



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2012

LCO No. 4120

SB0042004120SR0

Offered by:
SEN. MCKINNEY, 28th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 420 File No. 531 Cal. No. 354

**"AN ACT CONCERNING THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR
CANDIDATES SEEKING ELECTION TO THE OFFICE OF THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL."**

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2012*) (a) For the purposes of this
4 section and sections 502 and 503 of this act:

5 (1) "Contribution" means a contribution, as defined in section 9-601a
6 of the general statutes;

7 (2) "Impending matter" means any matter the Attorney General
8 knows is imminent or reasonably expects to be commenced in the near
9 future;

10 (3) "Impropriety" includes conduct that violates any provision of
11 law, including, but not limited to, the provisions of this section or
12 section 502 or 503 of this act, and conduct that undermines the
13 Attorney General's independence, integrity or impartiality; and

14 (4) "Political organization" means a political party or other group
15 sponsored by or affiliated with a political party or candidate, the
16 principal purpose of which is to further the election or appointment of
17 candidates for public office.

18 (b) Except as permitted by law, or by section 502 or 503 of this act,
19 the Attorney General shall not:

20 (1) Act as a leader in, or hold an office in, a political organization;

21 (2) Make speeches on behalf of a political organization;

22 (3) Publicly endorse or oppose a candidate for any public office;

23 (4) Solicit funds for, pay an assessment to, or make a contribution to
24 a political organization or a candidate for public office;

25 (5) Attend or purchase tickets for dinners or other events sponsored
26 by a political organization or a candidate for public office;

27 (6) Seek, accept or use endorsements from a political organization;

28 (7) Knowingly, or with reckless disregard for the truth, make any
29 false or misleading statement in connection with the appointment or
30 reappointment process;

31 (8) Make any statement that would reasonably be expected to affect
32 the outcome or impair the fairness of a matter pending or impending
33 in any court; or

34 (9) In connection with cases, controversies or issues that are likely to
35 come before the Attorney General, make pledges, promises or
36 commitments that are inconsistent with the impartial performance of
37 the duties of the Attorney General.

38 (c) The Attorney General shall take reasonable measures to ensure
39 that other persons do not undertake, on behalf of the Attorney
40 General, any activities prohibited under subsection (b) of this section.

41 (d) The Attorney General shall not engage in any other political
 42 activity except on behalf of measures to improve the law, the legal
 43 system or the administration of justice.

44 Sec. 502. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2012*) If a person holds the office of
 45 Attorney General and is a candidate for reelection or nomination for
 46 election to another office, such person may:

47 (1) Communicate with the appointing or nominating authority,
 48 including any selection, screening or nominating commission or
 49 similar agency; and

50 (2) Seek endorsements for the appointment or nomination from any
 51 person or organization other than a partisan political organization,
 52 provided such endorsement or the request for such endorsement
 53 would not appear to a reasonable person to undermine the Attorney
 54 General's independence, integrity or impartiality.

55 Sec. 503. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2012*) (a) Upon becoming a
 56 candidate for an elective public office either in a party primary or a
 57 general election, a person holding the office of Attorney General shall
 58 resign from such office unless permitted by law to continue to hold
 59 such office. Such person may continue to hold such office while being
 60 a candidate for election to or serving as a delegate in a state
 61 constitutional convention.

62 (b) Upon becoming a candidate for an appointive public office, the
 63 Attorney General is not required to resign from the office of Attorney
 64 General, provided the Attorney General complies with all other
 65 provisions of law."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 501	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	New section
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