

Subject Campaign Contribution Restrictions

Authors Garofalo

Analyst Matt Gehring

Date February 18, 2021

Summary

This bill expands the restriction on the solicitation or acceptance of political contributions during a regular legislative session so that:

- 1) political funds are included in the restriction; and
- 2) political party units are included in the restriction, beyond just those established by a party organization within a house of the legislature.

Under current law, the types of contributions that are prohibited are those from registered lobbyists, political committees, political funds, and certain other associations that don't qualify for registration with the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board.

A narrower restriction on political party units – prohibiting them from soliciting or receiving contributions at an event hosted by a candidate for legislature or constitutional office – is repealed.

In addition to the limitation provided in the underlying law amended by this bill, members of the House are subject to contribution restrictions under House Rule 9.10, which reads in part as follows:

9.10 SOLICITATIONS DURING LEGISLATIVE SESSION. During regular or special session, a member of the House, a political party caucus, the member's principal campaign committee, a political committee with the member's name or title, or a committee authorized by the member that benefits the member, must not solicit or accept a contribution from a registered lobbyist, corporation, labor union, political committee, dissolving principal campaign committee, political fund, or a tribal organization.