

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

No. 250

S.P. 97

In Senate, February 2, 1993

An Act to Amend the Campaign Finance Laws.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HANLEY of Oxford.

Cosponsored by Representatives: AULT of Wayne, BENNETT of Norway, GOULD of Greenville, TRUE of Fryeburg.

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

2
3 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1015, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 1985, c.
4 161, §6, is amended to read:

6 **2. Committees; corporations; associations.** No political
7 committee, other committee, corporation or association may make
8 contributions to a candidate, in support of the candidacy of one
9 person, aggregating more than \$5,000 \$100 in any election.

10 **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1015, sub-§§7 and 8** are enacted to read:

12 **7. Voluntary limitations on political expenditures.** A
13 candidate may voluntarily agree to limit the candidate's campaign
14 expenditures and those of the candidate's political committee or
15 committees, the candidate's party and the candidate's immediate
16 family on the candidate's behalf by filing an affidavit with the
17 Secretary of State.

20 **A. The affidavit must state that the candidate knows the**
21 **voluntary expenditure limitations as set out in subsection 8**
22 **and that the candidate is voluntarily agreeing to limit the**
23 **candidate's political expenditures and those made on the**
24 **candidate's behalf by the candidate's political committee or**
25 **committees, the candidate's party and the candidate's**
26 **immediate family to the amount set by law. The affidavit**
27 **must further state that the candidate does not condone and**
28 **will not solicit any independent expenditures made on behalf**
29 **of the candidate. The affidavit must be sworn and**
30 **subscribed to by the candidate and notarized.**

32 **B. Affidavits in compliance with this subsection must be**
33 **filed within 3 days after the date on which a candidate**
34 **files a declaration of candidacy or a declaration of intent**
35 **or is declared a write-in winner of a primary election.**

36 **8. Political expenditure limitation amounts.** Total
37 expenditures by a candidate who voluntarily agrees to limit
38 campaign expenditures as provided in subsection 7 are as follows:

40 **A. For Governor and United States Senator:**

42 **(1) Four hundred thousand dollars in a state primary**
43 **election; and**

44 **(2) Four hundred thousand dollars in a state general**
45 **election;**

48 **B. For Representative to Congress:**
50

2 (1) Two hundred thousand dollars in a state primary
 election; and

4 (2) Two hundred thousand dollars in a state general
 election;

6
8 C. For State Legislator:

10 (1) Fifteen thousand dollars in a state primary
 election; and

12 (2) Fifteen thousand dollars in a state general
 election; and

14
16 D. For representative to all county offices, based on the
 latest figures filed with the Secretary of State:

18 (1) Twenty-five cents per registered voter in the
 district or the county in a state primary election; and

20 (2) Twenty-five cents per registered voter in the
22 district or the county in a state general election.

24 For the purposes of this subsection and subsection 7, "total
26 expenditures" means the sum of all expenditures made to influence
 either a state primary election or a state general election made
28 by a candidate and those made on the candidate's behalf by the
 candidate's political committee or committees, the candidate's
30 party and the candidate's immediate family. Each campaign
 expenditure limitation amount applies solely and independently to
32 either the state primary election or the state general election.

34 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

36 This bill establishes limits on campaign spending and allows
38 candidates to limit voluntarily the amount of money they spend on
 a campaign. The bill also limits contributions made by political
40 action committees to \$100 per election per candidate.