



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 429

January Session, 2003

Substitute House Bill No. 5162

House of Representatives, April 17, 2003

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. O'ROURKE of the 32nd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING NOTICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE FILING REQUIREMENTS TO GROUPS OF INDIVIDUALS PROMOTING THE SUCCESS OR DEFEAT OF REFERENDUM QUESTIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 9-333g of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2003*):

4 (d) A group of two or more individuals who have joined solely to
5 promote the success or defeat of a referendum question shall not be
6 required to file as a political committee, make such designations in
7 accordance with subsections (a) and (b) of this section or file
8 statements pursuant to section 9-333j, if the group does not receive or
9 expend in excess of one thousand dollars for the entire campaign and
10 the agent of such individuals files a certification with the proper
11 authority or authorities as required under section 9-333e before an
12 expenditure is made. The certification shall include the name of the

13 group, or the names of the persons who comprise the group, and the
14 name and address of the agent which shall appear on any
15 communication paid for or sponsored by the group as required by
16 section 9-333w. If the group receives or expends in excess of one
17 thousand dollars, the agent shall complete the statement of
18 organization and file as a political committee not later than three
19 business days thereafter. The agent shall provide the designated
20 campaign treasurer with all information required for completion of the
21 statements for filing as required by section 9-333j. The filing of a
22 certification under this subsection shall not relieve the group from
23 compliance with the provisions of this chapter, and the group shall be
24 considered a political committee established solely for a referendum
25 question for purposes of the limitations on contributions and
26 expenditures. The town clerk of each municipality in which a
27 referendum is to be held shall use the town clerk's best efforts to notify
28 all groups of two or more individuals who have joined solely to
29 promote the success or defeat of the question at such referendum of
30 the requirements of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	July 1, 2003

GAE *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Type	FY 04 \$	FY 05 \$
Elect. Enforcement Com.	GF - Cost	None	None

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 04 \$	FY 05 \$
All Municipalities	Cost	None	None

Explanation

This bill requires town clerks to use their best efforts to notify all groups of people who have joined together to promote the success or failure of a referendum question of the campaign finance filing requirements for a referendum. This bill has no fiscal impact on the state.

Municipal Impact

Municipalities will incur a workload increase and minimal costs, which are not anticipated to require additional resources, to notify certain people of the campaign finance filing requirements for a referendum.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5162

AN ACT CONCERNING NOTICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE FILING REQUIREMENTS TO GROUPS OF INDIVIDUALS PROMOTING THE SUCCESS OR DEFEAT OF REFERENDUM QUESTIONS**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires that, when a referendum is to be held, town clerks use their best efforts to notify groups organized to promote or defeat it of the law's requirements for such groups. The law requires any group of people who have joined together to promote the success or defeat of a referendum question to file a statement of organization as a political committee with the town clerk within 10 days of organizing. The chairman of the group must also designate a campaign treasurer and a depository institution. They are not required to file the statement if they do not receive or spend more than \$1,000 for their campaign, but they must file a certification with the town clerk stating their exemption. If the group subsequently receives or spends over \$1,000, it has three days to file a statement of organization. In either case, it is subject to campaign contribution and spending limits.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2003

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 16 Nay 0