

2025 State and Local Government and Elections Omnibus Bill: SF 3045
Comparison of Senate and House Campaign Finance Provisions

	Start Page	Topic	Senate Section(s): SF 3045, 3 rd Eng.	House/Senate Comparison	House Section(s): SF 3045, 1 st Unofficial Eng. (from HF 2783)	Summary Description/Notes
	Campaign Finance (Senate Article 8, House Article 5 unless otherwise noted)					
1.	R1	Member lobbying	1	Senate only		Prohibits a legislator from accepting employment with a business whose primary source of revenue is from facilitating government affairs services if the legislator’s job duties include offering direct or indirect consulting or advice that helps the business provide government affairs services to clients.
2.	R1, R2, R3, R7, R19, R38	Transition and inaugural expenses	2, 3, 4, 11, 25, 38, 51	Senate only		Establishes transfers from the general fund contingent account to provide for the establishment of transition offices and payment expenses of the secretary of state-elect, state auditor-elect and attorney general-elect. Defines transition and inaugural event expenses as noncampaign expenses. Prohibits a candidate or the candidate’s principal campaign committee from soliciting or accepting contributions for or making any expenditures for inaugural event expenses or transition expenses except through the candidate’s principal campaign committee or as provided through the statutes providing state resources for transition funds. Requires the Board to amend one of its rules to conform to the law changes.
3.	R3, R4	Expressly advocates; Independent expenditures	5, 7	Senate only		Amends the definition of “independent expenditure” to include expenditures that are not coordinated with a candidate and that promote, support, attack, or oppose the nomination, election, or defeat of a clearly identified candidate or local candidate, regardless of whether the expenditure expressly advocates for or against a candidate.
4.	R4	Lobbying definition and thresholds	6, 8	Senate only		Amends the definition of lobbyist for purposes of chapter 10A. Adds a definition of “expert witness.”
5.	R6, R9, R14	Local officials; metropolitan governmental unit	9, 10, 12, 18, 19	Senate only		The definition of “local official” and “official action of a political subdivision” are amended by breaking the existing definition into clauses and adding clarifying language.

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						<p>The definition of “metropolitan governmental unit” is amended to include a regional railroad authority in the seven-county metro area and to list the metropolitan agencies instead of using a cross reference. Strikes references to the seven metro area counties and cities with a population over 50,000 in the metropolitan area because they are included in the definition of “political subdivision.”</p> <p>Requires public officials or local officials elected to or appointed by a political subdivision to disclose potential conflicts of interest.</p>
6.	R9, R15, R16, R18, R19, R27	Statements of economic interest	13, 21, 22, 23, 24, 34	Policy Differences	3	<p>Senate: Requires all local officials elected or employed by political subdivisions and individuals affiliated with charter schools to file statements of economic interest. Strikes watershed district managers, watershed management organization members, soil and water conservation district supervisors, and county commissioners from the definition of “public official” and specifies a timeline for these officials to file statements of economic interest. Requires additional reporting relating to stock and stock option transactions. Requires disclosure relating to virtual currency.</p> <p>House: Shifts the deadline for candidates to file a statement of economic interest, so that the deadline is counted from the end of the filing period for the office. The change is effective January 1, 2026.</p>
7.	R11, R12	Lobbyist and principal reports	14, 15	Senate only		Requires a lobbyist to report each expert witness that the lobbyist requested to communicate with public or local officials and each finance professional who participated in conduit financing. Requires a principal to report a total amount that includes the portion of all expenditures for finance professionals.

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8.	R13	Conduit Financing	16 See also lines 108.23-108.25 and 115.26-115.27	Senate only		Specifies that the section on contingent fees does not apply to an attorney or finance professional to the extent that person is participating in conduit financing through a political subdivision.
9.	R13	Handbook for Lobbying	17	Senate only		Requires the Board to publish a handbook for lobbying written in plain language.
10.	R15	Disclosure of representation	20	Senate only		Requires elected local officials to disclose their representation of clients in certain situations.
11.	R20, R22	Coordinated and noncoordinated expenditures	26, 27, 28	Senate only		Provides that a disbursement is a coordinated expenditure and is not independent when it satisfies at least one of the content standards and at least one of the conduct standards. Establishes a new conduct standard. Amends the law on what actions do not, taken alone, establish a coordinated disbursement. Amends how news and broadcast publications are described to include additional types of media.
12.	R24	Personal contributions to campaigns	29	Senate only		Requires a candidate for constitutional or legislative office to report to the Board the next business day when they make a contribution or loan to their own campaign committee that exceeds the contribution limit.
13.	R24, R25, R29	Electioneering communications	30, 31, 39	Senate only		Extends the timeline for electioneering communication so that the period for electioneering communications begins after the start of the absentee voting period before the primary or special election and continues through the date of the general or special election. Provides disclaimers for electioneering communications.
14.	R25	Prohibited reprisals	32	Senate only		Prohibits employers, individuals, and associations from engaging in economic reprisals or threatening loss of employment or physical coercion against an individual or association because of that individual’s or association’s refusal to

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						communicate with public or local officials about a legislative or administrative action or the official action of a political subdivision. Specifies that political activity includes becoming a candidate for elected public office.
15.	R26, R38	Major decision	33, 52(c)	Senate only		Codifies a Board Rule and amends the rule by adding the language in subdivision 1, paragraph (b). Adds clarifying language relating to the local official’s authority or responsibility for the expenditure or investment of public money. Provides guidance on what constitutes a major decision of nonelected local officials regarding the expenditure of public money. Repeals the underlying Board rule.
16.	R27	Local campaign reports	35, 36	Senate section 35: senate only Senate section 36/ House section 42: similar	42	Senate: Section 35 specifies that certain local candidate reports are only required in a year in which the candidate is on the ballot (and not every year). Deletes unnecessary language. Section 36 requires a local candidate or committee report to include an email address. If the person responsible for filing the report does not have an email address, the person must include an attestation to that effect. House: Section 42 permits a report to exclude an email address if the person responsible for filing the report attests that neither the candidate or the candidate’s campaign possess one. This change is effective January 1, 2026.
17.	R28, R29, R30, R38	Disclaimers	37, 38, 40, 41, 52 (a) (211B.04, subd. 4 only); 52(b)	Senate only		Amends requirements for disclaimers on campaign material, independent expenditures, materials that do need a disclaimer, and the law on font size for outdoor signs, websites, or social media pages. Repeal a law related to disclaimer requirements on website and social media pages and a rule which relates to disclaimers on broadcast media and social media platforms.
18.	R30, R34	Misrepresentation of campaign authority	42, 45	Senate only		Prohibits a person from misrepresenting the person or committee or organization as speaking or acting on behalf of any real, potential, or nonexistent candidate, party, committee, fund, or organization with intent to defraud or when soliciting money with the intent to defraud.

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19.	R31	Distribution of absentee ballot applications and sample ballots	43	Senate only		Requires a person or entity, except a unit of government or an election official, that mails absentee ballot applications or sample ballots to include specified statements on the application or sample ballot and the envelope. If an absentee ballot application is included, the application fields must be blank. This section is effective January 1, 2026.
20.	R32	Publicly funded organizations; campaign expenditures prohibited		House only	43	Prohibits any entity or organization, including a nonprofit organization, that receives state funding from making campaign expenditures or otherwise expending money for a political purpose unless the entity or organization uses separate accounts for political activities and the activities supported by state funding. A definition of state funding is provided.
21.	R33	Bribery, treating, and solicitation	44	Senate only		Amends the law on bribery, treating, and solicitation as it relates to voters and voting-related activity. Expands the list of felonies for voting and election-related activities. This section is effective August 1, 2025, and applies to crimes committed on or after that date.
22.	R34, R37	Repealing unconstitutional statutes	46, 47, 52 (a) (211B.06; and 211B.08 only)	Senate only		Two statutes that have been ruled unconstitutional are being repealed. Conforming changes to strike cross-references are made.
23.	R34	S.D. No. 1; Statement of Economic Interest	48	Similar	47	Specifies that candidates for school board in Special School District No. 1 must file a statement of economic interest within 14 days of the end of the candidate filing period, instead of within 14 days of filing for office.
24.	R34	Campaign spending limits study	49	Senate only		Requires the Board to study the voluntary campaign spending limits and report to the legislature by January 15, 2026.
25.	R35	Working group on local candidate campaign finance reporting	50	Senate only		Establishes a working group to examine and make recommendations on whether local candidate campaign finance reports should be filed with the Board instead of

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						local filing officers. The working group must report to the legislature by January 15, 2026. This section is effective the day following final enactment.
26.	R37	Effective date	53	Senate only		Provides that this article is effective January 1, 2026, unless otherwise provided