

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

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Legislative Document

No. 882

S.P. 296

In Senate, March 15, 1993

**An Act to Reform the Campaign Finance Laws.**

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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 WEBSTER of Franklin.

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 Political action committee contributions made to a candidate in  
11 support of the candidacy of one person are restricted by section  
12 1056. Any committee, corporation, association or other group,  
13 whether registered or not, may make unlimited contributions to a  
14 political party.

16       **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1017-A, sub-§4, ¶A**, as enacted by PL 1991,  
17 c. 839, §23 and affected by §33, is amended to read:

18       A. Reports filed during an election year must be filed with  
19 the commission on: July 15th and be complete as of June  
20 30th; October 27th and be complete as of October 22nd; and  
21 January 15th and be complete as of December 31st. Reports  
22 filed during an election year must also be filed with the  
23 Secretary of State 20 days prior to the date of the election.

26       **Sec. 3. 21-A MRSA §1017-A, sub-§4, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 1991,  
27 c. 839, §23 and as affected by §33, is repealed.

28       **Sec. 4. 21-A MRSA §1017-A, sub-§4-A** is enacted to read:

29       **4-A. Time limitation.** Party committees may not contribute  
30 money to a candidate within 21 days before an election.  
31 Prior to 21 days before an election, a party may make  
32 unlimited contributions to a candidate.

36       **Sec. 5. 21-A MRSA §1056, sub-§1**, as enacted by PL 1985, c.  
37 161, §6, is amended to read:

38       **1. Aggregate expenditures.** No committee may make  
39 expenditures in support of or opposition to the candidacy of one  
40 person or to a political committee in an aggregate amount greater  
41 than \$5,000 \$100 in any election. A committee may make unlimited  
42 contributions to a political party.

## 46 STATEMENT OF FACT

48       This bill limits to \$100 the amount that a political  
49 committee, political action committee, corporation or association  
50 may donate to any one candidate per election. This limitation  
51 does not apply to a candidate's own political committee. The  
52 bill also allows political committees, political action  
53 committees, individuals and any other groups, whether registered

2 or not, to make unlimited contributions to political parties;  
allows political parties to make unlimited contributions to  
4 candidates up to 21 days before an election; restricts political  
parties from making any contributions to candidates within 21  
6 days of an election; and requires political parties to file  
reports with the Secretary of State 20 days before an election.