

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1144

H.P. 847

House of Representatives, March 4, 2003

An Act To Clarify the Maine Clean Election Act

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative BRUNO of Raymond.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1019, sub-§2,** as amended by PL 2001, c.
465, §1, is further amended to read:

6 **2. Content.** This report must contain an itemized account
of each contribution or expenditure aggregating in excess of \$50
8 in any election, the date and purpose of each and the name of
each payee or creditor. Total contributions or expenditures of
10 less than \$500 in any election need not be itemized. The report
must state whether the contribution or expenditure is in support
12 of or in opposition to the candidate and ~~must include, under~~
~~penalty of perjury, as provided in Title 17-A, section 451, a~~
14 ~~statement under oath or affirmation whether the expenditure is~~
~~made in cooperation, consultation or concert with, or at the~~
16 ~~request or suggestion of, any candidate or any authorized~~
~~committee or agent of a candidate.~~

18 **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§9,** as enacted by IB 1995, c. 1,
20 §17, is amended to read:

22 **9. Matching funds.** When any campaign, finance or election
report shows that the sum of a candidate's expenditures or
24 obligations, or funds raised or borrowed, whichever is greater,
alone or in conjunction with independent expenditures reported
26 under section 1019, exceeds the distribution amount under
subsection 8, the commission shall issue immediately to any
28 opposing Maine Clean Election Act candidate an additional amount
equivalent to the reported excess. Matching funds are limited to
30 2 times the amount originally distributed under subsection 8,
paragraph A or C, whichever is applicable. An expenditure made
32 before a primary election is not subject to matching funds under
this subsection for general election purposes, regardless of the
34 purpose of the expenditure.

36
38 **SUMMARY**

40 This bill removes the provision in the election laws
requiring a person making an independent expenditure in an
42 election to indicate whether a candidate had knowledge of that
expenditure and clarifies that expenditures made before a primary
44 election are not subject to Maine Clean Election Act matching
funds for the general election, regardless of the purpose of the
expenditure.