

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1301

H. P. 1050

House of Representatives, March 19, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Election Laws. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Ms. Benoit of South Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Clarify the Requirements Relating to Campaign Reports and Finances.

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

Sec. 1. 21 MRSA § 1396, sub-§ 2, ¶ B, as repealed and replaced by PL 1975, c. 759, § 1, is amended to read:

B. The identification of every person making a contribution in excess of \$10, and the date and amount thereof and, if a person's contributions in any ~~election~~ **report filing period** aggregate more than \$50, the account shall include occupation and the principal place of business, if any, and, if such person is a member of a candidate's immediate family as defined in section 1395, subsection 1, the account shall state such relationship;

Sec. 2. 21 MRSA § 1397, sub-§ 4, ¶ C, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 575, § 13, is amended to read:

C. Reports shall be filed not later than 5 p.m. on the 42nd day after the date on which an election is held and shall be complete ~~for the entire election campaign as of the 35th day after such date~~ **since the prior completion date of the 11th day before the date of election.**

Sec. 3. 21 MRSA § 1397, sub-§ 6, as last repealed and replaced by PL 1977, c. 575, § 13, is amended to read:

6. Content. A report required under this section shall contain the itemized accounts of contributions received and the name, address, occupation and principal place of business if any, of each person who has made a contribution of an aggregate amount in excess of \$50 for that **election report filing period**.

It shall contain the itemized expenditures made or authorized, the purpose of each and the name of each payee and creditor. Total contributions with respect to an election of less than \$500 ~~except when contributions in any election by one person in an aggregate amount in excess of \$50 are included~~ and total expenditures of less than \$500 need not be itemized. Such report shall contain a statement of any loan of money in an aggregate amount of \$500 or more to a candidate by a financial institution made during the period covered by the report, whether or not such loan is defined as a contribution under section 1392, subsection 2, paragraph A.

Sec. 4. 21 MRSA § 1397, sub-§ 7, first sentence, as last repealed and replaced by PL 1977, c. 575, § 13, is amended to read:

Reports required by this chapter shall be on forms prescribed by the commission, ~~and~~ prepared by the Secretary of State **and sent in duplicate by the Secretary of State to each candidate**.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill changes current language referring to aggregate total contributions from the whole election to any one filing period. It makes campaign reports sequential rather than all inclusive and also requires the Secretary of State to furnish extra copies of campaign report forms to candidates. It applies to candidates for state and county office, other than the office of the Governor.