



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 277

February Session, 2010

House Bill No. 5322

House of Representatives, April 1, 2010

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. SPALLONE of the 36th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING EXPENDITURE THRESHOLDS FOR A GROUP ORGANIZED SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROMOTING THE SUCCESS OR THE DEFEAT OF A REFERENDUM QUESTION.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 9-605 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2010*):

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 9-608, if the group does not receive or
9 expend in excess of [one] two thousand dollars for the entire campaign
10 and the agent of such individuals files a certification with the proper
11 authority or authorities as required under section 9-603 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 9-621. 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 9-608. 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.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	9-605(d)

GAE *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None***Explanation***

The bill makes changes to filing requirements for certain political committees and has no fiscal impact.

The Out Years***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5322*****AN ACT CONCERNING EXPENDITURE THRESHOLDS FOR A GROUP ORGANIZED SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROMOTING THE SUCCESS OR THE DEFEAT OF A REFERENDUM QUESTION.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill raises, from \$1,000 to \$2,000, the spending threshold above which two or more individuals who join solely to promote the success or defeat of a referendum question must register as a political committee (known as a PAC), designate a campaign treasurer, and file campaign receipts and expenditures (campaign finance statements). By law, a referendum PAC that exceeds the spending threshold must register with (1) the State Elections Enforcement Commission if it advocates for or against a statewide constitutional convention or amendment or (2) the applicable town clerk if it advocates for or against a referendum question upon which electors in a single municipality will vote.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2010

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 14 Nay 0 (03/18/2010)