

Government Administration and Elections Committee
JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-498

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COMPLIANT ACCOUNTS

Title: BY PARTY COMMITTEES FOR EXPENDITURES ON STATE ELECTIONS.

Vote Date: 3/23/2018

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 3/19/2018

File No.: 485

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Government Administration and Elections Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

The bill provides for more transparency in campaign finance expenditure reporting and disclosures. It easier for party committees to comply with state and federal campaign finance laws and reflect the expenditures on the campaign finance statements. It creates state-only, federal-only, and compliant accounts for party committees. It gives party committees the option of making compliant accounts from which they can make expenditures for state elections.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Michael Brandi, Executive Director, General Counsel, State Elections Enforcement Commission (SEEC)

The bill makes into law a 2016 settlement agreement between the Commission and the Democratic State Central Committee which clarifies that all party committees have the option of establishing a compliant account from which expenditures for state elections may be made. The bill will make for a more transparent way for the parties to report and disclose their spending. SEEC has also changed their electronic reporting system to accommodate the new reporting, so it can be more easily used.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

None Expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None Expressed.

Reported by: Susan Tufts

Date: 4/12/2018