

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
106TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

L. J. R.  
SENATE AMENDMENT " A " to S.P. 749, L.D. 2178,  
Bill, "AN ACT Limiting the Amount of Money Spent  
on Promoting or Opposing Referendum Questions."

Amend said Bill by striking out everything  
after the enacting clause and inserting in place  
thereof the following:

'R. S., T. 21, § 1391-B, additional. Title 21  
of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a  
new section 1391-B to read as follows:

§ 1391-B. Donations to referendum campaigns

The Legislature finds and declares that it is  
in the best interests of the people of the State  
of Maine to place certain limits on spending for the  
promotion or defeat of a referendum question. The  
Legislature, while recognizing the right of the  
citizens of the State of Maine to speak out on  
issues presented by referendum questions, also is  
cognizant that abuses can occur through the  
expenditure of huge sums of money to influence the  
voters and further recognizes that an attempt should  
be made to equalize the various presentations on  
referendum questions in order that the citizens have  
a balanced view as presented by proponents and  
opponents of referendum questions. The Legislature  
finds that the imposition of certain expenditure  
limits which it feels are properly related to the  
end sought to be achieved will not result in the  
abridgment of any constitutional freedoms of the  
citizens, such as freedom of speech, and will not  
interfere with the right of the citizens to  
exercise their rights under the Constitution with  
respect to referendum matters.

No person, corporation, business, private  
utility, association, municipality, political  
subdivision or governmental agency may make

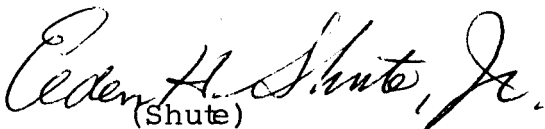
(Filing No 8-396)

expenditures in excess of \$3,000 to initiate, promote or defeat the public referendum of direct, initiative legislation within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine or a state-wide public referendum of any statute.

For the purposes of this section, "expenditures" means a purchase, payment, distribution, loan, advance, deposit or gift of money or the gift of or use of corporate facilities or personnel or property or the gift or use of anything of value, except for an arm's-length loan of money made by a national or state bank or credit union in accordance with applicable laws, and except for the provision of services rendered without compensation by individuals volunteering their time.'

Statement of Fact

The purpose of this amendment is to correct an error and to insert the provisions voted upon by a majority of the Election Laws Committee.

  
(Shute)

NAME:

COUNTY: Franklin

Reproduced and distributed pursuant to Senate Rule 11-A.

March 14, 1974. (Filing No. S-396).