include only] shall include those persons who made covered

181 transfers directly to the dedicated independent expenditure account.

182 (2) If a person who has made a covered transfer to another account  
183 controlled by the person establishing a dedicated independent  
184 expenditure account requests that such covered transfer be used for the  
185 purposes of making an independent expenditure from the dedicated  
186 independent expenditure account, the amount of such covered transfer  
187 may be transferred to the dedicated independent expenditure account  
188 and shall be treated as a covered transfer directly to the dedicated  
189 independent expenditure account.

190 (h) Any person may file a complaint with the commission upon the  
191 belief that (1) any such independent expenditure report or statement is  
192 false, or (2) any person who is required to file an independent  
193 expenditure report under this subsection has failed to do so. The  
194 commission shall make a prompt determination on such a complaint.

195 (i) (1) [If a] Notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-623, (A) any  
196 person who fails to file a report in accordance with the provisions of this  
197 section or section 9-608, as amended by this act, for an independent  
198 expenditure or expenditures made or obligated to be made more than  
199 ninety days before the day of a primary, [or election, the person] election  
200 or referendum shall be subject to a civil penalty, imposed by the State  
201 Elections Enforcement Commission, of not more than ten thousand  
202 dollars, [ If a] and (B) any person who fails to file a report required in  
203 accordance with the provisions of this section for an independent  
204 expenditure or expenditures made or obligated to be made ninety days  
205 or less before the day of a primary, [or election, such person] election or  
206 referendum shall be subject to a civil penalty, imposed by the State  
207 Elections Enforcement Commission, of not more than twenty thousand  
208 dollars or twice the amount of such independent expenditure or  
209 expenditures, whichever is greater.

210 (2) [If] Notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-623, if the State  
211 Elections Enforcement Commission finds that any such failure is  
212 knowing and wilful, the person responsible for [the] such failure shall  
213 [also be fined] be subject to an additional civil penalty, imposed by the

214 commission, of not more than fifty thousand dollars or ten times the  
215 amount of such independent expenditure or expenditures, whichever is  
216 greater, and the commission may refer the matter to the office of the  
217 Chief State's Attorney.

218 (3) If the State Elections Enforcement Commission finds that a person  
219 is subject to a civil penalty under this subsection, (A) in the case of a  
220 committee, (i) the chairperson, and (ii) any officer, or (B) in the case of a  
221 person other than a committee, (i) the chief executive or chief financial  
222 officer, or equivalent, (ii) any other officer, and (iii) any manager who  
223 had direct, extensive and substantive decision-making authority over  
224 the independent expenditure or expenditures made or obligated to be  
225 made by such person, shall be liable for paying any amount of such civil  
226 penalty imposed that is not paid by such person within one year after  
227 the latter of the date on which the commission imposed such civil  
228 penalty or the date of the final judgment following any judicial review  
229 of the commission's action.

230 Sec. 5. Subsection (b) of section 9-605 of the general statutes is  
231 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
232 *passage*):

233 (b) The registration statement shall include: (1) The name and address  
234 of the committee; (2) a statement of the purpose of the committee; (3) the  
235 name and address of its treasurer, and deputy treasurer if applicable; (4)  
236 the name, address and position of its [chairman] chairperson, and other  
237 principal officers if applicable; (5) the name and address of the  
238 depository institution for its funds; (6) the name of each person, other  
239 than an individual, that is a member of the committee; (7) the name and  
240 party affiliation of each candidate whom the committee is supporting  
241 and the office or position sought by each candidate; (8) if the committee  
242 is supporting the entire ticket of any party, a statement to that effect and  
243 the name of the party; (9) if the committee is supporting or opposing  
244 any referendum question, a brief statement identifying the substance of  
245 the question; (10) if the committee is established or controlled by a  
246 [business entity or organization] person or an individual acting as the



247 agent of a person, the name of [the entity or organization] such person  
248 and, if the committee is established or controlled by a person other than  
249 a human being, (A) the name of its chief executive officer or equivalent,  
250 and (B) a certification that the person making the expenditure is not a  
251 foreign national, as defined in 52 USC 30121(b), as amended from time  
252 to time; (11) if the committee is established by an organization, a  
253 statement of whether it will receive its funds from the organization's  
254 treasury or from voluntary contributions; (12) if the committee files  
255 reports with the Federal Elections Commission, the Internal Revenue  
256 Service or any similar out-of-state agency, a statement to that effect  
257 including the name of the commission or agency and identifying  
258 information under which any such filings are made; (13) a statement  
259 indicating whether the committee is established for a single primary,  
260 election or referendum or for ongoing political activities; (14) if the  
261 committee is established or controlled by a lobbyist, a statement to that  
262 effect and the name of the lobbyist; (15) the name and address of the  
263 person making the initial contribution or disbursement, if any, to the  
264 committee; and (16) any information that the State Elections  
265 Enforcement Commission requires to facilitate compliance with the  
266 provisions of this chapter or chapter 157. If no such initial contribution  
267 or disbursement, as described in subdivision (15) of this subsection, has  
268 been made at the time of the filing of such statement, the treasurer of the  
269 committee shall, not later than forty-eight hours after receipt of such  
270 contribution or disbursement, file a report with the State Elections  
271 Enforcement Commission. The report shall be in the same form as  
272 statements filed under section 9-608, as amended by this act.

273       Sec. 6. Subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of section 9-607 of the general  
274 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
275 (*Effective from passage*):

276       (g) (1) As used in this subsection, (A) "the lawful purposes of the  
277 committee" means: (i) For a candidate committee or exploratory  
278 committee, the promoting of the nomination or election of the candidate  
279 who established the committee, except that after a political party  
280 nominates candidates for election to the offices of Governor and

281 Lieutenant Governor, whose names shall be so placed on the ballot in  
282 the election that an elector will cast a single vote for both candidates, as  
283 prescribed in section 9-181, a candidate committee established by either  
284 such candidate may also promote the election of the other such  
285 candidate; (ii) for a political committee, other than an independent  
286 expenditure political committee described in subparagraph (A)(iv) of  
287 this subdivision, the promoting of a political party, including party  
288 building activities, of the success or defeat of candidates for nomination  
289 and election to public office or position subject to the requirements of  
290 this chapter, or of the success or defeat of referendum questions,  
291 provided [a political committee formed for a single referendum  
292 question shall not promote the success or defeat of any candidate, and  
293 provided further] a legislative leadership committee or a legislative  
294 caucus committee may expend funds to defray costs for conducting  
295 legislative or constituency-related business which are not reimbursed or  
296 paid by the state; [and] (iii) for a party committee, the promoting of the  
297 party, of party building activities, of the candidates of the party and of  
298 the success or defeat of referendum questions and the continuing  
299 operating costs of the party; and (iv) for an independent expenditure  
300 political committee, the promoting of a political party, of the success or  
301 defeat of candidates for nomination or election to public office or  
302 position subject to the requirements of this chapter, or of the success or  
303 defeat of referendum questions, and (B) "immediate family" means a  
304 spouse or dependent child of a candidate who resides in the candidate's  
305 household.

306 Sec. 7. Subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of section  
307 9-608 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted  
308 in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

309 (C) [(i) Each political committee formed solely to aid or promote the  
310 success or defeat of any referendum question, which does not receive  
311 contributions from a business entity or an organization, shall distribute  
312 its surplus to a party committee, to a political committee organized for  
313 ongoing political activities, to a national committee of a political party,  
314 to all contributors to the committee on a prorated basis of contribution,

315 to state or municipal governments or agencies or to any organization  
316 which is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the  
317 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding  
318 internal revenue code of the United States, as from time to time  
319 amended. (ii) Each political committee formed solely to aid or promote  
320 the success or defeat of any referendum question, which receives  
321 contributions from a business entity or an organization] An  
322 independent expenditure political committee, other than such a  
323 committee formed for ongoing political activities, shall distribute its  
324 surplus to all contributors to the committee on a prorated basis of  
325 contribution, to state or municipal governments or agencies, or to any  
326 organization which is tax-exempt under [said provisions] Sections  
327 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended from  
328 time to time. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, a  
329 committee formed for a single referendum shall not be required to  
330 expend its surplus [not later than] within ninety days after the  
331 referendum and may continue in existence if a substantially similar  
332 referendum question on the same issue will be submitted to the  
333 electorate within six months after the first referendum. If two or more  
334 substantially similar referenda on the same issue are submitted to the  
335 electorate, each no more than six months apart, the committee shall  
336 expend such surplus within ninety days following the date of the last  
337 such referendum;

338 Sec. 8. Section 9-611 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
339 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

340 (a) No individual shall make a contribution or contributions to, for  
341 the benefit of, or pursuant to the authorization or request of, a candidate  
342 or a committee supporting or opposing any candidate's campaign for  
343 nomination at a primary, or any candidate's campaign for election, to  
344 the office of (1) Governor, in excess of three thousand five hundred  
345 dollars; (2) Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, Treasurer,  
346 Comptroller or Attorney General, in excess of two thousand dollars; (3)  
347 chief executive officer of a town, city or borough, in excess of one  
348 thousand dollars; (4) state senator or probate judge, in excess of one

349 thousand dollars; or (5) state representative or any other office of a  
350 municipality not previously included in this subsection, in excess of two  
351 hundred fifty dollars. The limits imposed by this subsection shall be  
352 applied separately to primaries and elections.

353 (b) (1) No individual shall make a contribution or contributions to, or  
354 for the benefit of, an exploratory committee, in excess of three hundred  
355 seventy-five dollars, if the candidate establishing the exploratory  
356 committee certifies on the statement of organization for the exploratory  
357 committee pursuant to subsection (c) of section 9-604 that the candidate  
358 will not be a candidate for the office of state representative. No  
359 individual shall make a contribution or contributions to, or for the  
360 benefit of, any exploratory committee, in excess of two hundred fifty  
361 dollars, if the candidate establishing the exploratory committee does not  
362 so certify.

363 (2) No individual shall make a contribution or contributions to, or for  
364 the benefit of, a political committee formed by a slate of candidates in a  
365 primary for the office of justice of the peace, in excess of two hundred  
366 fifty dollars.

367 [(c) No individual shall make contributions to such candidates or  
368 committees which in the aggregate exceed thirty thousand dollars for  
369 any single election and primary preliminary to such election.]

370 [(d)] (c) No individual shall make a contribution to any candidate or  
371 committee, other than a contribution in kind, in excess of one hundred  
372 dollars except by personal check or credit card of that individual.

373 [(e)] (d) No individual who is less than eighteen years of age shall  
374 make a contribution or contributions, in excess of thirty dollars to, for  
375 the benefit of, or pursuant to the authorization or request of: (1) A  
376 candidate or a committee supporting or opposing any candidate's  
377 campaign for nomination at a primary to any office; (2) a candidate or a  
378 committee supporting or opposing any candidate's campaign for  
379 election to any office; (3) an exploratory committee; (4) any other  
380 political committee in any calendar year; or (5) a party committee in any

381 calendar year. Notwithstanding any provision of subdivision (2) of  
382 section 9-7b, any individual who is less than eighteen years of age who  
383 violates any provision of this subsection shall not be subject to the  
384 provisions of subdivision (2) of section 9-7b.

385 Sec. 9. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 9-612 of the general statutes  
386 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
387 *from passage*):

388 (a) (1) No individual shall make a contribution or contributions in any  
389 one calendar year in excess of ten thousand dollars to the state central  
390 committee of any party, or for the benefit of such committee pursuant  
391 to its authorization or request; or two thousand dollars to a town  
392 committee of any political party, or for the benefit of such committee  
393 pursuant to its authorization or request; or two thousand dollars to a  
394 legislative caucus committee or legislative leadership committee; [,] or  
395 one thousand dollars to any other political committee [other than (1)]  
396 except (A) a political committee formed solely to aid or promote the  
397 success or defeat of a referendum question, [(2)] (B) an exploratory  
398 committee, [(3)] (C) a political committee established by an  
399 organization, or for the benefit of such committee pursuant to its  
400 authorization or request, or [(4)] (D) a political committee formed by a  
401 slate of candidates in a primary for the office of justice of the peace of  
402 the same town.

403 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this  
404 subsection and unless otherwise restricted or prohibited by law, an  
405 individual may make contributions to an independent expenditure  
406 political committee, including a political committee formed solely to aid  
407 or promote the success or defeat of any referendum question.

408 (b) (1) No individual shall make a contribution to a political  
409 committee established by an organization which receives its funds from  
410 the organization's treasury. With respect to a political committee  
411 established by an organization which has complied with the provisions  
412 of subsection (b) or (c) of section 9-614, as amended by this act, and has  
413 elected to receive contributions, no individual other than a member of

414 the organization may make contributions to the committee, in which  
415 case the individual may contribute not more than seven hundred fifty  
416 dollars in any one calendar year to such committee or for the benefit of  
417 such committee pursuant to its authorization or request.

418 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this  
419 subsection and unless otherwise restricted or prohibited by law, an  
420 individual may make contributions to an independent expenditure  
421 political committee established by an organization.

422 Sec. 10. Section 9-613 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
423 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

424 (a) [No] Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, a business  
425 entity shall not make any contributions or expenditures (1) to, or for the  
426 benefit of, any candidate's campaign (A) for election to any public office  
427 or position subject to this chapter, or (B) for nomination at a primary for  
428 any such office or position, or (2) to promote the defeat of any candidate  
429 for any such office or position. [No] A business entity shall not make  
430 any other contributions or expenditures to promote the success or defeat  
431 of any political party. [, except as provided in subsection (b) of this  
432 section. No] A business entity shall not establish more than one political  
433 committee. A political committee shall be deemed to have been  
434 established by a business entity if the initial disbursement or  
435 contribution to the committee is made under subsection (b) of this  
436 section or by an officer, director, owner, limited or general partner or  
437 holder of stock constituting five per cent or more of the total outstanding  
438 stock of any class of the business entity.

439 (b) A business entity may make reasonable and necessary transfers or  
440 disbursements to or for the benefit of a political committee established  
441 by such business entity, for the administration of, or solicitation of  
442 contributions to, such political committee. Nonmonetary contributions  
443 by a business entity which are incidental in nature and are directly  
444 attributable to the administration of such political committee shall be  
445 exempt from the reporting requirements of this chapter.

446 [(c) The provisions of this section shall not preclude a business entity  
447 from making contributions or expenditures to promote the success or  
448 defeat of a referendum question.]

449 [(d) A] (c) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, a  
450 political committee organized by a business entity shall not make a  
451 contribution or contributions to or for the benefit of any candidate's  
452 campaign for nomination at a primary or any candidate's campaign for  
453 election to the office of: (1) Governor, in excess of five thousand dollars;  
454 (2) Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Comptroller  
455 or Attorney General, in excess of three thousand dollars; (3) state  
456 senator, probate judge or chief executive officer of a town, city or  
457 borough, in excess of one thousand five hundred dollars; (4) state  
458 representative, in excess of seven hundred fifty dollars; or (5) any other  
459 office of a municipality not included in subdivision (3) of this  
460 subsection, in excess of three hundred seventy-five dollars. The limits  
461 imposed by this subsection shall apply separately to primaries and  
462 elections and contributions by any such committee to candidates  
463 designated in this subsection shall not exceed one hundred thousand  
464 dollars in the aggregate for any single election and primary preliminary  
465 thereto. Contributions to such committees shall also be subject to the  
466 provisions of section 9-618, as amended by this act, in the case of  
467 committees formed for ongoing political activity or section 9-619, as  
468 amended by this act, in the case of committees formed for a single  
469 election or primary.

470 [(e) No] (d) A political committee organized by a business entity shall  
471 not make a contribution or contributions to (1) a state central committee  
472 of a political party, in excess of seven thousand five hundred dollars in  
473 any calendar year, (2) a town committee of any political party, in excess  
474 of one thousand five hundred dollars in any calendar year, (3) an  
475 exploratory committee in excess of three hundred seventy-five dollars,  
476 or (4) any other kind of political committee, in excess of two thousand  
477 dollars in any calendar year.

478 [(f)] (e) As used in this subsection, "investment services" means

479 investment legal services, investment banking services, investment  
480 advisory services, underwriting services, financial advisory services or  
481 brokerage firm services. [No] A political committee established by a  
482 firm which provides investment services and to which the State  
483 Treasurer pays compensation, expenses or fees or issues a contract shall  
484 not make a contribution to, or solicit contributions on behalf of, an  
485 exploratory committee or candidate committee established by a  
486 candidate for nomination or election to the office of State Treasurer  
487 during the term of office of the State Treasurer who does business with  
488 such firm.

489 [(g)] (f) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (e),  
490 inclusive, of this section, a [corporation, cooperative association, limited  
491 partnership, professional association, limited liability company or  
492 limited liability partnership, whether formed in this state or any other,  
493 acting alone,] business entity may make independent expenditures and  
494 contributions to an independent expenditure political committee.

495 (2) An independent expenditure political committee organized by a  
496 business entity shall not make any contribution unless such contribution  
497 is to another independent expenditure political committee.

498 Sec. 11. Section 9-614 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
499 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

500 (a) An organization may make contributions or expenditures, other  
501 than [those made to promote] for the purposes of promoting the success  
502 or defeat of a referendum question, only by first forming its own  
503 political committee. [The] Unless such political committee is an  
504 independent expenditure political committee, the political committee  
505 shall then be authorized to (1) receive funds (A) exclusively from the  
506 organization's treasury or from voluntary contributions made by its  
507 members, but not both, (B) from another political committee, or [,] (C)  
508 from a candidate committee distributing a surplus, and [(1) to] (2) make  
509 (A) contributions or expenditures to, or for the benefit of, a candidate's  
510 campaign or a political party, or [(2) to make] (B) contributions to  
511 another political committee. [No] An organization shall not form more



512 than one political committee. A political committee shall be deemed to  
513 have been established by an organization if the initial contribution to the  
514 committee is made by the organization's treasury or an officer or  
515 director of the organization.

516 (b) A political committee established by an organization may elect to  
517 alter the manner in which it is funded if it complies with the  
518 requirements of this subsection. The committee chairperson shall notify  
519 the repository with which the committee's most recent statement of  
520 organization is filed, in writing, of the committee's intent to alter its  
521 manner of funding. [Within] Not later than fifteen days after the date of  
522 receipt of such notification, the treasurer of such political committee  
523 shall return any funds remaining in the account of the committee to the  
524 organization's treasury after payment of each outstanding liability.  
525 [Within] Not later than seven days after the distribution and payments  
526 have been made, the treasurer shall file a statement with the same  
527 repository itemizing each such distribution and payment. Upon such  
528 filing, the treasurer may receive voluntary contributions from any  
529 member of the organization which established such committee subject  
530 to the limitations imposed in subsection (b) of section 9-612, as amended  
531 by this act.

532 (c) The chairperson of each political committee established by an  
533 organization on or after July 1, 1985, shall designate the manner in  
534 which the committee shall be funded in the committee's statement of  
535 organization.

536 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (c), inclusive,  
537 of this section, an organization [, acting alone,] may make independent  
538 expenditures and contributions to an independent expenditure political  
539 committee.

540 Sec. 12. Section 9-615 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
541 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

542 (a) [No] A political committee established by an organization shall  
543 not make a contribution or contributions to, or for the benefit of, any

544 candidate's campaign for nomination at a primary or for election to the  
545 office of: (1) Governor, in excess of five thousand dollars; (2) Lieutenant  
546 Governor, Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Comptroller or Attorney  
547 General, in excess of three thousand dollars; (3) chief executive officer  
548 of a town, city or borough, in excess of one thousand five hundred  
549 dollars; (4) state senator or probate judge, in excess of one thousand five  
550 hundred dollars; (5) state representative, in excess of seven hundred  
551 fifty dollars; or (6) any other office of a municipality not previously  
552 included in this subsection, in excess of three hundred seventy-five  
553 dollars.

554 (b) [No such] A political committee established by an organization  
555 shall not make a contribution or contributions to, or for the benefit of,  
556 an exploratory committee, in excess of three hundred seventy-five  
557 dollars. Any such political committee may make unlimited  
558 contributions to a political committee formed solely to aid or promote  
559 the success or defeat of a referendum question.

560 (c) The limits imposed by subsection (a) of this section shall apply  
561 separately to primaries and elections. [and no such] A political  
562 committee established by an organization shall not make contributions  
563 to the candidates designated in this section which in the aggregate  
564 exceed fifty thousand dollars for any single election and primary  
565 preliminary thereto.

566 (d) [No] Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, a political  
567 committee established by an organization shall not make contributions  
568 in any one calendar year to, or for the benefit of, (1) the state central  
569 committee of a political party, in excess of seven thousand five hundred  
570 dollars; (2) a town committee, in excess of one thousand five hundred  
571 dollars; or (3) any political committee, other than an exploratory  
572 committee or a committee formed solely to aid or promote the success  
573 or defeat of a referendum question, in excess of two thousand dollars.

574 (e) Contributions to a political committee established by an  
575 organization shall be subject to the provisions of section 9-618, as  
576 amended by this act, in the case of a committee formed for ongoing

577 political activity or section 9-619, as amended by this act, in the case of  
578 a committee formed for a single election or primary.

579 (f) An independent expenditure political committee established by an  
580 organization shall not make any contribution unless such contribution  
581 is to another independent expenditure political committee.

582 Sec. 13. Subsection (a) of section 9-618 of the general statutes is  
583 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
584 *passage*):

585 (a) (1) A political committee organized for ongoing political activities  
586 may make unlimited contributions to, or for the benefit of, any national  
587 committee of a political party [;] or a committee of a candidate for  
588 federal or out-of-state office. Except as provided in subdivision (3) of  
589 subsection (d) of this section, no such political committee shall make a  
590 contribution or contributions in excess of two thousand dollars to  
591 another political committee in any calendar year. No political committee  
592 organized for ongoing political activities shall make a contribution in  
593 excess of three hundred seventy-five dollars to an exploratory  
594 committee. If such an ongoing committee is established by an  
595 organization or a business entity, its contributions shall be subject to the  
596 limits imposed by sections 9-613 to 9-615, inclusive, as amended by this  
597 act. A political committee organized for ongoing political activities may  
598 make [contributions] donations to a charitable organization which is a  
599 tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue  
600 Code, as from time to time amended, or make memorial [contributions]  
601 donations.

602 (2) An independent expenditure political committee organized for  
603 ongoing political activities shall not make any contribution unless such  
604 contribution is to another independent expenditure political committee.

605 Sec. 14. Subsection (a) of section 9-619 of the general statutes is  
606 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
607 *passage*):

608 (a) [No] (1) A political committee established for a single primary or  
609 election shall not make contributions to a national committee, or a  
610 committee of a candidate for federal or out-of-state office. If such a  
611 political committee is established by an organization or a business  
612 entity, its contributions shall also be subject to the limitations imposed  
613 by sections 9-613 to 9-615, inclusive, as amended by this act. Except as  
614 provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of this section, [no] a  
615 political committee [formed] established for a single primary or election  
616 [or primary] shall not, with respect to such primary or election, [or  
617 primary] make a contribution or contributions in excess of two thousand  
618 dollars to another political committee, provided [no] any such political  
619 committee shall not make a contribution in excess of three hundred  
620 seventy-five dollars to an exploratory committee.

621 (2) An independent expenditure political committee established for a  
622 single primary or election shall not make any contribution unless such  
623 contribution is to another independent expenditure political committee.

624 Sec. 15. Section 9-620 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
625 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

626 (a) [A political committee formed solely to aid or promote the success  
627 or defeat of a referendum question shall not make contributions to, or  
628 for the benefit of, a party committee, a political committee, a national  
629 committee, a committee of a candidate for federal or out-of-state office  
630 or a candidate committee, except in the distribution of a surplus, as  
631 provided in subsection (e) of section 9-608] Subject to the provisions of  
632 this chapter, any person may establish an independent expenditure  
633 political committee that may only make expenditures without the  
634 consent, coordination or consultation of, a candidate or agent of the  
635 candidate, candidate committee, party committee or political  
636 committee. Subject to the provisions of this chapter, any such  
637 independent expenditure political committee may accept contributions  
638 from any person.

639 (b) [A political committee formed solely to aid or promote the success  
640 or defeat of a referendum question shall not receive contributions from

641 a national committee or from a committee of a candidate for federal or  
642 out-of-state office] Any person may establish an independent  
643 expenditure political committee solely to aid or promote the success or  
644 defeat of a single referendum question, or of multiple referendum  
645 questions submitted to a vote on the same date. Such committee may  
646 only make independent expenditures to aid or promote the success or  
647 defeat of a single referendum question, or of multiple referendum  
648 questions submitted to a vote on the same date. Subject to the provisions  
649 of this chapter, such committee may accept contributions from any  
650 person.

651 (c) [No person, other than an individual or a committee, shall make a  
652 contribution to a political committee formed solely to aid or promote the  
653 success or defeat of a referendum question, or to any other person, to  
654 aid or promote the success or defeat of a referendum question, in excess  
655 of ten cents for each individual residing in the state or political  
656 subdivision thereof in which such referendum question is to be voted  
657 upon, in accordance with the last federal decennial census] Except as  
658 provided in this section, an independent expenditure political  
659 committee shall not make contributions to, or for the benefit of, a party  
660 committee, a political committee, a national committee, a committee of  
661 a candidate for federal or out-of-state office or a candidate committee.

662 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (c), inclusive,  
663 of this section, an independent expenditure political committee may  
664 make contributions to another independent expenditure political  
665 committee, make donations to any organization which is a tax-exempt  
666 organization under Sections 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(19) of the Internal  
667 Revenue Code, as amended from time to time, and refund contributions  
668 to contributors.

669 Sec. 16. Subsections (c) to (m), inclusive, of section 9-621 of the general  
670 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
671 (*Effective from passage*):

672 (c) (1) No business entity, organization, association, committee, or  
673 group of two or more individuals who have joined solely to promote the

674 success or defeat of a referendum question shall make or incur any  
675 expenditure for any written, typed or other printed communication  
676 which promotes the success or defeat of any referendum question unless  
677 such communication bears upon its face, as a disclaimer, the words  
678 "paid for by" and the following: [(1)] (A) In the case of a business entity,  
679 organization or association, the name of the business entity,  
680 organization or association and the name of its chief executive officer or  
681 equivalent, and in the case such communication is made during the  
682 ninety-day period immediately prior to the referendum, such  
683 communication shall also bear on its face the names of the five persons  
684 who made the five largest aggregate covered transfers to such business  
685 entity, organization or association during the twelve-month period  
686 immediately prior to such referendum. The communication shall also  
687 state that additional information about the business entity, organization  
688 or association making such communication may be found on the State  
689 Elections Enforcement Commission's Internet web site; [(2)] (B) in the  
690 case of a political committee, the name of the committee and the name  
691 of its treasurer; [(3)] (C) in the case of a party committee, the name of the  
692 committee; or [(4)] (D) in the case of such a group of two or more  
693 individuals, the name of the group and the name and address of its  
694 agent.

695 (2) No person shall make or incur an independent expenditure for:

696 (A) A video broadcast by television, satellite or Internet which  
697 promotes the success or defeat of any referendum question unless such  
698 video is accompanied by the disclaimer described in subdivision (2) of  
699 subsection (h) of this section;

700 (B) An audio communication broadcast by radio, satellite or Internet  
701 which promotes the success or defeat of any referendum question unless  
702 such audio communication is accompanied by the disclaimer described  
703 in subdivision (3) of subsection (h) of this section; or

704 (C) Telephone calls which promote the success or defeat of any  
705 referendum question unless such telephone calls are accompanied by  
706 the disclaimer described in subdivision (4) of subsection (h) of this

707 section.

708 (d) The provisions of subsections (a), (b), [and] (c) and (h) of this  
709 section do not apply to (1) any editorial, news story, or commentary  
710 published in any newspaper, magazine or journal on its own behalf and  
711 upon its own responsibility and for which it does not charge or receive  
712 any compensation whatsoever, (2) any banner, (3) political  
713 paraphernalia including pins, buttons, badges, emblems, hats, bumper  
714 stickers or other similar materials, or (4) signs with a surface area of not  
715 more than thirty-two square feet.

716 (e) The treasurer of a candidate committee which sponsors any  
717 written, typed or other printed communication for the purpose of  
718 raising funds to eliminate a campaign deficit of that committee shall  
719 include in such communication a statement that the funds are sought to  
720 eliminate such a deficit.

721 (f) The treasurer of an exploratory committee or candidate committee  
722 established by a candidate for nomination or election to the office of  
723 Treasurer which committee sponsors any written, typed or other  
724 printed communication for the purpose of raising funds shall include in  
725 such communication a statement concerning the prohibitions set forth  
726 in subsection (n) of section 1-84, subsection (e) of section 9-612 and  
727 subsection (f) of section 9-613, as amended by this act.

728 (g) In the event a treasurer of a candidate committee is replaced  
729 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 9-602, nothing in this section shall  
730 be construed to prohibit the candidate committee from distributing any  
731 printed communication subject to the provisions of this section that has  
732 already been printed or otherwise produced, even though such  
733 communication does not accurately designate the successor treasurer of  
734 such candidate committee.

735 (h) (1) No person shall make or incur an independent expenditure for  
736 any written, typed or other printed communication, including on a  
737 billboard, or any web-based, written communication, which  
738 communication promotes the success or defeat of any candidate's

739 campaign for nomination at a primary or election, unless such  
740 communication bears upon its face, as a disclaimer, the words "Paid for  
741 by" and the name of such person and the following statement: "This  
742 message was made independent of any candidate or political party.". In  
743 the case of a person making or incurring such an independent  
744 expenditure during the ninety-day period immediately prior to the  
745 primary or election for which the independent expenditure is made,  
746 such communication shall also bear upon its face the names of the five  
747 persons who made the five largest aggregate covered transfers to the  
748 person making such communication during the twelve-month period  
749 immediately prior to such primary or election, as applicable. The  
750 communication shall also state that additional information about the  
751 person making such communication may be found on the State  
752 Elections Enforcement Commission's Internet web site.

753 (2) In addition to the requirements of subdivision (1) of this  
754 subsection, no person shall make or incur an independent expenditure  
755 for a video broadcast by television, satellite or Internet, unless at the end  
756 of such advertising there appears for a period of not less than four  
757 seconds as a disclaimer, the following as an audio message and a written  
758 statement: "This message was paid for by (person making the  
759 communication) and made independent of any candidate or political  
760 party.". In the case of a person making or incurring such an independent  
761 expenditure during the ninety-day period immediately prior to the  
762 primary or election for which the independent expenditure is made,  
763 such communication shall also list the names of the five persons who  
764 made the five largest aggregate covered transfers to the person making  
765 such communication during the twelve-month period immediately  
766 prior to such primary or election, as applicable. The communication  
767 shall also state that additional information about the person making  
768 such communication may be found on the State Elections Enforcement  
769 Commission's Internet web site.

770 (3) In addition to the requirements of subdivision (1) of this  
771 subsection, no person shall make or incur an independent expenditure  
772 for an audio communication broadcast by radio, satellite or Internet,



773 unless the advertising ends with a disclaimer that is a personal audio  
774 statement by such person's agent (A) identifying the person paying for  
775 the expenditure, and (B) indicating that the message was made  
776 independent of any candidate or political party, using the following  
777 form: "I am .... (name of the person's agent), .... (title), of .... (the person).  
778 This message was made independent of any candidate or political  
779 party.". In the case of a person making or incurring such an independent  
780 expenditure during the ninety-day period immediately prior to the  
781 primary or election for which the independent expenditure is made,  
782 such communication shall state the names of the five persons who made  
783 the five largest aggregate covered transfers to the person making such  
784 communication during the twelve-month period immediately prior to  
785 such primary or election, as applicable. The communication shall also  
786 state that additional information about the person making such  
787 communication may be found on the State Elections Enforcement  
788 Commission's Internet web site.

789 (4) In addition to the requirements of subdivision (1) of this  
790 subsection, no person shall make or incur an independent expenditure  
791 for telephone calls, unless the narrative of the telephone call identifies  
792 the person making the expenditure and during the ninety-day period  
793 immediately prior to the primary or election for which the independent  
794 expenditure is made, such communication shall state the names of the  
795 five persons who made the five largest aggregate covered transfers to  
796 the person making such communication during the twelve-month  
797 period immediately prior to such primary or election, as applicable. The  
798 communication shall also state that additional information about the  
799 person making such communication may be found on the State  
800 Elections Enforcement Commission's Internet web site.

801 (i) In any [print, television or social media promotion of a slate of]  
802 organization expenditure for a party candidate listing of a candidate or  
803 candidates by a party committee, [the party] legislative caucus  
804 committee or legislative leadership committee, such committee shall use  
805 applicable disclaimers pursuant to the provisions of this section for such  
806 [promotion] organization expenditure, and no individual candidate

807 disclaimers shall be required.

808 (j) (1) Except as provided in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection,  
809 if any person whose name is included on a disclaimer of a  
810 communication pursuant to the provisions of this section, as a person  
811 who made a covered transfer to the maker of the communication, is also  
812 a recipient of a covered transfer, the maker of the communication, as  
813 part of any report filed pursuant to section 9-601d, as amended by this  
814 act, associated with the making of such communication, shall include  
815 the names of the five persons who made the top five largest aggregate  
816 covered transfers to such recipient during the twelve-month period  
817 immediately prior to the primary or election, as applicable.

818 (2) The name of any person who made a covered transfer to a tax-  
819 exempt organization recognized under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal  
820 Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal  
821 revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time, that  
822 has not had its tax exempt status revoked, shall not be disclosed  
823 pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection.

824 (3) The name of any person who made a covered transfer to a person  
825 whose name is included on a disclaimer pursuant to the provisions of  
826 this section shall not be disclosed pursuant to the provisions of  
827 subdivision (1) of this subsection if the recipient of such covered transfer  
828 accepts covered transfers from at least one hundred different sources,  
829 provided no such source accounts for ten per cent or more of the total  
830 amount of covered transfers accepted by the recipient during the  
831 twelve-month period immediately prior to the primary or election, as  
832 applicable.

833 (k) Any disclaimer required to be on the face of a written, typed or  
834 other printed communication pursuant to the provisions of this section  
835 shall be printed in no smaller than eight-point type of uniform font  
836 when such disclaimer is on a communication contained in a flyer or  
837 leaflet, newspaper, magazine or similar literature, or that is delivered by  
838 mail.

839 (l) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (k), inclusive,  
840 of this section, no person making an independent expenditure for a  
841 communication shall be required to list as part of any disclaimer  
842 pursuant to this section any person whose covered transfers to the  
843 maker of the communication are not in an aggregate amount of five  
844 thousand dollars or more during the twelve-month period immediately  
845 prior to the primary, [or] election or referendum, as applicable, for  
846 which such independent expenditure is made.

847 (m) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (k),  
848 inclusive, of this section, any disclaimer required to be on the face of any  
849 Internet text advertisement communication (1) that appears based on  
850 the result of a search conducted by a user of an Internet search engine,  
851 and (2) the text of which contains two hundred or fewer characters, shall  
852 not be required to list the names of the five persons who made the top  
853 five largest aggregate covered transfers to the maker of such  
854 communication, as otherwise required by this section, if such disclaimer  
855 (A) includes a link to an Internet web site that discloses the names of  
856 such five persons, and (B) otherwise contains any statement required  
857 pursuant to the provisions of this section.

858 Sec. 17. Subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of section 9-7a of the general  
859 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
860 (*Effective from passage*):

861 (g) (1) (A) In the case of a written complaint filed with the commission  
862 pursuant to section 9-7b, commission staff shall conduct and complete a  
863 preliminary examination of such complaint by the fourteenth day  
864 following its receipt, at which time such staff shall, at its discretion, ~~[(A)]~~  
865 (i) dismiss the complaint for failure to allege any substantial violation of  
866 state election law supported by evidence, ~~[(B)]~~ (ii) engage the  
867 respondent in discussions in an effort to speedily resolve any matter  
868 pertaining to a de minimis violation, or ~~[(C)]~~ (iii) investigate and docket  
869 the complaint for a determination by the commission that probable  
870 cause or no probable cause exists for any such violation. If commission  
871 staff dismisses a complaint pursuant to subparagraph ~~[(A)]~~ (A)(i) of this

872 subdivision, such staff shall provide a brief written statement concisely  
873 setting forth the reasons for such dismissal. If commission staff engages  
874 a respondent pursuant to subparagraph [(B)] ~~(A)~~(ii) of this subdivision  
875 but is unable to speedily resolve any such matter described in said  
876 subparagraph by the forty-fifth day following receipt of the complaint,  
877 such staff shall docket such complaint for a determination by the  
878 commission that probable cause or no probable cause exists for any  
879 violation of state election law. If the commission does not, by the sixtieth  
880 day following receipt of the complaint, either issue a decision or render  
881 its determination that probable cause or no probable cause exists for any  
882 violation of state election laws, the complainant or respondent may  
883 apply to the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford for an  
884 order to show cause why the commission has not acted upon the  
885 complaint and to provide evidence that the commission has  
886 unreasonably delayed action.

887 (B) (i) For any complaint received on or after January 1, 2018, but prior  
888 to July 1, 2023, if the commission does not, by one year following receipt  
889 of such complaint, issue a decision thereon, the commission shall  
890 dismiss such complaint, provided the length of time of any delay caused  
891 by [(i)] ~~(I)~~ the commission or commission staff granting any extension  
892 or continuance to a respondent prior to the issuance of any such  
893 decision, [(ii)] ~~(II)~~ any subpoena issued in connection with such  
894 complaint, [(iii)] ~~(III)~~ any litigation in state or federal court related to  
895 such complaint, or [(iv)] ~~(IV)~~ any investigation by, or consultation of the  
896 commission or commission staff with, the Chief State's Attorney, the  
897 Attorney General, the United States Department of Justice or the United  
898 States Attorney for Connecticut related to such complaint, shall be  
899 added to such one year.

900 (ii) For any complaint received on or after July 1, 2023, if the  
901 commission does not, by one year following receipt of such complaint,  
902 find reason to believe that a violation of state election law has been  
903 committed and commence a contested case, as defined in section 4-166,  
904 the commission shall dismiss such complaint, provided the length of  
905 time of any delay caused by (I) the commission or commission staff

906 granting any extension or continuance to a respondent prior to the  
 907 issuance of any such decision, (II) any subpoena issued in connection  
 908 with such complaint, (III) any litigation in state or federal court related  
 909 to such complaint, (IV) any investigation by the commission or  
 910 commission staff involving a potential violation of state election law by  
 911 a foreign national, as defined in 52 USC 30121(b), as amended from time  
 912 to time, or of section 9-601c or 9-601d, as amended by this act, or (V) any  
 913 investigation by, or consultation of the commission or commission staff  
 914 with, the Chief State's Attorney, the Attorney General, the United States  
 915 Department of Justice or the United States Attorney for Connecticut  
 916 related to such complaint, shall be added to such one year.

917 Sec. 18. Subdivision (18) of section 53a-119 of the general statutes is  
 918 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
 919 *passage*):

920 (18) Failure to repay surplus Citizens' Election Fund grant funds. A  
 921 person is guilty of failure to repay surplus Citizens' Election Fund grant  
 922 funds when such person fails to return to the Citizens' Election Fund  
 923 any surplus funds from a grant made pursuant to sections 9-700 to 9-  
 924 716, inclusive, [not later than ninety days after the primary or election  
 925 for which the grant is made] within the time prescribed for the  
 926 distribution of surplus under subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of section  
 927 9-608, as amended by this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	9-601(33)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	9-601(3)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	9-601c(e)
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	9-601d(a) to (i)
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	9-605(b)
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	9-607(g)(1)
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	9-608(e)(1)(C)
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	9-611
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	9-612(a) and (b)
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>	9-613

Sec. 11	<i>from passage</i>	9-614
Sec. 12	<i>from passage</i>	9-615
Sec. 13	<i>from passage</i>	9-618(a)
Sec. 14	<i>from passage</i>	9-619(a)
Sec. 15	<i>from passage</i>	9-620
Sec. 16	<i>from passage</i>	9-621(c) to (m)
Sec. 17	<i>from passage</i>	9-7a(g)(1)
Sec. 18	<i>from passage</i>	53a-119(18)

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

In Section 4(i), "[the] such person" was changed to "the person" in Subdiv. (2) for clarity, and "chairman" was changed to "chairperson" in Subdiv. (3)(A)(i) for consistency with standard drafting conventions; in Section 5(b)(10), "an" was added before "individual", and "the [entity or organization] person" was changed to "[the entity or organization] such person", for clarity; in Section 14(a)(1), references to "election or primary" were changed to "primary or election [or primary]" for consistency; and in Section 16(c)(2)(B), "section; and" was changed to "section; or" for clarity.

**GAE**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Elections Enforcement Commission	GF - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below
Elections Enforcement Commission	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

This bill results in both potential revenue and potential costs to the State Elections Enforcement Commission through fines and penalties imposed, and the additional requirements created by this bill. The primary purpose of this bill codifies Independent Expenditure Political Action Committees (IE-PAC) as a separate category of political action committees (PAC) with different rules established. The bill makes several changes regarding applicable expenses, as well as requiring attribution for advertising over a certain level of funding and adding additional reporting requirements for campaigns.

The bill formalizes the policy of eliminating aggregate contribution limits for certain PAC's and the bill also criminalizes failure to return surplus Citizens Election Program (CEP) grant funding to the state within a certain timeframe.

The bill narrows the circumstances under which the State Elections Enforcement Committee (SEEC) must dismiss a complaint within one year. This could increase the existing costs for the SEEC depending on

the number of cases that would be held beyond one year as a result of this bill.

***Fines and Penalties***

The bill may result in additional revenue to the SEEC by empowering them to impose fines and penalties in line with the current structure for failing to file an IE-PAC report to IE's that support referendums.

The bill also increases maximum penalties for failing to file an IE report to (1) IE-PACs made or obligated 90 days or fewer before a primary or general election from \$20,000 to \$20,000 or twice the unreported amount whichever is greater. (2) Knowing and willful failure to file increases penalties from \$50,000 to \$50,000 or 10 times the unreported expenditure whichever is greater. The increased penalties created by the bill could result in additional revenue for the SEEC depending on the number and scale of violations.

***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of violations and fines imposed.



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**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 1225****AN ACT CONCERNING REFERENDA, INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES, STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION COMPLAINTS AND REPAYMENT OF SURPLUS CITIZENS' ELECTION PROGRAM GRANT FUNDS.****SUMMARY**

This bill changes laws affecting campaign finance and elections. Principally, it does the following:

1. codifies “independent expenditure political committee” (known as an IE-only PAC) as a type of political committee (PAC) and requires IE-only PACs to register with the State Elections Enforcement Commission (SEEC) (§§ 1-3, 6-7 & 9-15);
2. classifies referendum PACs as IE-only PACs and makes conforming changes (§ 15);
3. expands independent expenditure (IE) disclosure requirements (§ 4);
4. increases the maximum penalties for failing to file IE reports (§ 4);
5. modifies PAC registration requirements, including expanding the contents of the registration statement (§ 5);
6. in conformity with current practice, eliminates aggregate individual contribution limits to certain committees (§ 8);
7. expands disclaimer requirements for referenda and party candidate listings (§ 16);
8. narrows the circumstances under which SEEC must dismiss a

complaint within one year after receiving it (§ 17); and

9. modifies the deadline by which a person must return surplus funds from the Citizens' Election Fund (CEF) before he or she is guilty of larceny (§ 18).

The bill also makes minor, technical, and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

### **§§ 1-3, 6-7 & 9-15 — IE-ONLY PACS**

The law authorizes persons (including individuals, entities, and committees) to make unlimited IEs and defines "independent expenditure" as an expenditure made without the consent, coordination, or consultation of a (1) candidate or candidate's agent, (2) candidate committee, (3) PAC, or (4) party committee (CGS § 9-601c).

The bill codifies "independent expenditure political committee" (known as an IE-only PAC) as a type of PAC under Connecticut's campaign finance laws and, like other committees that make IEs, requires their registration with SEEC. It defines them as PACs that make only (1) IEs and (2) contributions to other IE-only PACs (see BACKGROUND). It also allows these PACs to (1) coordinate with other IE-only PACs to make IEs and (2) make donations to tax-exempt 501(c)(3) (nonprofit) and 501(c)(19) (veterans) organizations and refund contributor contributions.

The bill makes several conforming changes, including specifying that (1) individuals, business entities, and labor unions may make contributions to IE-only PACs and (2) various types of IE-only PACs, such as those formed for a single election or primary, may not make contributions except to other IE-only PACs. It also classifies referendum PACs as IE-only PACs.

### **Lawful Purposes (§ 6)**

The bill defines "lawful purposes of the committee" for IE-only PACs as promoting the following:

1. a political party,
2. the success or defeat of candidates for nomination or election to a public office or position regulated by state campaign finance laws, or
3. the success or defeat of referendum questions.

Existing law generally allows PACs to pay specific expenses to accomplish their lawful purposes.

### ***Surplus Distributions (§ 7)***

By law, candidate committees and PACs, other than exploratory committees or PACs organized for ongoing political activities, must generally spend or distribute surplus funds (1) within 90 days after (a) a primary when a candidate loses or (b) an election or referendum not held in November or (2) by March 31 following an election or a referendum held in November.

The bill establishes a surplus distribution procedure for IE-only PACs, other than those formed for ongoing activities. Specifically, it requires them to distribute surplus funds, according to the schedule outlined above, to (1) their contributors, on a prorated basis; (2) state or municipal governments or agencies; or (3) tax-exempt 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(19) organizations.

### ***Referendum PACs (§§ 7 & 15)***

The bill classifies referendum PACs as IE-only PACs and makes conforming changes. Specifically, it allows any person to establish an IE-only PAC for a single referendum question or multiple questions submitted to a vote on the same day. Under the bill, the committee may make IEs only for these purposes.

Relatedly, the bill eliminates provisions in current law that establish surplus distributions for referendum PACs and instead subjects them to the bill's procedure for IE-only PACs.

## **§ 4 — REPORTING IEs AND COVERED TRANSFERS**

By law, persons must disclose information about IEs they make that exceed \$1,000 in the aggregate by filing certain reports. A “person” is an individual, committee, firm, partnership, organization, association, syndicate, company trust, corporation, limited liability company, or any other legal entity (other than the state or its political or administrative subdivisions) (CGS § 9-601(10)).

The bill does the following:

1. changes the period during which IE disclosure reports are subject to a 24-hour electronic filing deadline;
2. expands disclosure requirements for persons that make IEs without forming a PAC (known as “incidental spenders”) and for IE-only PACs; and
3. conforms law to practice by requiring that, to disclose IEs, (a) incidental spenders use SEEC’s long- and short-form reports and (b) PACs, including IE-only PACs, use SEEC’s campaign finance forms for PACs formed in Connecticut.

As under existing law, IEs made for or against (1) statewide office or legislative candidates, or statewide referenda, must be filed with SEEC and (2) municipal office candidates or municipal referenda must be filed with town clerks.

### ***24-Hour Report Filing Deadline***

Under current law, a person must electronically file a disclosure report within 24 hours after making or obligating to make an IE that (1) is made or obligated during a primary or general election campaign and (2) promotes the success or defeat of a statewide office or legislative candidate.

The bill instead applies the 24-hour electronic filing requirement to these IEs made or obligated to be made during the period (1) beginning June 1 in a regular election year or, in the case of a special election for state senator or state representative, the day the governor issues writs

of election, and (2) ending on the day after the primary or general election for which the IE is made or incurred. In the case of a special election, a person that makes or obligates to make an IE that exceeds \$1,000 in the aggregate before the governor issues the writs must electronically file the IE report within 24 hours after the governor issues the writs.

Additionally, the bill applies the 24-hour reporting requirement to IEs within this timeframe that promote the success or defeat of a referendum question proposing a constitutional amendment, convention, or revision.

For any other IEs (those not subject to 24-hour reporting requirements), the bill requires that IE reports be filed according to the same schedule as the periodic statements filed by PACs.

### ***Disclosures by Incidental Spenders***

Existing law requires persons, other than PACs (as described above), to disclose information about IEs they make using SEEC's long- and short-form reports (i.e., SEEC Form 26) (see BACKGROUND). The bill adds to the information that these IE-makers must disclose in these reports.

Under the bill, they must additionally disclose the following in the long-form report:

1. the name of the human being who had direct, extensive, and substantive decision-making authority over the IE being disclosed, as well as his or her mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail;
2. a certification that the person making the IE is not a foreign national, as defined in federal law (see BACKGROUND);
3. for the person making or obligating to make the IE, a statement indicating if the person files a report with the Federal Election Commission (FEC), IRS, or any similar out-of-state agency, and

- identifying information under which the filing is made;
4. generally, any street address that differs from any mailing address required by the form; and
  5. for a referendum, its date, the question's text, and whether the IE supported or opposed it.

Under the bill, the short-form report must also disclose, for a referendum, the question's text and an allocation of the expenditure in support or opposition to it.

**Disclosing Covered Transfers.** As part of both the long- and short-form reports, the law requires a person to disclose the source and amount of any covered transfer of \$5,000 or more, in the aggregate, received during the 12 months before the applicable primary or election if the IE (for which the report is being filed) is made or obligated to be made 180 or less days before the primary or election. The bill extends the requirement to covered transfers made to promote or oppose a referendum question proposing a constitutional amendment, convention, or revision.

The law exempts from this disclosure requirement a person that discloses the source and amount of a covered transfer in a report it files with the FEC or the IRS, as long as the person includes a copy of the report in the statement it files with SEEC. The bill extends the exemption to persons that include in their IE reports information sufficient for SEEC to find their FEC or IRS filing. The bill also extends this exemption to apply to similar out-of-state agency reports.

Under current law if a person makes the IE from a dedicated IE account, the IE report and disclaimer (see below) may include only persons that made covered transfers to it directly. The bill requires that the report and disclaimer include this information but removes a provision limiting it to only this information.

By law, a "covered transfer" is, with certain exceptions, any donation, transfer, or payment of funds by a person to a recipient that (1) makes

IEs or (2) transfers funds to another person that makes IEs (CGS § 9-601(29)).

### ***Penalties for Failure to File an IE Report***

The bill increases the maximum civil penalties SEEC may impose for failure to file certain required IE reports. It also subjects IEs that support or oppose referendum questions to these penalties.

Specifically, existing law allows SEEC to impose a maximum penalty of \$10,000 for failing to file a report for an IE that is made or obligated more than 90 days before a primary or general election. The bill extends this penalty and the penalties described below to IEs that support or oppose a referendum.

For IEs made or obligated 90 days or fewer before a primary or general election, SEEC may currently impose a maximum penalty of \$20,000 for failing to file a report. The bill instead allows SEEC to impose a penalty of up to \$20,000 or twice the amount of any unreported IE, including for a referendum, whichever is greater.

Currently, a knowing and willful failure to file an IE report is punishable by an additional fine of up to \$50,000. The bill instead allows SEEC to impose an additional civil penalty of up to \$50,000 or 10 times the amount of any unreported expenditure, whichever is greater.

In addition, the bill establishes personal liability for a civil penalty that remains unpaid after the later of one year after the date when (1) SEEC imposed it or (2) a final judgment is issued following any judicial review of SEEC's action. Specifically, the bill makes the following individuals personally liable:

1. in the case of a committee, the chairperson and any officer, or
2. in the case of a person other than a committee, (a) the CEO, CFO, or equivalent; (b) any other officer; and (c) any manager who had direct, extensive, and substantive decision-making authority over the IE or IEs made or obligated to be made.

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**§ 5 — PAC REGISTRATIONS**

By law, most PACs must register with SEEC and designate a treasurer. They may also designate a deputy treasurer. The registration statement must include, among other things, the committee's name and purpose.

The bill expands the required contents of the PAC registration statement. Under current law, for a committee that files reports with the FEC or an out-of-state agency, the registration must include a statement to that effect and the agency's name. The bill expands this provision to include reports filed with the IRS and also requires that the statement include identifying information under which those filings are made.

In addition, if a committee is established or controlled by a person or individual acting as an agent for a person, the statement must indicate the person's name. If a committee is established or controlled by a person other than a human being, the statement must indicate the name of the CEO or an equivalent and a certification that the person making the expenditure is not a foreign national (as defined in federal law, see BACKGROUND). Current law requires only that a PAC established by a business entity or organization (i.e., a labor union) indicate the name of the entity or organization.

**§ 8 — AGGREGATE CONTRIBUTION LIMIT FOR INDIVIDUALS**

State law generally limits the amount that individuals may contribute to a specific candidate committee, party committee, or political committee. The bill conforms the law to SEEC practice by eliminating an aggregate limit on certain contributions by an individual. Under this limit, an individual may not contribute more than \$30,000 in the aggregate during a single primary and election to (1) candidate committees, (2) exploratory committees, and (3) slate committees for justice of the peace (in a primary). In practice, SEEC does not enforce this aggregate limit (see BACKGROUND).

**§ 16 — POLITICAL ATTRIBUTIONS*****Disclaimer Exceptions***



By law, printed, video, and audio political communications (both IEs and non-IEs) must include certain attributions, known as “disclaimers.” Among other things, they must identify the person making the expenditure for the communication.

The bill exempts from the law’s IE disclaimer requirements (1) editorials, news stories, or commentaries published independently and without compensation in any newspaper, magazine, or journal; (2) banners; (3) political paraphernalia, including pins, buttons, badges, emblems, hats, or bumper stickers; and (4) signs with a surface area of not more than 32 square feet. These communications are already exempt from the disclaimer requirements that the law establishes for non-IE spending.

### ***Referenda***

Under current law, only the disclaimer requirements for printed communications apply to expenditures made for a referendum. The bill extends, to IEs promoting a referendum question’s success or defeat, existing law’s disclaimer requirements for election- and primary-related IEs made for video and audio communications and telephone calls. Generally, each of these disclaimers must (1) include the name of the IE-maker and a statement that the expenditure was made independent of any candidate or political party and (2) state that additional information about the IE-maker is available on SEEC’s website.

Additionally, communications made within 90 days before the primary or election must also state the names of the five persons that made the five largest covered transfers to the IE-maker, in the aggregate, during the 12 months immediately before the referendum. As under existing law for other communications, these disclaimers for referendum IEs may omit any person that made covered transfers to it of less than \$5,000, in the aggregate, during the 12 months immediately before the referendum.

### ***Party Candidate Listings***

Current law requires that party committees (i.e., state central and

town) use the appropriate disclaimer in any print, television, or social media promotion of a slate of candidates (disclaimers by individual candidates are not required). The bill instead requires that organization expenditures for party candidate listings by a party committee, legislative caucus committee, or legislative leadership committee use the appropriate disclaimer.

By law, a “party candidate listing” is a communication that (1) lists the name or names of candidates for election; (2) is distributed through public advertising (e.g., cable television, newspapers, or similar media), direct mail, telephone, electronic mail, publicly accessible Internet sites, or personal delivery; and (3) is made to promote the success or defeat of a candidate or slate of candidates seeking nomination or election, or to aid or promote the success or defeat of a referendum question or a political party. The communication may not be a solicitation for or on behalf of a candidate committee (CGS § 9-601(25)(A)).

## **§ 17 — SEEC INVESTIGATIONS**

By law, SEEC receives complaints from the secretary of the state, registrars of voters, town clerks, and individuals under oath about alleged election law violations. It investigates and holds hearings as it deems appropriate (CGS § 9-7b(a)(1)). The bill narrows the circumstances under which SEEC must dismiss a complaint within one year after receiving it.

### ***Time Limit***

Currently, SEEC must dismiss a complaint it receives on or after January 1, 2018, if it does not issue a final decision on it within one year after receiving the complaint. However, the deadline must be extended if specified actions delay the final decision’s issuance.

The bill relaxes this requirement for SEEC complaints received on or after July 1, 2023. It instead requires the commission to dismiss after one year any complaint for which it has not (1) found reason to believe a state election law violation occurred and (2) initiated a contested case proceeding.

The bill also (1) requires that the deadline for making this finding be extended for the same reasons that the final decision deadline must be extended under current law and (2) establishes additional reasons for extending this deadline (see below). As under current law, the one-year deadline must be extended by the length of the delay.

### **Extensions**

Under current law, the one-year deadline for SEEC to issue a final decision must be extended if its issuance is delayed for any of the following reasons:

1. extension or continuance granted to a respondent by SEEC or its staff before issuing the decision;
2. issuance of a subpoena in connection with the complaint;
3. litigation in state or federal court related to the complaint; or
4. consultation with the chief state's attorney, attorney general, U.S. Department of Justice, or U.S. attorney for Connecticut.

The bill similarly requires an extension, for these same reasons, of the one-year deadline for finding reason to believe that an election law violation occurred and initiating a contested case. (SEEC regulations generally prohibit the commission from proceeding with a contested case unless it finds, by a majority vote of a quorum, reason to believe that a violation occurred (Conn. Agencies Regs., § 9-7b-35).)

The bill also requires an extension if the finding and commencement are delayed because of an investigation by SEEC or its staff involving a potential state election law violation (1) by a foreign national (as defined in federal law, see BACKGROUND) or (2) involving independent expenditures (e.g., making or reporting them).

### **§ 18 — FAILURE TO RETURN SURPLUS CEF FUNDS**

By law, candidates participating in the Citizens' Election Program receive a grant from the Citizens' Election Fund (CEF). Under current law, a person is guilty of larceny if he or she does not repay surplus CEF

funds within 90 days following the election or primary for which the grant is made.

The bill instead aligns this deadline with state campaign finance law's deadline for distributing surplus funds. The campaign finance law sets several surplus distribution deadlines that exceed 90 days after an election or primary. For example, the surplus distribution deadline for candidates in a November election is the following March 31 if the candidate's committee is not audited by SEEC or June 30 if it is audited (CGS § 9-608(e)(1)).

## **BACKGROUND**

### ***Related Bills***

sHB 6904 (File 543, § 3), reported favorably by the Government Administration and Elections (GAE) Committee, also narrows the circumstances under which SEEC must dismiss a complaint within one year after receiving it.

sSB 1188, reported favorably by the GAE Committee, explicitly prohibits foreign nationals from making contributions or expenditures under state campaign finance laws and defines "foreign national" for purposes of these laws.

### ***Foreign Nationals and Related Federal Law***

***Foreign Nationals.*** Federal campaign finance law defines a "foreign national" as any of the following:

1. a government of a foreign country and a foreign political party;
2. a person outside of the United States unless it is established that the person is (a) an individual and a U.S. citizen domiciled within the United States or (b) not an individual, has its principal place of business in the United States, and is organized under, or created by, the United States, a state, or other place subject to U.S. jurisdiction;
3. a partnership, association, corporation, organization, or other

combination of persons organized under the laws of, or having its principal place of business in, a foreign country; or

4. an individual who is not a U.S. citizen or national and is not a lawful permanent resident (52 U.S.C. § 30121(b) & 22 U.S.C. § 611(b)).

**Prohibited Activities.** Federal law prohibits a foreign national from, among other things, directly or indirectly making:

1. in connection with a federal, state, or local election, a contribution or donation of money or anything of value; an express or implied promise to make a contribution or donation; or an expenditure or IE; or
2. a contribution or donation to a federal, state, or local political party's committee.

It similarly prohibits a person from soliciting, accepting, or receiving any contribution or donation described above from a foreign national (52 U.S.C. § 30121 & 11 C.F.R. § 110.20).

### **Aggregate Contribution Limits**

In *McCutcheon et al. v. Federal Election Commission*, 134 S. Ct. 1434 (2014), the U.S. Supreme Court held that aggregate limits on contributions by individuals to federal candidates, political parties, and PACs were unconstitutional under the First Amendment.

In Advisory Opinion 2014-03, SEEC announced that, unless it received further guidance from the legislature or a court of competent jurisdiction, it would no longer enforce current law's \$30,000 aggregate limit on contributions by individuals during a single primary and election to (1) candidate committees, (2) exploratory committees, and (3) slate committees for justice of the peace (in a primary).

### **IE-Only PACs**

In Declaratory Ruling 2013-02, SEEC ruled that, in light of a line of cases ruling that contribution limits to IE-Only PACs are

unconstitutional, it would no longer enforce contribution limits to PACs that receive and spend funds only for IEs unless it received further guidance from the legislature or a court.

**Long- and Short-Form IE-Reports**

As part of these reports, a person must disclose the source and amount of any covered transfer of \$5,000 or more in the aggregate that it received during the 12 months before the applicable primary or election. This requirement applies if the IE (for which the report is being filed) is made or obligated to be made 180 days or less before the primary or election (CGS § 9-601d(f)).

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 13    Nay 6    (03/27/2023)