

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 1367

H.P. 1014 House of Representatives, April 28, 1987
Reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs suggested and
ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative HANDY of Lewiston.
Cosponsored by Representative CARROLL of Gray, Senators
ESTES of York and MATTHEWS of Kennebec.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SEVEN

AN ACT to Limit Contributions which
Candidates may Receive from Political
Action Committees.

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

21-A MRSA §1015-A is enacted to read:

§1015-A. Limitations on receipts from political ac-
tion committees.

The amount of aggregate contributions which a
candidate may receive in support of his campaign from
all political action committees, as defined in sec-
tion 1552, is limited, as provided in this section.

1. Candidates. Candidates are limited as fol-
lows.

1 A. A candidate for Governor is limited to a total
2 of \$45,000 in contributions from all political
3 action committees.

4 B. A candidate for the Senate is limited to a
5 total of \$1,000 in contributions from all political
6 action committees.

7 C. A candidate for Representative to the Legis-
8 lature is limited to a total of \$500 in contribu-
9 tions from all political action committees.

10 D. A candidate for other state elective offices
11 is limited to a total of \$250 in contributions
12 from all political action committees.

13 2. Inflation factor. The limitations imposed by
14 this section shall be adjusted by an inflation factor
15 to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index. This
16 inflation factor shall be determined by dividing the
17 Consumer Price Index for the year in which contribu-
18 tions are made by the Consumer Price Index for the
19 preceding year. The resulting quotient shall then be
20 multiplied by the limitation imposed by this section
21 and rounded off to the nearest \$50 increment to de-
22 termine the new limitation for that year. The Con-
23 sumer Price Index for urban wage earners and clerical
24 workers, for all items, using the 1967 base of 100,
25 compiled by the United States Department of Labor,
26 Bureau of Labor Statistics, shall be used for the
27 computations described in this subsection. The Com-
28 mission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices
29 shall compute and advise qualified candidates, as de-
30 termined by the Secretary of State, of the limita-
31 tions imposed by this section.

32 3. Political parties. The limitations provided
33 in this section do not apply to contributions made by
34 a party qualified to appear on the ballot in a pri-
35 mary or general election during the year in which the
36 contributions were made.

37 4. Fraudulent or misleading contributions. For
38 the purpose of the limitations imposed by this sec-
39 tion, section 1015, subsections 4 and 5 apply to con-
40 tributions or expenditures made by political action
41 committees.

STATEMENT OF FACT

1

2 This bill establishes a limit on total contribu-
3 tions which various candidates may accept from all
4 political action committees contributing to their
5 campaigns. The limit varies with the office being
6 sought. For the Office of Governor, the total con-
7 tributions which a candidate may receive from all po-
8 litical action committees is \$45,000; for State Sen-
9 ate \$1,000; for State Representative \$500; and for
10 any other state office \$250.

11 These limitations will be adjusted each election
12 year to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index
13 so that the limits don't become outdated by inflation
14 over the years. Candidates will be advised of new
15 limits by the Commission on Governmental Ethics and
16 Election Practices.

17 The limitations imposed by this bill do not apply
18 to contributions made by political parties, but do
19 apply to contributions by political action committees
20 made through an intermediary or expenditures made by
21 political action committees on a candidate's behalf
22 with that candidate's consent or cooperation.

23

0272010687