

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 822

H.P. 581

House of Representatives, February 16, 2005

An Act Regarding Fundraising for Clean Election and Traditional Candidates in Leadership Races

Reference to the Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative CUMMINGS of Portland.
Cosponsored by Representative: WATSON of Bath.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

4 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1021** is enacted to read:

6 **§1021. Leadership allowance**

8 A candidate for a leadership position in the Legislature may
10 raise up to \$10,000 in a calendar year to be used in the
12 candidate's campaign for the leadership position. A contribution
14 received under this section may not exceed \$250 and may not be
16 made by a corporation, political action committee or lobbyist
18 registered under Title 3, chapter 15. Funds received under this
20 section may not be used in a campaign for a legislative seat.

22 **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§2**, as enacted by IB 1995, c. 1,
24 §17, is amended to read:

26 **2. Restrictions on contributions for participating**
28 **candidates.** Subsequent to becoming a candidate as defined by
30 section 1, subsection 5 and prior to certification, a
32 participating candidate may not accept contributions, except for
34 seed money contributions. A participating candidate must limit
36 the candidate's seed money contributions to the following amounts:

38 A. Fifty thousand dollars for a gubernatorial candidate;

40 B. One thousand five hundred dollars for a candidate for
42 the State Senate; or

44 C. Five hundred dollars for a candidate for the State House
46 of Representatives.

48 The commission may, by rule, revise these amounts to ensure the
effective implementation of this chapter. This subsection does
not apply to a contribution accepted pursuant to section 1021.

SUMMARY

This bill allows a candidate for a legislative leadership
position to raise up to \$10,000 in a calendar year for a
leadership allowance to be used in the campaign for the
leadership position. Contributions to a leadership allowance may
not exceed \$250 and may not come from corporations, political
action committees or lobbyists. Funds in a leadership allowance
may not be used in campaigns for legislative seats. The
leadership allowance is available to both regular and Maine Clean
Election Act candidates.