

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

Legislative Document

No. 1023

S.P. 347

In Senate, March 14, 2013

**An Act To Provide Transparency in Fund-raising by and Lobbying
of a Governor-elect**

Submitted by the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, section 1009.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

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

2 **Sec. 1. 1 MRSA c. 25, sub-c. 3** is enacted to read:

3 **SUBCHAPTER 3**

4 **GOVERNOR-ELECT**

5 **§1051. Disclosure of donations to fund transition and inaugural activities**

6 The Governor-elect may establish a committee, referred to in this section as "the
7 committee," to solicit and accept donations for the purposes of financing the costs related
8 to the inauguration of the Governor-elect and financing the activities related to the
9 transition to the office of Governor by the Governor-elect. If the Governor-elect appoints
10 such a committee, the Governor-elect shall appoint a treasurer for the committee who is
11 responsible for keeping records of donations and for filing the financial disclosure
12 statement required by subsection 1. All donations received must be deposited in a
13 separate and segregated account and may not be commingled with any campaign
14 contributions received by the Governor-elect or the political committee of the Governor-
15 elect or any personal or business funds of the Governor-elect or any other person. The
16 Governor-elect may not personally solicit or accept donations for these purposes.

17 **1. Registration with the commission and financial disclosure statement of**
18 **donors.** The committee shall register and file a financial disclosure statement with the
19 commission as required by this subsection.

20 A. The committee shall register with the commission within 10 days of the
21 appointment of a treasurer. The registration must include the names and mailing
22 addresses of the committee, its treasurer and all individuals who are raising funds for
23 the committee.

24 B. The financial disclosure statement must contain the names, addresses, occupations
25 and employers of all donors who have given money or anything of value to the
26 committee, along with the amounts and dates of the donations. Loans must be
27 disclosed as a form of donation. Donors who have given \$100 or less may be
28 disclosed in the aggregate without itemization.

29 C. Any outstanding loan, debt or other obligation as of the filing deadline under
30 paragraph D must be disclosed by the committee.

31 D. The financial disclosure statement must be completed and filed by 5:00 p.m. on
32 February 15th of the year following the election.

33 E. The commission may adopt procedures and forms for the disclosures required
34 under this subsection. In developing the form of the financial disclosure statement,
35 the commission shall consider the ease with which the public will be able to access
36 the information and the reasonableness of the burden on the committee or the
37 committee's treasurer.

1 of the inauguration or the transition to office. Communicating with a Governor-elect or
2 the Governor-elect's staff to influence legislation would constitute lobbying that is
3 disclosed in reports to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices.

4 This bill also amends the definition of "official in the legislative branch" to exclude
5 candidates for or officers of the Legislature.