House Research Act Summary

CHAPTER: 265 SESSION: 2014 Regular Session

TOPIC: Local Campaign Finance

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Overview

This act requires certain local campaign finance reports be posted online, and increases the contribution limits for local candidates.

Section

Online accessibility; reports. Requires that campaign finance reports filed by local candidates be posted online. The applicable local government must post the reports on its Web site, if the government maintains a Web site, no later than 30 days after the report is filed and maintain them for four years from the date of posting.

A link to the Web site must be provided by the local government to the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board. The board is required to publish the link on its own Web site.

These requirements do not apply to statutory or home rule charter cities or towns with fewer than 400 registered voters as of January 1 of the year in which the election is held.

Contribution limits. Increase the limit on contributions that may be accepted by a local candidate or local candidate's committee.

For candidates in territory with a population of 100,000 or less, current law permits receipt of contributions of up to \$300 in an election year, and \$100 in any other year. The bill would increase those limits to \$600 in an election year and \$250 in other years.

For candidates with territory with a population of more than 100,000, the limits are increased from \$500 in an election year to \$1,000, and in other years from \$100 to \$250.

An immediate effective date is provided.