Bill Summary





Subject Campaign Finance

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Overview

This bill provides a number of miscellaneous changes to laws administered by the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board.

Summary

Section Description

1 Noncampaign disbursement.

Adds two new expense categories that may be reported as a "noncampaign disbursement": (1) costs to support a principal campaign committee's involvement in the candidate's recount; and (2) costs of running a transition office after winning a state constitutional office during the first three months after an election.

2 Investigation authority; complaint process.

Extends the deadline for the Campaign Finance Board to make findings and conclusions as to probable cause, after a determination has been made that a complaint alleges a prima facie violation of law. Under current law, the deadline for these findings and conclusions is 45 days; as amended by this section, the findings and conclusions must be made within 60 days of the prima facie determination. The deadline may be further extended by majority vote of the board.

3 Penalty.

Adds references to ballot question political committees and ballot question political funds to the law providing civil penalties if the organization makes certain types of contributions or expenditures that are not permitted.

4 Registration number on checks.

Updates an existing law requiring certain contributions made by lobbyists, political committees, political funds, and party units to include the entity's campaign finance registration number so that the law also applies to contributions made to a local candidate. This change conforms to a law adopted in 2021 bringing certain local candidates under the jurisdiction of the Campaign Finance Board.

Section Description

5 Virtual currency contributions.

Authorizes a principal campaign committee, political committee, political fund, or party unit to accept a donation of virtual currency, as an in-kind donation. Standards for determining the value of the donation, including when the value of the virtual currency changes, are provided.

Principal campaign committees, political committees, political funds, and party units are prohibited from purchasing goods and services with virtual currency.

6 Local election reports.

Provides that a pre-primary-election report is due for all entities that meet certain spending thresholds in a non-general election year by advocating for or against a local candidate or ballot issue, regardless of whether the candidate or issue appears on the primary ballot.

7 Notice to contributors.

Modifies standards for the required notice when a political committee, political fund, political party unit, or principal campaign committee raises funds through the sale of goods or services, including differing standards depending on whether the sale is made in person or via a website or other electronic means.

8 Exceptions.

Adds to the existing list of expenditures that, when made by a party unit or certain combinations of party units, do not qualify as a contribution to or expenditure on behalf of a candidate. The new exception would allow for expenditures for a booth at a community event, county fair, or the state fair if the booth benefits three or more individuals whose names are to appear on the ballot.

9 **Captioning of campaign advertisements.**

Authorizes the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board to impose a civil penalty if certain campaign advertisements are disseminated without meeting closed captioning requirements.



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