MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 1703

H.P. 1162

House of Representatives, April 25, 1991

Reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative MITCHELL of Vassalboro. Cosponsored by Representative SIMONDS of Cape Elizabeth.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

An Act to Reform Campaign Finance.



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

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- 2 Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1015, sub-§§1 and 2, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 161, §6, are amended to read: 4
- Individuals. No individual may make contributions to a candidate in support of the candidacy of one person, aggregating 8 more than \$1,000 \$2,000 in any election. This limitation does not apply to contributions in support of a candidate by that candidate or his that candidate's spouse.
 - Committees; corporations; associations. No political committee, other committee, corporation or association may make contributions to a candidate, in support of the candidacy of one person, aggregating more than \$5,000 \$2,000 in any election.

Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1016, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

- 18 1-A. Separate accounts; spending limitations. All campaign 20 funds of a candidate or candidate's political committee must be separated into separate accounts, an "individual contributors 22 account" for contributions from individuals and an contributors account" for contributions from political committees, political action committees, corporations or 24 membership associations. No more than 1/3 of a candidate's total 26 campaign expenditures, as computed and accrued monthly, may be paid from the other contributors account. Notwithstanding section 1004, violation of this section is a Class D crime. 28
 - Sec. 3. 21-A MRSA §1016, sub-§3, ¶C, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 161, §6, is amended to read:
 - All expenditures made by or on behalf of the committee candidate, separated by accounts in accordance with subsection 1-A. A candidate may only spend money from the individual contributors account initially. The candidate or committee must file statements with the commission at least monthly certifying the amounts of expenditures from each account. In no event may expenditures from the other contributors account exceed 1/3 of the expenditures from the individual contributors account for that reporting period; and

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill equalizes the restrictions on contributions to a single candidate by limiting individuals and other entities, as set out in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 21-A, section 1015, subsections 1 and 2, to \$2,000 per election. Candidates are to keep separate accounts for the 2 contributions and no more than 1/3 of the candidate's total campaign expenditures may be paid from the other contributors account, as based on monthly certifications of expenditures from each account. Violation of this limitation is a Class D crime.