

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 7

6
7 H.P. 11

House of Representatives, January 5, 1983

8 Reference to the Committee on Election Laws suggested and ordered
9 printed.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative J. Diamond of Bangor.

Cosponsors: Senator Carpenter of Aroostook, Senator Pearson of
11 Penobscot and Representative Crouse of Washburn.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
16

17 AN ACT Relating to Referendum Campaign
18 Reports and Finances.
19

20 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as
21 follows:

22 Sec. 1. 21 MRSA c. 35-A, first 2 lines, as
23 enacted by PL 1977, c. 575, §17, are repealed and the
24 following enacted in their place:

25 CHAPTER 35-A

26 REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN REPORTS AND FINANCES

27 Sec. 2. 21 MRSA §1412-A is enacted to read:

28 §1412-A. Limitations on contributions and expendi-
29 tures

1 1. Individuals. No individual may make contri-
2 butions in an aggregate amount greater than \$1,000 to
3 any campaign.

4 2. Committees; corporations; associations. No
5 political committee, other committee, corporation or
6 association may make contributions in an aggregate
7 amount greater than \$5,000 to any campaign.

8 3. Political committee, intermediaries. For the
9 purpose of the limitations imposed by this section,
10 contributions made to any political committee author-
11 ized by a campaign to accept contributions shall be
12 considered to be contributions made to that campaign.

13 For the purposes of the limitations imposed by this
14 section, all contributions made by a person, either
15 directly or indirectly, on behalf of a particular
16 campaign, including contributions which are in any
17 way earmarked or otherwise directed through an inter-
18 mediary or conduit to that campaign, shall be treated
19 as contributions from this person to that campaign.
20 The intermediary or conduit shall report the original
21 source and the intended recipient of the contribution
22 to the commission and to the intended recipient.

23 4. Other contributions and expenditures.
24 Expenditures made by any person in cooperation, con-
25 sultation or concert with, or at the request or sug-
26 gestion of, a campaign's political committee or its
27 agents shall be considered to be a contribution to
28 that campaign.

29 The financing by any person of the dissemination,
30 distribution or republication, in whole or in part,
31 of any broadcast or any written or other campaign
32 materials shall be considered to be a contribution to
33 that campaign.

34 5. Certain expenditures prohibited. A political
35 committee, a party or committee thereof, a person re-
36 quired to file a report under this chapter or their
37 authorized agents may not make any expenditure for
38 liquor to be distributed to or consumed by voters
39 while the polls are open on election day.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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The purpose of this bill is to prevent undue influence of referendum campaigns through excessive contributions from a single source. This bill essentially provides the same limitations that are established for contributions to candidates.

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