

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 189

S.P. 64

In Senate, January 27, 2015

An Act To Prohibit Undisclosed Political Spending

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator SAVIELLO of Franklin.
Cosponsored by Senators: BURNS of Washington, KATZ of Kennebec, LANGLEY of
Hancock.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1017-A, sub-§1-A** is enacted to read:

3 **1-A. Identification of contributions from certain entities.** A party committee
4 shall report all donors disclosed to the party committee pursuant to section 1017-B,
5 subsection 4.

6 **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1017-B, sub-§4** is enacted to read:

7 **4. Record of contributions from certain entities.** An entity qualifying for tax-
8 exempt status under 26 United States Code, Section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5) or 501(c)(6) that
9 makes a contribution to a party committee shall disclose to the party committee all donors
10 to that tax-exempt entity during the previous 2 calendar years. The treasurer of the party
11 committee shall keep a record of the disclosure and may not accept a contribution from a
12 tax-exempt entity unless the contribution is accompanied by the disclosure.

13 **Sec. 3. 21-A MRSA §1057, sub-§3-A** is enacted to read:

14 **3-A. Record of contributions from certain entities.** An entity qualifying for tax-
15 exempt status under 26 United States Code, Section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5) or 501(c)(6) that
16 makes a contribution to a political action committee or to an out-of-state political action
17 committee that makes expenditures to influence a campaign in the State shall disclose to
18 the political action committee all donors to that tax-exempt entity during the previous 2
19 calendar years. The treasurer of the political action committee shall keep a record of the
20 disclosure and may not accept a contribution from a tax-exempt entity unless the
21 contribution is accompanied by the disclosure.

22 **Sec. 4. 21-A MRSA §1060, sub-§6,** as amended by PL 2011, c. 389, §47, is
23 further amended to read:

24 **6. Identification of contributions.** Names, occupations, places of business and
25 mailing addresses of contributors who have given more than \$50 to the political action
26 committee in the reporting period and the amount and date of each contribution, except
27 that an organization qualifying as a political action committee under section 1052,
28 subsection 5, paragraph A, subparagraph (5) is required to report only those contributions
29 made to the organization for the purpose of influencing a ballot question or the
30 nomination or election of a candidate to political office and all transfers to or funds used
31 to support the political action committee from the general treasury of the organization;
32 ~~and~~

33 **Sec. 5. 21-A MRSA §1060, sub-§6-A** is enacted to read:

34 **6-A. Identification of contributions from certain entities.** Donors disclosed to
35 the political action committee under section 1057, subsection 3-A. Out-of-state political
36 action committees not required to register with the commission in receipt of donor
37 information under section 1057, subsection 3-A shall disclose this donor information
38 within 14 days of receiving a contribution; and

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SUMMARY

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This bill requires nonprofit entities to disclose their donors from the previous 2

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calendar years when making a contribution to a registered Maine party committee,

4

registered Maine political action committee or out-of-state political action committee

5

making expenditures to influence an election in Maine.