

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
STATE GOVERNMENT
BILL SUMMARY



JULY, 1983

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AN ACT TO REQUIRE CAMPAIGN CONTRI - Kany
BUTIONS TO BE REPORTED IN THE
LOBBYIST DISCLOSURE LAW

OTP

SUMMARY: ID 768 proposed to amend the Lobbyist disclosure law to require campaign contributions provided by a political action committee to an elected legislative official, via a lobbyist to be reported under the lobbyist disclosure law. The campaign contribution would be deemed a lobbyist expense.

Presently there are 3 major laws that affect legislators with respect to contributions. The Campaign Reports and Finances Law (21 MRSA, Chapter 35) requires scheduled reporting of contributions by the candidates during their campaigns. If, at the end of a campaign, a candidate has less than \$50 of contributions, no more reports are required. If the candidate or elected official receives campaign contributions following the closing of his/her books the contributions do not have to be reported.

The second law is the Lobbyist disclosure law (3 MRSA, Chapter 15) which requires lobbyist to submit monthly disclosure reports during legislative sessions, a post session disclosure report within 30 days following adjournment of the Legislature, and an annual disclosure report. These lobbyist disclosure reports include, among many items, all expenditures made to any legislative official or the official's immediate family, the names of the recipients and the dates of the expenditures.

The Third law is the Conflict of Interest Law (Title 1, Chapter 25). Among many provisions this law prohibits a legislator from voting on questions in connection with the conflict. It is presumed that the disclosure of contributions, in many cases, alleviates the legislator from the restriction on voting on questions of interest to the contributor.

- 771 AN ACT TO CHANGE THE DEFINITION OF FULL-TIME OFFICERS IN THE MANDATORY OFFICER TRAINING LAW Mitchell,J. LV/WD
- 788 RESOLUTION, PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF MAINE REDUCING THE SIZE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO 99 Hobbins LV/WD