



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 279

January Session, 2003

Substitute Senate Bill No. 201

Senate, April 10, 2003

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. DEFRONZO of the 6th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING MUNICIPALITIES TO ESTABLISH PROGRAMS FOR THE PUBLIC FINANCING OF CAMPAIGNS FOR ELECTION TO MUNICIPAL OFFICES.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2003*) Notwithstanding the
2 provisions of section 7-192a of the general statutes and subject to the
3 provisions of chapter 150 of the general statutes, any municipality
4 may, by ordinance, establish (1) a program for the public financing of
5 campaigns for election to the offices of chief executive officer and
6 municipal clerk of the municipality and for election to the legislative
7 body of the municipality, and (2) a commission to administer and
8 enforce such program. Any municipality establishing such a program
9 shall pay the costs of administering and enforcing the program.

This act shall take effect as follows:

| | |
|-----------|---------------------|
| Section 1 | <i>July 1, 2003</i> |
|-----------|---------------------|

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: None

Municipal Impact:

| Municipalities | Effect | FY 04 \$ | FY 05 \$ |
|------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| Various Municipalities | Cost | Indeterminate | Indeterminate |

Explanation

This bill gives municipalities the authority to pass an ordinance establishing a program for the public financing of campaigns for municipal offices. The bill also allows municipalities to establish a commission to administer and enforce a public financing of campaigns program.

This bill has no fiscal impact on the state, as municipalities, should they establish a public financing program, are required to pay the program’s administration and enforcement costs.

Municipalities would incur indeterminate costs to establish, administer, and enforce a public financing program. The bill does not address funding mechanisms to pay for the public financing of municipal election campaigns.

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 201

AN ACT AUTHORIZING MUNICIPALITIES TO ESTABLISH PROGRAMS FOR THE PUBLIC FINANCING OF CAMPAIGNS FOR ELECTION TO MUNICIPAL OFFICES**SUMMARY:**

This bill gives municipalities the authority to pass an ordinance establishing a public financing program for campaigns for the offices of chief executive office, municipal clerk, and member of the town legislative body. A town, city, or borough may establish, also by ordinance, a commission to administer and enforce a public financing program and must pay those costs. An ordinance's campaign finance provisions must comply with all the state's campaign finance laws, including those, for example, on contribution limits, reporting requirements, and illegal practices.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2003

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 11 Nay 4