

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill increases certain expenditure and contribution limits that apply to candidates for state legislature or minor constitutional office.

1 Amounts; expenditure limits. Increases expenditure limits for candidates that have signed a public subsidy agreement, as follows:

- Candidates for secretary of state and state auditor: increase from \$214,800 to \$1,000,000
- Candidates for attorney general: increase from \$429,000 to \$1,000,000
- Candidates for state senator: increase from \$64,500 to \$70,000
- Candidates for state representative: increase from \$32,500 to \$35,000

The current expenditure limits are based on a formula provided in statute that adjusts the limits for inflation prior to each election cycle. The limits established in this section would apply to the 2012 election cycle, with scheduled inflationary increases resuming in 2014.

2 Contribution limits. Increases the contribution limits that apply to certain candidates for state office and their principal campaign committees, as follows:

- Candidates for attorney general, secretary of state, and state auditor: increase from \$1,000 (election year) and \$200 (non-election year) to \$2,000 (election year) and \$500 (non-election year)
- Candidates for state senator and state representative: in non-election years, increase from \$100 to \$250. Election year limits remain unchanged at \$500.

The changes in this section would apply to contributions received on or after July 1, 2012.