

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 5/15/15

L.D. 174  
(Filing No. H-147)

**VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
127TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 132, L.D. 174, Bill, "An Act To Restrict the Raising of Money by Maine Clean Election Act Candidates"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'An Act To Amend the Maine Clean Election Act Regarding Candidate Participation in Political Action Committees'**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting the following:

**'Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§6-F is enacted to read:**

**6-F. Participation in political action committees. A participating candidate or a certified candidate may not establish a political action committee for which the candidate is a treasurer or principal officer or for which the candidate is primarily responsible for fund-raising or decision making. This prohibition applies between April 1st immediately preceding a general election through:**

- A. The date on which the candidate withdraws from a race;**
- B. The date of the primary election or general election for a candidate who loses either election; or**
- C. January 1st immediately preceding the next general election for a candidate who wins the general election.**

**This prohibition also applies to a participating candidate or certified candidate in a special election, except that the prohibition begins on the date of the candidate's nomination. This subsection does not prohibit a participating candidate or certified candidate, including a certified candidate who wins a general or special election, from engaging in fund-raising or decision making for a party caucus political action committee, a ballot question committee or a political action committee formed for the purpose of promoting or opposing a ballot question. This prohibition applies to a participating candidate or certified candidate regardless of the date on which the political action committee was established.**

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

**ROFS**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 132, L.D. 174

1           **Sec. 2. Effective date.** This Act takes effect January 1, 2016.'

2   **SUMMARY**

3           This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment prohibits a Maine Clean Election  
4 Act candidate, as part of the terms of participation in the act, from establishing a political  
5 action committee for which the candidate is a treasurer or principal officer or for which  
6 the candidate is primarily responsible for fund-raising or decision making. This  
7 prohibition applies beginning with the election cycle beginning in 2016. For the purpose  
8 of this prohibition, an election cycle begins on April 1st immediately preceding the  
9 general election and ends on January 1st immediately preceding the next general election.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**  
(See Attached)



# 127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 174

LR 1061(02)

An Act To Restrict the Raising of Money by Maine Clean Election Act Candidates

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment 'A' (H-147)

Committee: Veterans and Legal Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

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## Fiscal Note

Potential current biennium savings - Other Special Revenue Funds

### Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill prohibits, during certain date ranges, Maine Clean Election Act (MCEA) candidates from establishing a political action committee (PAC) for which they are a treasurer, principal officer or primarily responsible for fundraising or decision making. The amount of savings will depend on the number of MCEA eligible candidates who choose to establish these PACs. Based on 2014 MCEA payments from the Maine Clean Election Fund there would have been an approximate savings of \$4,910 and \$22,705 for each MCEA certified candidate for State Representative and State Senator, respectively, that chose not to become MCEA certified. No estimate is made at this time of the number of candidates that might forego MCEA certification to establish these PACs moving forward.