

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 1115

H.P. 798

House of Representatives, March 30, 1995

An Act to Create a Voluntary Campaign Spending Law.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative GERRY of Auburn.

Cosponsored by Representatives: CAMPBELL of Holden, LANE of Enfield, LAYTON of Cherryfield, LEMONT of Kittery, YACKOBITZ of Hermon, Senator: HARRIMAN of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1011**, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 161, §6,
4 is amended to read:

6 **§1011. Application**

8 This subchapter applies to candidates for all state and
10 county offices and to campaigns for their nomination and
election. This subchapter also applies to candidates for federal
12 offices for the purposes of section 1015, subsections 7 and 8 and
section 1017, subsection 1.

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

16 7. Voluntary limitations on political expenditures. A
18 candidate for state or federal office may voluntarily agree to
limit the candidate's campaign expenditures and those of the
20 candidate's political committee or committees, the candidate's
party and the candidate's immediate family on the candidate's
22 behalf by filing an affidavit with the Secretary of State.

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

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

40 8. Political expenditure limitation amounts. Total
expenditures by a candidate for state or federal office who
42 voluntarily agrees to limit campaign expenditures as provided in
subsection 7 may not exceed 50¢ per registered voter.

44 For the purposes of this subsection and subsection 7, "total
46 expenditures" means the sum of all expenditures to influence
either a state primary election or a state general election made
48 by a candidate and made on the candidate's behalf by the
candidate's political committee or committees, the candidate's
50 party and the candidate's immediate family. Each campaign

2 expenditure limitation amount applies solely and independently to
3 the state or federal primary election and the state or federal
4 general election.

6 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

8 This bill allows candidates for state or federal office to
9 limit voluntarily the amount of money they spend on a campaign to
10 50¢ per registered voter or less.