

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 1250

H.P. 869

House of Representatives, March 30, 2009

An Act To Amend the Maine Clean Election Act Relating to Seed Money

(AFTER DEADLINE)

-
- Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.
 - ✓ Reference to the Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative HARVELL of Farmington.
Cosponsored by Senator SHERMAN of Aroostook and
Representatives: BROWNE of Vassalboro, FOSSEL of Alna, GILES of Belfast, HAYES of
Buckfield, KAENRATH of South Portland, NUTTING of Oakland, VALENTINO of Saco,
Senator: COURTNEY of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1122, sub-§9**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 571, §10, is
3 further amended to read:

4 **9. Seed money contribution.** "Seed money contribution" means a contribution of
5 no more than ~~\$100~~ \$250 per individual made to a participating candidate, including the
6 candidate or the candidate's spouse or domestic partner.

7 **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§2, ¶B**, as enacted by IB 1995, c. 1, §17, is
8 amended to read:

9 B. ~~One thousand five hundred~~ Three thousand dollars for a candidate for the State
10 Senate; or

11 **Sec. 3. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§2, ¶C**, as enacted by IB 1995, c. 1, §17, is
12 amended to read:

13 C. ~~Five hundred~~ One thousand dollars for a candidate for the State House of
14 Representatives.

15 **Sec. 4. Rules.** The Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices
16 shall amend its rules to decrease by \$1,500 the amount of seed money a candidate for the
17 State Senate may receive as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate and to decrease by
18 \$500 the amount of seed money a candidate for the State House of Representatives may
19 receive as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate. Rules adopted pursuant to this section
20 are routine technical rules as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375,
21 subchapter 2-A.

22 **SUMMARY**

23 This bill increases the seed money contribution a participating candidate may receive
24 from \$100 to \$250 per individual. It also increases the amount of seed money that can be
25 raised by a candidate for the State Senate from \$1,500 to \$3,000 and from \$500 to \$1,000
26 for a candidate for the State House of Representatives. The bill also directs the
27 Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to amend its rules to
28 decrease by \$1,500 the amount of seed money a candidate for the State Senate may
29 receive as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate and to decrease by \$500 the amount of
30 seed money a candidate for the State House of Representatives may receive as a Maine
31 Clean Election Act candidate.