

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 256

S.P. 68

In Senate, January 22, 2019

An Act To Ban the Use of Leadership Political Action Committees for Personal Profit

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

Presented by Senator CHENETTE of York.
Cosponsored by Representative SCHNECK of Bangor and
Senators: President JACKSON of Aroostook, LUCHINI of Hancock.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRS §1054-B**, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 98, §1, is amended to
3 read:

4 **§1054-B. Payments to Legislators by political action committees**

5 If a Legislator is a principal officer or treasurer of a political action committee or is
6 one of the individuals primarily responsible for raising contributions or making decisions
7 for the political action committee, the committee may not compensate the Legislator for
8 services provided to the committee. The committee may not make payments or distribute,
9 loan, advance, deposit or gift money or anything of value to or compensate a business
10 owned or operated by the Legislator. The committee may reimburse the Legislator for
11 expenses incurred in the proper performance of the duties of the Legislator, for purchases
12 made on behalf of the committee and for travel expenses associated with volunteering for
13 the committee. Allowable reimbursement for expenses does not include payments from
14 the committee that are determined by the commission to be for the purpose of personal
15 financial enrichment of the Legislator. The funds of the committee may not be
16 commingled with the personal funds of the Legislator or the funds of a business owned or
17 operated by the Legislator.

18 **SUMMARY**

19 Current law prohibits a political action committee from compensating a Legislator or
20 a business owned or operated by the Legislator if the Legislator is a principal officer or
21 treasurer of the committee or one of the individuals primarily responsible for raising
22 contributions or making decisions for the committee. This bill further prohibits such a
23 political action committee from making loans or gifts to a business owned or operated by
24 the Legislator and prohibits commingling the funds of such a political action committee
25 with the personal funds of the Legislator or the funds of a business owned or operated by
26 the Legislator.