



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

**Amendment**

LCO No. 10925



Offered by:

SEN. LOONEY, 11<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. FASANO, 34<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. **641**

File No. 759

Cal. No. 364

**"AN ACT CONCERNING REVIEW OF ELECTION LAWS."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Section 9-621 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

5 (a) [No] (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection,  
6 no individual shall make or incur any expenditure with the consent of,  
7 in coordination with or in consultation with any candidate, candidate  
8 committee or candidate's agent, no group of two or more individuals  
9 acting together that receives funds or makes or incurs expenditures not  
10 exceeding one thousand dollars in the aggregate and has not formed a  
11 political committee shall make or incur any expenditure, and no  
12 candidate or committee shall make or incur any expenditure including  
13 an organization expenditure for a party candidate listing, as defined in  
14 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (25) of section 9-601, for any written,  
15 typed or other printed communication, or any web-based, written  
16 communication, which promotes the success or defeat of any

17 candidate's campaign for nomination at a primary or election or  
18 promotes or opposes any political party or solicits funds to benefit any  
19 political party or committee unless such communication bears upon its  
20 face as a disclaimer [(1)] (A) the words "paid for by" and the following:  
21 [(A)] (i) In the case of such an individual, the name and address of  
22 such individual; [(B)] (ii) in the case of a committee other than a party  
23 committee, the name of the committee and its treasurer; [(C)] (iii) in the  
24 case of a party committee, the name of the committee; or [(D)] (iv) in  
25 the case of a group of two or more individuals that receives funds or  
26 makes or incurs expenditures not exceeding one thousand dollars in  
27 the aggregate and has not formed a political committee, the name of  
28 the group and the name and address of its agent, and [(2)] (B) the  
29 words "approved by" and the following: [(A)] In the case of an  
30 individual, group or committee [other than a candidate committee]  
31 making or incurring an expenditure with the consent of, in  
32 coordination with or in consultation with any candidate, candidate  
33 committee or candidate's agent, the name of the candidate, ; or (B) in  
34 the case of a candidate committee, the name of the candidate] except  
35 that the provisions of this subparagraph shall not apply to any  
36 candidate committee or town committee.

37 (2) In the case of a candidate who appears on any written, typed or  
38 other printed communication, or any web-based written  
39 communication, which solicits funds to benefit any political committee  
40 or party committee, such communication shall not be required to bear  
41 upon its face any disclaimer described in subdivision (1) of this  
42 subsection, provided such communication shall not promote the  
43 success of such candidate's campaign for nomination or election or  
44 promote the defeat of the campaign for nomination or election of any  
45 opponent of such candidate.

46 (b) [In addition to the requirements of subsection (a) of this section:]  
47 (1) No candidate or candidate committee or exploratory committee  
48 established by a candidate shall make or incur any expenditure for  
49 television advertising or Internet video advertising, which promotes  
50 the success of such candidate's campaign for nomination at a primary

51 or election or the defeat of another candidate's campaign for  
52 nomination at a primary or election, unless, as a disclaimer, (A) at the  
53 end of such advertising there appears simultaneously, for a period of  
54 not less than four seconds, except as provided in subdivision (2) of this  
55 subsection, (i) a clearly identifiable photographic or similar image of  
56 the candidate making such expenditure, (ii) a clearly readable printed  
57 statement identifying such candidate, and indicating that such  
58 candidate has approved the advertising, and (iii) a simultaneous,  
59 personal audio message, in the following form: "I am ... (candidate's  
60 name) and I approved this message", and (B) the candidate's name and  
61 image appear in, and the candidate's voice is contained in, the  
62 narrative of the advertising, before the end of such advertising;

63 (2) In the case of any expenditure for television advertising or  
64 Internet video advertising described in subdivision (1) of this  
65 subsection, if such advertising is less than thirty seconds in duration,  
66 the disclaimer required under said subdivision may appear for a  
67 period of not less than two seconds.

68 (c) In addition to the requirements of subsection (a) of this section:

69 [(2)] (1) No candidate or candidate committee or exploratory  
70 committee established by a candidate shall make or incur any  
71 expenditure for radio advertising or Internet audio advertising, which  
72 promotes the success of such candidate's campaign for nomination at a  
73 primary or election or the defeat of another candidate's campaign for  
74 nomination at a primary or election, unless, as a disclaimer, (A) the  
75 advertising ends with a personal audio statement by the candidate  
76 making such expenditure (i) identifying such candidate and the office  
77 such candidate is seeking, and (ii) indicating that such candidate has  
78 approved the advertising in the following form: "I am ... (candidate's  
79 name) and I approved this message", and (B) the candidate's name and  
80 voice are contained in the narrative of the advertising, before the end  
81 of such advertising; [and]

82 [(3)] (2) No candidate or candidate committee or exploratory

83 committee established by a candidate shall make or incur any  
84 expenditure for automated telephone calls which promote the success  
85 of such candidate's campaign for nomination at a primary or election  
86 or the defeat of another candidate's campaign for nomination at a  
87 primary or election, unless the candidate's name and voice are  
88 contained in the narrative of the call, before the end of such call;

89 (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, in the case of  
90 any expenditure made or incurred by a candidate or candidate  
91 committee or exploratory committee established by a candidate, which  
92 expenditure (A) is for any telephone communication other than a call,  
93 and (B) promotes the success of such candidate's campaign for  
94 nomination at a primary or election or the defeat of another  
95 candidate's campaign for nomination at a primary or election, such  
96 candidate or committee may list the name of such candidate and  
97 provide a link to an Internet web site that displays all information  
98 otherwise required to be included in any disclaimer under this  
99 subsection in lieu of displaying any such disclaimer upon such  
100 communication.

101 [(c)] (d) No business entity, organization, association, committee, or  
102 group of two or more individuals who have joined solely to promote  
103 the success or defeat of a referendum question shall make or incur any  
104 expenditure for any written, typed or other printed communication  
105 which promotes the success or defeat of any referendum question  
106 unless such communication bears upon its face, as a disclaimer, the  
107 words "paid for by" and the following: (1) In the case of a business  
108 entity, organization or association, the name of the business entity,  
109 organization or association and the name of its chief executive officer  
110 or equivalent, and in the case such communication is made during the  
111 ninety-day period immediately prior to the referendum, such  
112 communication shall also bear on its face the names of the five persons  
113 who made the five largest aggregate covered transfers to such business  
114 entity, organization or association during the twelve-month period  
115 immediately prior to such referendum. The communication shall also  
116 state that additional information about the business entity,

117 organization or association making such communication may be found  
118 on the State Elections Enforcement Commission's Internet web site; (2)  
119 in the case of a political committee, the name of the committee and the  
120 name of its treasurer; (3) in the case of a party committee, the name of  
121 the committee; or (4) in the case of such a group of two or more  
122 individuals, the name of the group and the name and address of its  
123 agent.

124 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) The provisions of subsections (a) [, (b) and] (c) ~~to (d),~~  
125 inclusive, of this section do not apply to (1) any editorial, news story,  
126 or commentary published in any newspaper, magazine or journal on  
127 its own behalf and upon its own responsibility and for which it does  
128 not charge or receive any compensation whatsoever, (2) any banner,  
129 (3) political paraphernalia including pins, buttons, badges, emblems,  
130 hats, bumper stickers or other similar materials, or (4) signs with a  
131 surface area of not more than thirty-two square feet.

132 ~~[(e)]~~ (f) The treasurer of a candidate committee which sponsors any  
133 written, typed or other printed communication for the purpose of  
134 raising funds to eliminate a campaign deficit of that committee shall  
135 include in such communication a statement that the funds are sought  
136 to eliminate such a deficit.

137 ~~[(f)]~~ (g) The treasurer of an exploratory committee or candidate  
138 committee established by a candidate for nomination or election to the  
139 office of Treasurer which committee sponsors any written, typed or  
140 other printed communication for the purpose of raising funds shall  
141 include in such communication a statement concerning the  
142 prohibitions set forth in subsection (n) of section 1-84, subsection (e) of  
143 section 9-612 and subsection (f) of section 9-613.

144 ~~[(g)]~~ (h) In the event a treasurer of a candidate committee is replaced  
145 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 9-602, nothing in this section shall  
146 be construed to prohibit the candidate committee from distributing  
147 any printed communication subject to the provisions of this section  
148 that has already been printed or otherwise produced, even though

149 such communication does not accurately designate the successor  
150 treasurer of such candidate committee.

151     ~~[(h)]~~ (i) (1) No person shall make or incur an independent  
152 expenditure for any written, typed or other printed communication,  
153 including on a billboard, or any web-based, written communication,  
154 unless such communication bears upon its face, as a disclaimer, the  
155 words "Paid for by" and the name of such person and the following  
156 statement: "This message was made independent of any candidate or  
157 political party.". In the case of a person making or incurring such an  
158 independent expenditure during the ninety-day period immediately  
159 prior to the primary or election for which the independent expenditure  
160 is made, such communication shall also bear upon its face the names of  
161 the five persons who made the five largest aggregate covered transfers  
162 to the person making such communication during the twelve-month  
163 period immediately prior to such primary or election, as applicable.  
164 The communication shall also state that additional information about  
165 the person making such communication may be found on the State  
166 Elections Enforcement Commission's Internet web site.

167     (2) In addition to the requirements of subdivision (1) of this  
168 subsection, no person shall make or incur an independent expenditure  
169 for a video broadcast by television, satellite or Internet, unless at the  
170 end of such advertising there appears for a period of not less than four  
171 seconds as a disclaimer, the following as an audio message and a  
172 written statement: "This message was paid for by (person making the  
173 communication) and made independent of any candidate or political  
174 party.". In the case of a person making or incurring such an  
175 independent expenditure during the ninety-day period immediately  
176 prior to the primary or election for which the independent expenditure  
177 is made, such communication shall also list the names of the five  
178 persons who made the five largest aggregate covered transfers to the  
179 person making such communication during the twelve-month period  
180 immediately prior to such primary or election, as applicable. The  
181 communication shall also state that additional information about the  
182 person making such communication may be found on the State

183 Elections Enforcement Commission's Internet web site.

184 (3) In addition to the requirements of subdivision (1) of this  
185 subsection, no person shall make or incur an independent expenditure  
186 for an audio communication broadcast by radio, satellite or Internet,  
187 unless the advertising ends with a disclaimer that is a personal audio  
188 statement by such person's agent (A) identifying the person paying for  
189 the expenditure, and (B) indicating that the message was made  
190 independent of any candidate or political party, using the following  
191 form: "I am ... (name of the person's agent), ... (title), of ... (the  
192 person). This message was made independent of any candidate or  
193 political party.". In the case of a person making or incurring such an  
194 independent expenditure during the ninety-day period immediately  
195 prior to the primary or election for which the independent expenditure  
196 is made, such communication shall state the names of the five persons  
197 who made the five largest aggregate covered transfers to the person  
198 making such communication during the twelve-month period  
199 immediately prior to such primary or election, as applicable. The  
200 communication shall also state that additional information about the  
201 person making such communication may be found on the State  
202 Elections Enforcement Commission's Internet web site.

203 (4) In addition to the requirements of subdivision (1) of this  
204 subsection, no person shall make or incur an independent expenditure  
205 for telephone calls, unless the narrative of the telephone call identifies  
206 the person making the expenditure and during the ninety-day period  
207 immediately prior to the primary or election for which the  
208 independent expenditure is made, such communication shall state the  
209 names of the five persons who made the five largest aggregate covered  
210 transfers to the person making such communication during the twelve-  
211 month period immediately prior to such primary or election, as  
212 applicable. The communication shall also state that additional  
213 information about the person making such communication may be  
214 found on the State Elections Enforcement Commission's Internet web  
215 site.

216        [(i)] (j) In any print, television or social media promotion of a slate of  
217 candidates by a party committee, the party committee shall use  
218 applicable disclaimers pursuant to the provisions of this section for  
219 such promotion, and no individual candidate disclaimers shall be  
220 required.

221        [(j)] (k) (1) Except as provided in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this  
222 subsection, if any person whose name is included on a disclaimer of a  
223 communication pursuant to the provisions of this section, as a person  
224 who made a covered transfer to the maker of the communication, is  
225 also a recipient of a covered transfer, the maker of the communication,  
226 as part of any report filed pursuant to section 9-601d associated with  
227 the making of such communication, shall include the names of the five  
228 persons who made the top five largest aggregate covered transfers to  
229 such recipient during the twelve-month period immediately prior to  
230 the primary or election, as applicable.

231        (2) The name of any person who made a covered transfer to a tax-  
232 exempt organization recognized under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal  
233 Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal  
234 revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time, that  
235 has not had its tax exempt status revoked, shall not be disclosed  
236 pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection.

237        (3) The name of any person who made a covered transfer to a  
238 person whose name is included on a disclaimer pursuant to the  
239 provisions of this section shall not be disclosed pursuant to the  
240 provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection if the recipient of such  
241 covered transfer accepts covered transfers from at least one hundred  
242 different sources, provided no such source accounts for ten per cent or  
243 more of the total amount of covered transfers accepted by the recipient  
244 during the twelve-month period immediately prior to the primary or  
245 election, as applicable.

246        [(k)] (l) Any disclaimer required to be on the face of a written, typed  
247 or other printed communication pursuant to the provisions of this



248 section shall be printed in no smaller than eight-point type of uniform  
249 font when such disclaimer is on a communication contained in a flyer  
250 or leaflet, newspaper, magazine or similar literature, or that is  
251 delivered by mail.

252 [(l)] (m) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, no person  
253 making an independent expenditure for a communication shall be  
254 required to list as part of any disclaimer pursuant to this section any  
255 person whose covered transfers to the maker of the communication are  
256 not in an aggregate amount of five thousand dollars or more during  
257 the twelve-month period immediately prior to the primary or election,  
258 as applicable, for which such independent expenditure is made.

259 [(m)] (n) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, any  
260 disclaimer required to be on the face of any Internet text advertisement  
261 communication [(1)] (A) that appears based on the result of a search  
262 conducted by a user of an Internet search engine, and [(2)] (B) the text  
263 of which contains two hundred or fewer characters, shall not be  
264 required to list the names of the five persons who made the top five  
265 largest aggregate covered transfers to the maker of such  
266 communication, as otherwise required by this section, if such  
267 disclaimer [(A)] (i) includes a link to an Internet web site that discloses  
268 the names of such five persons, and [(B)] (ii) otherwise contains any  
269 statement required pursuant to the provisions of this section.

270 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, in the case of any  
271 expenditure made or incurred by a candidate, candidate committee,  
272 exploratory committee established by a candidate, party committee,  
273 legislative caucus committee or legislative leadership committee,  
274 which expenditure (A) is for any image featured on social media, and  
275 (B) promotes the success or defeat of any candidate's campaign for  
276 nomination at a primary or election, such candidate or committee may  
277 provide a link to an Internet web site that displays all information  
278 otherwise required to be included in any disclaimer under this section  
279 in lieu of displaying any such disclaimer on the face of such image.

280 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 9-601c of the general statutes is  
281 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
282 *1, 2019*):

283 (b) When the State Elections Enforcement Commission evaluates an  
284 expenditure to determine whether such expenditure is an independent  
285 expenditure, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that the following  
286 expenditures are not independent expenditures:

287 (1) An expenditure made by a person in cooperation, consultation or  
288 in concert with, at the request, suggestion or direction of, or pursuant  
289 to a general or particular understanding with (A) a candidate,  
290 candidate committee, political committee or party committee, or (B) a  
291 consultant or other agent acting on behalf of a candidate, candidate  
292 committee, political committee or party committee;

293 (2) An expenditure made by a person for the production,  
294 dissemination, distribution or publication, in whole or in substantial  
295 part, of any broadcast or any written, graphic or other form of political  
296 advertising or campaign communication prepared by (A) a candidate,  
297 candidate committee, political committee or party committee, or (B) a  
298 consultant or other agent acting on behalf of a candidate, candidate  
299 committee, political committee or party committee;

300 (3) An expenditure made by a person based on information about a  
301 candidate's, political committee's, or party committee's plans, projects  
302 or needs, provided by (A) a candidate, candidate committee, political  
303 committee or party committee, or (B) a consultant or other agent acting  
304 on behalf of a candidate, candidate committee, political committee or  
305 party committee, with the intent that such expenditure be made;

306 (4) An expenditure made by an individual who, in the same election  
307 cycle, is serving or has served as the campaign chairperson, treasurer  
308 or deputy treasurer of a candidate committee, political committee or  
309 party committee benefiting from such expenditure, or in any other  
310 executive or policymaking position, including as a member, employee,  
311 fundraiser, consultant or other agent, of a candidate committee,

312 political committee or party committee. For the purposes of this  
313 subdivision, "election cycle" means the period beginning January first  
314 of the year in which a regular election is held and ending the day after  
315 such regular election;

316 (5) An expenditure made by a person or an entity on or after  
317 January first in the year of an election in which a candidate is seeking  
318 public office that benefits such candidate when such person or entity  
319 has hired an individual as an employee or consultant and such  
320 individual was an employee of or consultant to such candidate's  
321 candidate committee or such candidate's opponent's candidate  
322 committee during any part of the eighteen-month period preceding  
323 such expenditure;

324 (6) An expenditure made by a person for fundraising activities (A)  
325 for a candidate, candidate committee, political committee or party  
326 committee, or a consultant or other agent acting on behalf of a  
327 candidate, candidate committee, political committee or party  
328 committee, or (B) for the solicitation or receipt of contributions on  
329 behalf of a candidate, candidate committee, political committee or  
330 party committee, or a consultant or other agent acting on behalf of a  
331 candidate, candidate committee, political committee or party  
332 committee;

333 (7) An expenditure made by a person based on information about a  
334 candidate's campaign plans, projects or needs, that is directly or  
335 indirectly provided by a candidate, the candidate's candidate  
336 committee, a political committee or a party committee, or a consultant  
337 or other agent acting on behalf of such candidate, candidate  
338 committee, political committee or party committee, to the person  
339 making the expenditure or such person's agent, with an express or tacit  
340 understanding that such person is considering making the  
341 expenditure;

342 (8) An expenditure made by a person for a communication that  
343 clearly identifies a candidate during an election campaign, if the

344 person making the expenditure, or such person's agent, has informed  
345 the candidate who benefits from the expenditure, that candidate's  
346 candidate committee, a political committee or a party committee, or a  
347 consultant or other agent acting on behalf of the benefiting candidate  
348 or candidate committee, political committee, or party committee,  
349 concerning the communication's contents, or of the intended audience,  
350 timing, location or mode or frequency of dissemination. As used in this  
351 subdivision, a communication clearly identifies a candidate when that  
352 communication contains the name, nickname, initials, photograph or  
353 drawing of the candidate or an unambiguous reference to that  
354 candidate, which includes, but is not limited to, a reference that can  
355 only mean that candidate; and

356 (9) An expenditure made by a person or an entity for consultant or  
357 creative services, including, but not limited to, services related to  
358 communications strategy or design or campaign strategy or to engage  
359 a campaign-related vendor, to be used to promote or oppose a  
360 candidate's election to office if the provider of such services is or has  
361 provided consultant or creative services to such candidate, such  
362 candidate's candidate committee or an agent of such candidate  
363 committee, or to any opposing candidate's candidate committee or an  
364 agent of such candidate committee after January first of the year in  
365 which the expenditure occurs. For purposes of this subdivision,  
366 communications strategy or design does not include the costs of  
367 printing or costs for the use of a medium for the purpose of  
368 communications. For purposes of this subdivision, campaign-related  
369 vendor includes, but is not limited to, a vendor that provides the  
370 following services: Polling, mail design, mail strategy, political  
371 strategy, general campaign advice or telephone banking.

372 Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 9-603 of the general statutes is  
373 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
374 *1, 2019*):

375 (b) [Statements] (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this  
376 subsection, statements filed by political committees formed solely to

377 aid or promote the success or defeat of a referendum question to be  
378 voted upon by the electors of a single municipality and those political  
379 committees or candidate committees formed to aid or promote the  
380 success or defeat of any candidate for public office, other than those  
381 enumerated in subsection (a) of this section, or the position of town  
382 committee member shall be filed only with the town clerk of the  
383 municipality in which the election or referendum is to be held. Each  
384 unsalaried town clerk shall be entitled to receive ten cents from the  
385 town for the filing of each such statement.

386 (2) In the case of a municipality with a population of not less than  
387 seventy-five thousand, statements filed by the candidate committee of  
388 a candidate for chief executive officer of such municipality shall be  
389 filed with the State Elections Enforcement Commission.

390 Sec. 4. Subsection (e) of section 9-704 of the general statutes is  
391 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
392 *1, 2019*):

393 (e) (1) The following shall not be deemed to be qualifying  
394 contributions under subsection (a) of this section and shall be returned  
395 by the treasurer of the candidate committee to the contributor; [or  
396 transmitted to the State Elections Enforcement Commission for deposit  
397 in the Citizens' Election Fund:]

398 [(1)] (A) A contribution from a principal of a state contractor or  
399 prospective state contractor;

400 [(2)] (B) A contribution of less than five dollars, and a contribution  
401 of five dollars or more from an individual who does not provide the  
402 full name and complete address of the individual;

403 [(3)] (C) A contribution under subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (a)  
404 of this section from an individual who does not reside in the state, in  
405 excess of the applicable limit on contributions from out-of-state  
406 individuals in subsection (a) of this section; and

407        [(4)] (D) A contribution made by a youth who is less than twelve  
408        years of age.

409        (2) If: (A) The treasurer of the candidate committee submits a  
410        contribution described in subdivision (1) of this subsection to the State  
411        Elections Enforcement Commission as part of an application for a  
412        grant under the Citizens' Election Program; (B) the commission deems  
413        such contribution not to be a qualifying contribution, pursuant to  
414        subsection (d) of section 9-706, as amended by this act; and (C) the  
415        treasurer opts for the commission to return such contribution to the  
416        committee, pursuant to said subsection, then the treasurer may either  
417        refund such contribution to the contributor upon its return to the  
418        committee or remit such contribution to any charitable organization  
419        that is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal  
420        Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal  
421        revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time.

422        Sec. 5. Subsection (d) of section 9-706 of the general statutes is  
423        repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
424        *1, 2019*):

425        (d) (1) In accordance with the provisions of subsection (g) of this  
426        section, the commission shall review the application [,] and determine  
427        whether [(1)] (A) the candidate committee for the applicant has  
428        received the required qualifying contributions, [(2)] (B) in the case of  
429        an application for a grant from the fund for a primary campaign, the  
430        applicant has met the applicable condition under subsection (a) of this  
431        section for applying for such grant and complied with the provisions  
432        of subsections (b) and (c) of this section, [(3)] (C) in the case of an  
433        application for a grant from the fund for a general election campaign,  
434        the applicant has met the applicable condition under subsection (a) of  
435        this section for applying for such moneys and complied with the  
436        provisions of subsections (b) and (c) of this section, and [(4)] (D) in the  
437        case of an application by a minor party or petitioning party candidate  
438        for a grant from the fund for a general election campaign, the applicant  
439        qualifies as an eligible minor party candidate or an eligible petitioning

440 party candidate, whichever is applicable. For each contribution  
441 received by the candidate committee of an applicant that the  
442 commission deems not to be a qualifying contribution, the commission  
443 shall advise such applicant of such determination and cite the  
444 applicable reason under subsection (e) of section 9-704, as amended by  
445 this act, for such determination. Upon such advice, the treasurer of  
446 such candidate committee shall either opt for the commission to return  
447 such contribution to the committee or for the commission to deposit  
448 such contribution in the Citizens' Election Fund. If the commission  
449 approves an application, the commission shall determine the amount  
450 of the grant payable to the candidate committee for the applicant  
451 pursuant to section 9-705 from the fund, and notify the State  
452 Comptroller and the candidate of such candidate committee, of such  
453 amount. If the timing of the commission's approval of the grant in  
454 relation to the Secretary of the State's determination of ballot status is  
455 such that the commission cannot determine whether the qualified  
456 candidate committee is entitled to the applicable full initial grant for  
457 the primary or election or the applicable partial grant for the primary  
458 or election, as the case may be, the commission shall approve the lesser  
459 applicable partial initial grant. The commission shall then authorize  
460 the payment of the remaining portion of the applicable grant after the  
461 commission has knowledge of the circumstances regarding the ballot  
462 status of the opposing candidates in such primary or election. Not later  
463 than two business days following notification by the commission, the  
464 State Comptroller shall draw an order on the State Treasurer for  
465 payment of any such approved amount to the qualified candidate  
466 committee from the fund.

467 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter or chapter 155, in  
468 the case of a contribution the commission deems not to be a qualifying  
469 contribution, pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, such  
470 determination shall not constitute grounds for any action, including,  
471 but not limited to, any complaint investigated by the commission or  
472 any other investigation initiated by the commission, against such  
473 contributor for the making of such contribution or against the

474 treasurer, chairperson candidate or other person associated with the  
475 candidate committee for the receipt of such contribution.

476 Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2019*) (a) There is established an  
477 Election Law Review Commission for the purpose of reviewing the  
478 state's election laws, including, but not limited to, laws regarding (1)  
479 the joint campaigning of candidates for Governor and Lieutenant  
480 Governor for a party's nomination, (2) the timing and process for  
481 holding conventions for endorsement, and primaries for nomination,  
482 of candidates, (3) criteria for a voting district's inclusion in post-  
483 election audits conducted under section 9-320f of the general statutes,  
484 and (4) the use of electronic devices in polling places by official  
485 checkers to assist in checking names of electors seeking to vote. The  
486 commission shall consist of the president pro tempore of the Senate,  
487 the speaker of the House of Representatives, the majority leader of the  
488 Senate, the majority leader of the House of Representatives, the  
489 minority leader of the Senate, the minority leader of the House of  
490 Representatives and the Secretary of the State or the Secretary's  
491 designee. The president pro tempore of the Senate and the speaker of  
492 the House of Representatives shall be chairpersons of the commission.  
493 A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum and all  
494 actions of the commission shall require the affirmative vote of a  
495 majority of the full committee membership. The Election Law Review  
496 Commission shall meet as often as may be necessary to perform its  
497 duties.

498 (b) On or before February 15, 2020, and annually thereafter, the  
499 Election Law Review Commission shall submit a report to the joint  
500 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
501 matters relating to elections, in accordance with section 11-4a of the  
502 general statutes, and make any recommendation for legislation to  
503 address any issue discussed in such report.

504 Sec. 7. Subsection (b) of section 9-601a of the general statutes is  
505 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
506 *1, 2019, and applicable to actions pending on or filed on or after July 1, 2019*):



507 (b) As used in this chapter and chapter 157, "contribution" does not  
508 mean:

509 (1) A loan of money made in the ordinary course of business by a  
510 national or state bank;

511 (2) Any communication made by a corporation, organization or  
512 association solely to its members, owners, stockholders, executive or  
513 administrative personnel, or their families;

514 (3) Nonpartisan voter registration and get-out-the-vote campaigns  
515 by any corporation, organization or association aimed at its members,  
516 owners, stockholders, executive or administrative personnel, or their  
517 families;

518 (4) Uncompensated services provided by individuals volunteering  
519 their time on behalf of a party committee, political committee, slate  
520 committee or candidate committee, including any services provided  
521 for the benefit of nonparticipating and participating candidates under  
522 the Citizens' Election Program and any unreimbursed travel expenses  
523 made by an individual who volunteers the individual's personal  
524 services to any such committee. For purposes of this subdivision, an  
525 individual is a volunteer if such individual is not receiving  
526 compensation for such services regardless of whether such individual  
527 received compensation in the past or may receive compensation for  
528 similar services that may be performed in the future;

529 (5) The use of real or personal property, a portion or all of the cost of  
530 invitations and the cost of food or beverages, voluntarily provided by  
531 an individual to a candidate, including a nonparticipating or  
532 participating candidate under the Citizens' Election Program, or to a  
533 party, political or slate committee, in rendering voluntary personal  
534 services at the individual's residential premises or a community room  
535 in the individual's residence facility, to the extent that the cumulative  
536 value of the invitations, food or beverages provided by an individual  
537 on behalf of any candidate or committee does not exceed four hundred  
538 dollars with respect to any single event or does not exceed eight

539 hundred dollars for any such event hosted by two or more individuals,  
540 provided at least one such individual owns or resides at the residential  
541 premises, and further provided the cumulative value of the invitations,  
542 food or beverages provided by an individual on behalf of any such  
543 candidate or committee does not exceed eight hundred dollars with  
544 respect to a calendar year or single election, as the case may be;

545 (6) The sale of food or beverage for use by a party, political, slate or  
546 candidate committee, including those for a participating or  
547 nonparticipating candidate, at a discount, if the charge is not less than  
548 the cost to the vendor, to the extent that the cumulative value of the  
549 discount given to or on behalf of any single candidate committee does  
550 not exceed four hundred dollars with respect to any single primary or  
551 election, or to or on behalf of any party, political or slate committee,  
552 does not exceed six hundred dollars in a calendar year;

553 (7) The display of a lawn sign by a human being or on real property;

554 (8) The payment, by a party committee or slate committee of the  
555 costs of preparation, display, mailing or other distribution incurred by  
556 the committee or individual with respect to any printed slate card,  
557 sample ballot or other printed list containing the names of three or  
558 more candidates;

559 (9) The donation of any item of personal property by an individual  
560 to a committee for a fund-raising affair, including a tag sale or auction,  
561 or the purchase by an individual of any such item at such an affair, to  
562 the extent that the cumulative value donated or purchased does not  
563 exceed one hundred dollars;

564 (10) (A) The purchase of advertising space which clearly identifies  
565 the purchaser, in a program for a fund-raising affair sponsored by the  
566 candidate committee of a candidate for an office of a municipality,  
567 provided the cumulative purchase of such space does not exceed two  
568 hundred fifty dollars from any single such candidate or the candidate's  
569 committee with respect to any single election campaign if the  
570 purchaser is a business entity or fifty dollars for purchases by any

571 other person;

572 (B) The purchase of advertising space which clearly identifies the  
573 purchaser, in a program for a fund-raising affair or on signs at a fund-  
574 raising affair sponsored by a party committee or a political committee,  
575 other than an exploratory committee, provided the cumulative  
576 purchase of such space does not exceed two hundred fifty dollars from  
577 any single party committee or a political committee, other than an  
578 exploratory committee, in any calendar year if the purchaser is a  
579 business entity or fifty dollars for purchases by any other person.  
580 Notwithstanding the provisions of this subparagraph, the following  
581 may not purchase advertising space in a program for a fund-raising  
582 affair or on signs at a fund-raising affair sponsored by a party  
583 committee or a political committee, other than an exploratory  
584 committee: (i) A communicator lobbyist, (ii) a member of the  
585 immediate family of a communicator lobbyist, (iii) a state contractor,  
586 (iv) a prospective state contractor, or (v) a principal of a state  
587 contractor or prospective state contractor. As used in this  
588 subparagraph, "state contractor", "prospective state contractor" and  
589 "principal of a state contractor or prospective state contractor" have the  
590 same meanings as provided in subsection (f) of section 9-612;

591 (11) The payment of money by a candidate to the candidate's  
592 candidate committee, provided the committee is for a nonparticipating  
593 candidate;

594 (12) The donation of goods or services by a business entity to a  
595 committee for a fund-raising affair, including a tag sale or auction, to  
596 the extent that the cumulative value donated does not exceed two  
597 hundred dollars;

598 (13) The advance of a security deposit by an individual to a  
599 telephone company, as defined in section 16-1, for telecommunications  
600 service for a committee or to another utility company, such as an  
601 electric distribution company, provided the security deposit is  
602 refunded to the individual;

603 (14) The provision of facilities, equipment, technical and managerial  
604 support, and broadcast time by a community antenna television  
605 company, as defined in section 16-1, for community access  
606 programming pursuant to section 16-331a, unless (A) the major  
607 purpose of providing such facilities, equipment, support and time is to  
608 influence the nomination or election of a candidate, or (B) such  
609 facilities, equipment, support and time are provided on behalf of a  
610 political party;

611 (15) The sale of food or beverage by a town committee to an  
612 individual at a town fair, county fair, local festival or similar mass  
613 gathering held within the state, to the extent that the cumulative  
614 payment made by any one individual for such items does not exceed  
615 fifty dollars;

616 (16) An organization expenditure by a party committee, legislative  
617 caucus committee or legislative leadership committee;

618 (17) The donation of food or beverage by an individual for  
619 consumption at a slate, candidate, political committee or party  
620 committee meeting, event or activity that is not a fund-raising affair to  
621 the extent that the cumulative value of the food or beverages donated  
622 by an individual for a single meeting or event does not exceed fifty  
623 dollars;

624 (18) The value associated with the de minimis activity on behalf of a  
625 party committee, political committee, slate committee or candidate  
626 committee, including for activities including, but not limited to, (A) the  
627 creation of electronic or written communications or digital photos or  
628 video as part of an electronic file created on a voluntary basis without  
629 compensation, including, but not limited to, the creation and ongoing  
630 content development and delivery of social media on the Internet or  
631 telephone, including, but not limited to, the sending or receiving of  
632 electronic mail or messages, (B) the posting or display of a candidate's  
633 name or group of candidates' names at a town fair, county fair, local  
634 festival or similar mass gathering by a party committee, (C) the use of

635 personal property or a service that is customarily attendant to the  
636 occupancy of a residential dwelling, or the donation of an item or  
637 items of personal property that are customarily used for campaign  
638 purposes, by an individual, to a candidate committee, provided the  
639 cumulative fair market value of such use of personal property or  
640 service or items of personal property does not exceed one hundred  
641 dollars in the aggregate for any single election or calendar year, as the  
642 case may be;

643 (19) The use of offices, telephones, computers and similar  
644 equipment provided by a party committee, legislative caucus  
645 committee or legislative leadership committee that serve as  
646 headquarters for or are used by such party committee, legislative  
647 caucus committee or legislative leadership committee;

648 (20) A communication, as described in subdivision (7) of subsection  
649 (b) of section 9-601b, as amended by this act;

650 (21) An independent expenditure, as defined in section 9-601c, as  
651 amended by this act;

652 (22) A communication containing an endorsement on behalf of a  
653 candidate for nomination or election to the office of Governor,  
654 Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, State Treasurer, State  
655 Comptroller, Attorney General, state senator or state representative,  
656 from a candidate for the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor,  
657 Secretary of the State, State Treasurer, State Comptroller, Attorney  
658 General, state senator or state representative, provided the candidate  
659 (A) making the endorsement is unopposed at the time of the  
660 communication, and (B) being endorsed paid for such communication;

661 (23) A communication that is sent by mail to addresses in the district  
662 for which a candidate being endorsed by another candidate pursuant  
663 to this subdivision is seeking nomination or election to the office of  
664 state senator or state representative, containing an endorsement on  
665 behalf of such candidate for such nomination or election from a  
666 candidate for the office of state senator or state representative,

667 provided the candidate (A) making the endorsement is not seeking  
668 election to the office of state senator or state representative for a  
669 district that contains any geographical area shared by the district for  
670 the office to which the endorsed candidate is seeking nomination or  
671 election, and (B) being endorsed paid for such communication; [or]

672 (24) A communication described in subdivision (2) of subsection (a)  
673 of section 9-601b that refers to a clearly identified candidate for  
674 Governor or President of the United States, which communication is  
675 paid for by a candidate for nomination or election to any other office or  
676 by any committee of such candidate, provided such communication  
677 shall only not be a contribution to any candidate for Governor or  
678 President of the United States; or

679 [(24)] (25) Campaign training events provided to multiple  
680 individuals by a legislative caucus committee or party committee and  
681 any associated materials, provided the cumulative value of such events  
682 and materials does not exceed six thousand dollars in the aggregate for  
683 a calendar year.

684 Sec. 8. Subsection (b) of section 9-601b of the general statutes is  
685 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
686 *1, 2019, and applicable to actions pending on or filed on or after July 1, 2019*):

687 (b) The term "expenditure" does not mean:

688 (1) A loan of money, made in the ordinary course of business, by a  
689 state or national bank;

690 (2) A communication made by any corporation, organization or  
691 association solely to its members, owners, stockholders, executive or  
692 administrative personnel, or their families;

693 (3) Nonpartisan voter registration and get-out-the-vote campaigns  
694 by any corporation, organization or association aimed at its members,  
695 owners, stockholders, executive or administrative personnel, or their  
696 families;

697 (4) Uncompensated services provided by individuals volunteering  
698 their time on behalf of a party committee, political committee, slate  
699 committee or candidate committee, including any services provided  
700 for the benefit of nonparticipating and participating candidates under  
701 the Citizens' Election Program and any unreimbursed travel expenses  
702 made by an individual who volunteers the individual's personal  
703 services to any such committee. For purposes of this subdivision, an  
704 individual is a volunteer if such individual is not receiving  
705 compensation for such services regardless of whether such individual  
706 received compensation in the past or may receive compensation for  
707 similar services that may be performed in the future;

708 (5) Any news story, commentary or editorial distributed through  
709 the facilities of any broadcasting station, newspaper, magazine or  
710 other periodical, unless such facilities are owned or controlled by any  
711 political party, committee or candidate;

712 (6) The use of real or personal property, a portion or all of the cost of  
713 invitations and the cost of food or beverages, voluntarily provided by  
714 an individual to a candidate, including a nonparticipating or  
715 participating candidate under the Citizens' Election Program, or to a  
716 party, political or slate committee, in rendering voluntary personal  
717 services at the individual's residential premises or a community room  
718 in the individual's residence facility, to the extent that the cumulative  
719 value of the invitations, food or beverages provided by an individual  
720 on behalf of any candidate or committee does not exceed four hundred  
721 dollars with respect to any single event or does not exceed eight  
722 hundred dollars for any such event hosted by two or more individuals,  
723 provided at least one such individual owns or resides at the residential  
724 premises, and further provided the cumulative value of the invitations,  
725 food or beverages provided by an individual on behalf of any such  
726 candidate or committee does not exceed eight hundred dollars with  
727 respect to a calendar year or single election, as the case may be;

728 (7) A communication described in subdivision (2) of subsection (a)  
729 of this section that includes speech or expression made (A) prior to the

730 ninety-day period preceding the date of a primary or an election at  
731 which the clearly identified candidate or candidates are seeking  
732 nomination to public office or position, that is made for the purpose of  
733 influencing any legislative or administrative action, as defined in  
734 section 1-91, or executive action, or (B) during a legislative session for  
735 the purpose of influencing legislative action;

736 (8) An organization expenditure by a party committee, legislative  
737 caucus committee or legislative leadership committee;

738 (9) A commercial advertisement that refers to an owner, director or  
739 officer of a business entity who is also a candidate and that had  
740 previously been broadcast or appeared when the owner, director or  
741 officer was not a candidate;

742 (10) (A) A communication containing an endorsement on behalf of a  
743 candidate for nomination or election to the office of Governor,  
744 Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, State Treasurer, State  
745 Comptroller, Attorney General, state senator or state representative,  
746 from a candidate for the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor,  
747 Secretary of the State, State Treasurer, State Comptroller, Attorney  
748 General, state senator or state representative, [shall not be an  
749 expenditure attributable to the endorsing candidate, if] provided (i) the  
750 candidate making the endorsement is unopposed at the time of the  
751 communication, [;] and (ii) the communication is paid for by the  
752 candidate or the committee of the candidate being endorsed.

753 (B) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (A) of this  
754 subdivision, a communication described in said subparagraph shall be  
755 an expenditure on behalf of the candidate or committee paying for the  
756 communication;

757 (11) (A) A communication that is sent by mail to addresses in the  
758 district for which a candidate being endorsed by another candidate  
759 pursuant to the provisions of this subdivision is seeking nomination or  
760 election to the office of state senator or state representative, containing  
761 an endorsement on behalf of such candidate for such nomination or



762 election, from a candidate for the office of state senator or state  
763 representative, [shall not be an expenditure attributable to the  
764 endorsing candidate, if] provided (i) the candidate making the  
765 endorsement is not seeking election to the office of state senator or  
766 state representative for a district that contains any geographical area  
767 shared by the district for the office to which the endorsed candidate is  
768 seeking nomination or election, [;] and (ii) the communication is paid  
769 for by the candidate or the committee of the candidate being endorsed.

770 (B) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (A) of this  
771 subdivision, a communication described in said subparagraph shall be  
772 an expenditure on behalf of the candidate or committee paying for the  
773 communication;

774 (12) A communication described in subdivision (2) of subsection (a)  
775 of this section that refers to a clearly identified candidate for Governor  
776 or President of the United States, which communication is paid for by  
777 a candidate for nomination or election to any other office or by any  
778 committee of such candidate, provided such communication shall only  
779 not be an expenditure to the extent it refers to any candidate for  
780 Governor or President of the United States;

781 ~~[(12)]~~ (13) Campaign training events provided to multiple  
782 individuals by a legislative caucus committee or party committee and  
783 any associated materials, provided the cumulative value of such events  
784 and materials does not exceed six thousand dollars in the aggregate for  
785 a calendar year;

786 (14) Payment by a person from his or her personal funds for the  
787 purpose of such person receiving campaign training prior to becoming  
788 a candidate or upon becoming a candidate;

789 ~~[(13)]~~ (15) A lawful communication by any charitable organization  
790 which is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the  
791 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding  
792 internal revenue code of the United States, as from time to time  
793 amended;

794     ~~[(14)]~~ (16) The use of offices, telephones, computers and similar  
795 equipment provided by a party committee, legislative caucus  
796 committee or legislative leadership committee that serve as  
797 headquarters for or are used by such party committee, legislative  
798 caucus committee or legislative leadership committee; ~~[or]~~

799     ~~[(15)]~~ (17) An expense or expenses incurred by a human being  
800 acting alone in an amount that is two hundred dollars or less, in the  
801 aggregate, that benefits a candidate for a single election; ~~[.]~~ or

802     (18) A solicitation via the Internet for a contribution to any  
803 committee, provided any such contribution described in this  
804 subdivision shall be construed to be an expenditure.

805     Sec. 9. Subsection (c) of section 9-710 of the general statutes is  
806 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
807 *1, 2019*):

808     (c) A candidate who intends to participate in the Citizens' Election  
809 Program may provide personal funds for such candidate's campaign  
810 for nomination or election in an amount not exceeding: (1) For a  
811 candidate for the office of Governor, twenty thousand dollars; (2) for a  
812 candidate for the office of Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General,  
813 State Comptroller, State Treasurer or Secretary of the State, ten  
814 thousand dollars; (3) for a candidate for the office of state senator, two  
815 thousand dollars; or (4) for a candidate for the office of state  
816 representative, one thousand dollars. Such personal funds shall not  
817 constitute a qualifying contribution under section 9-704, as amended  
818 by this act. Any personal funds paid by such candidate for the purpose  
819 of receiving campaign training, as described in subdivision (14) of  
820 subsection (b) of section 9-601b, as amended by this act, shall not count  
821 toward the maximum amounts set forth in this subsection.

822     Sec. 10. Subsection (g) of section 9-7a of the general statutes is  
823 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
824 *1, 2019*):

825 (g) (1) In the case of a written complaint filed with the commission  
826 pursuant to section 9-7b, as amended by this act, commission staff  
827 shall conduct and complete a preliminary examination of such  
828 complaint by the fourteenth day following its receipt, at which time  
829 such staff shall, at its discretion, (A) dismiss the complaint for failure to  
830 allege any substantial violation of state election law supported by  
831 evidence, (B) engage the respondent in discussions in an effort to  
832 speedily resolve any matter pertaining to a de minimis violation, or (C)  
833 investigate and docket the complaint, prioritized in the order received,  
834 for a determination by the commission that probable cause or no  
835 probable cause exists for any such violation. If commission staff  
836 dismisses a complaint pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this  
837 subdivision, such staff shall provide a brief written statement concisely  
838 setting forth the reasons for such dismissal to the complainant and  
839 respondent, and such statement shall remain confidential, except upon  
840 the request of the respondent. If commission staff engages a  
841 respondent pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this subdivision but is  
842 unable to speedily resolve any such matter described in said  
843 subparagraph by the forty-fifth day following receipt of the complaint,  
844 such staff shall docket such complaint, prioritized in the order  
845 received, for a determination by the commission that probable cause or  
846 no probable cause exists for any violation of state election law. If the  
847 commission does not, by the sixtieth day following receipt of the  
848 complaint, either issue a decision or render its determination that  
849 probable cause or no probable cause exists for any violation of state  
850 election laws, the complainant or respondent may apply to the  
851 superior court for the judicial district of Hartford for an order to show  
852 cause why the commission has not acted upon the complaint and to  
853 provide evidence that the commission has unreasonably delayed  
854 action. For any complaint received on or after January 1, 2018, if the  
855 commission does not, by one year following receipt of such complaint,  
856 issue a decision thereon, the commission shall dismiss such complaint,  
857 provided the length of time of any delay caused by (i) the commission  
858 or commission staff granting any extension or continuance to a  
859 respondent prior to the issuance of any such decision, (ii) any

860 subpoena issued in connection with such complaint, (iii) any litigation  
861 in state or federal court related to such complaint, or (iv) any  
862 investigation by, or consultation of the commission or commission  
863 staff with, the Chief State's Attorney, the Attorney General, the United  
864 States Department of Justice or the United States Attorney for  
865 Connecticut related to such complaint, shall be added to such one year.

866 (2) In the case of a statement filed by the Secretary of the State with  
867 the commission pursuant to section 9-7b, as amended by this act, on or  
868 after July 1, 2015, if the commission does not, by the thirtieth day  
869 following such filing, make a determination to investigate such  
870 statement and, by the ninetieth day following such filing, complete any  
871 investigation of such statement and issue a decision, the Secretary may  
872 apply to the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford for an  
873 order to show cause why the commission has not acted upon the  
874 statement and to provide evidence that the commission has  
875 unreasonably delayed action.

876 (3) Any judicial proceeding pursuant to subdivision (1) or (2) of this  
877 subsection shall be privileged with respect to assignment for trial. The  
878 commission shall appear and give appropriate explanation in the  
879 matter. The court may, in its discretion, order the commission to: (A)  
880 Continue to proceed pursuant to section 9-7b, as amended by this act,  
881 (B) act by a date certain, or (C) refer the complaint or statement to the  
882 Chief State's Attorney. Nothing in this subsection shall require the  
883 commission, in any proceeding brought pursuant to this subsection, to  
884 disclose records or documents which are not required to be disclosed  
885 pursuant to subsection (b) of section 1-210 or subdivision (1) of  
886 subsection (a) of section 9-7b, as amended by this act. Nothing in this  
887 subsection shall preclude the commission from continuing its  
888 investigation or taking any action permitted by section 9-7b, as  
889 amended by this act, unless otherwise ordered by the court. The  
890 commission or any other party may, within seven days after a decision  
891 by the court under this subsection, file an appeal of the decision with  
892 the Appellate Court.

893 Sec. 11. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 9-7b of the  
894 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
895 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

896 (1) To make investigations on its own initiative or with respect to  
897 statements filed with the commission by the Secretary of the State, any  
898 town clerk or any registrar of voters or upon written complaint under  
899 oath by any individual, with respect to alleged violations of any  
900 provision of the general statutes relating to any election or referendum,  
901 any primary held pursuant to section 9-423, 9-425 or 9-464 or any  
902 primary held pursuant to a special act, and to hold hearings when the  
903 commission deems necessary to investigate violations of any  
904 provisions of the general statutes relating to any such election, primary  
905 or referendum, and for the purpose of such hearings the commission  
906 may administer oaths, examine witnesses and receive oral and  
907 documentary evidence, and shall have the power to subpoena  
908 witnesses under procedural rules the commission shall adopt, to  
909 compel their attendance and to require the production for examination  
910 of any books and papers which the commission deems relevant to any  
911 matter under investigation or in question. Until the commission  
912 determines that [it is necessary to investigate] probable cause or no  
913 probable cause exists for a violation, commission members and staff  
914 shall keep confidential any information concerning a complaint, [or]  
915 preliminary investigation or investigation, except upon request of the  
916 treasurer, deputy treasurer, chairperson or candidate affiliated with a  
917 committee that is the subject of the complaint, [or] preliminary  
918 investigation or investigation. If the commission determines that no  
919 probable cause exists for a violation, the complaint and the record of  
920 the investigation of the commission and staff shall remain confidential,  
921 except upon the request of the respondent. No complainant,  
922 respondent, witness; treasurer, deputy treasurer, candidate or  
923 chairperson affiliated with a committee that is the subject of the  
924 complaint; or commission or staff member shall disclose to any third  
925 party any information learned from the investigation, including  
926 knowledge of the existence of a complaint, which the disclosing party

927 would not otherwise have known. If the commission determines that  
928 probable cause exists for a violation, the commission shall make public  
929 the record of the investigation. In connection with its investigation of  
930 any alleged violation of any provision of chapter 145, or of any  
931 provision of section 9-359 or section 9-359a, the commission shall also  
932 have the power to subpoena any municipal clerk and to require the  
933 production for examination of any absentee ballot, inner and outer  
934 envelope from which any such ballot has been removed, depository  
935 envelope containing any such ballot or inner or outer envelope as  
936 provided in sections 9-150a and 9-150b and any other record, form or  
937 document as provided in section 9-150b, in connection with the  
938 election, primary or referendum to which the investigation relates. In  
939 case of a refusal to comply with any subpoena issued pursuant to this  
940 subsection or to testify with respect to any matter upon which that  
941 person may be lawfully interrogated, the superior court for the judicial  
942 district of Hartford, on application of the commission, may issue an  
943 order requiring such person to comply with such subpoena and to  
944 testify; failure to obey any such order of the court may be punished by  
945 the court as a contempt thereof. In any matter under investigation  
946 which concerns the operation or inspection of or outcome recorded on  
947 any voting tabulator, the commission may issue an order to the  
948 registrars of voters to impound such tabulator until the investigation is  
949 completed;

950 Sec. 12. Subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of section 9-7b of the  
951 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
952 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

953 (5) (A) To inspect or audit at any reasonable time and upon  
954 reasonable notice the accounts or records of any treasurer or principal  
955 treasurer, except as provided for in subparagraph (B) of this  
956 subdivision, as required by chapter 155 or 157 and to audit any such  
957 election, primary or referendum held within the state; provided, (i) (I)  
958 not later than two months preceding the day of an election at which a  
959 candidate is seeking election, the commission shall complete any audit  
960 it has initiated in the absence of a complaint that involves a committee

961 of the same candidate from a previous election, and (II) during the  
962 two-month period preceding the day of an election at which a  
963 candidate is seeking election, the commission shall not initiate an audit  
964 in the absence of a complaint that involves a committee of the same  
965 candidate from a previous election, and (ii) the commission shall not  
966 audit any caucus, as defined in subdivision (1) of section 9-372.

967 (B) When conducting an audit after an election or primary, the  
968 commission shall randomly audit not more than fifty per cent of  
969 candidate committees, which shall be selected through the process of a  
970 weighted lottery conducted by the commission that takes into account  
971 the selection frequency of a district served by the office of state senator  
972 or state representative, as applicable, for the immediately preceding  
973 three regular elections for such office and increases or decreases the  
974 likelihood that such district will be selected for audit based on such  
975 selection frequency, except that the commissioner shall audit all  
976 candidate committees for candidates for a state-wide office.

977 (C) The commission shall notify, in writing, any committee of a  
978 candidate for an office in the general election, or of any candidate who  
979 had a primary for nomination to any such office not later than May  
980 thirty-first of the year immediately following such election. In no case  
981 shall the commission audit any such candidate committee that the  
982 commission fails to provide notice to in accordance with this  
983 subparagraph. [;]

984 (D) Any audit conducted under this subdivision shall be limited to  
985 the financial records necessary to demonstrate that vendor payments  
986 were properly made, including books, financial statements, invoices  
987 and checks.

988 Sec. 13. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2019*) (a) (1) There is established a  
989 Commission for the Revision of Election Laws. The commission shall  
990 be composed of the president pro tempore of the Senate, the speaker of  
991 the House of Representatives, the majority leader of the Senate, the  
992 majority leader of the House of Representatives, the minority leader of

993 the Senate, the minority leader of the House of Representatives and the  
994 Secretary of the State, or their designees, the chairpersons and ranking  
995 members of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly  
996 having cognizance of matters relating to elections, or their designees  
997 chosen from among the members of the committee, and nine members  
998 appointed as follows: The president pro tempore of the Senate shall  
999 appoint two members and the speaker of the House of Representatives  
1000 shall appoint two members; and the Secretary of the State shall appoint  
1001 five members, each of whom shall have experience or expertise in  
1002 election administration. The commission shall elect one of its members  
1003 to serve as chairperson.

1004 (2) All appointments by the president pro tempore of the Senate, the  
1005 speaker of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the State  
1006 shall be for two years or until a successor is appointed. If any member  
1007 appointed by the Secretary of the State vacates his or her office before  
1008 the expiration of the term, the Secretary shall appoint a successor for  
1009 the unexpired term.

1010 (b) The commission shall:

1011 (1) Recommend, from time to time, such changes in title 9 of the  
1012 general statutes as it deems necessary to modify or eliminate  
1013 antiquated and inequitable rules of law, and to bring said title into  
1014 harmony with modern conditions;

1015 (2) Recommend the express repeal of all provisions of title 9 of the  
1016 general statutes repealed by implication or held unconstitutional by  
1017 the Supreme Court of the state or any federal court;

1018 (3) Assist the joint standing committee of the General Assembly  
1019 having cognizance of matters relating to elections and other  
1020 commissions and groups appointed by the Governor or General  
1021 Assembly to study election law within the state;

1022 (4) Educate the public as to the need for election law revision  
1023 through public hearings or community forums, giving the public an



1024 opportunity to be heard;

1025 (5) Organize and conduct meetings within the state for scholarly  
1026 discussion of current problems in election law, bringing together  
1027 representatives of the legislature, practicing attorneys, members of the  
1028 bench and bar, and representatives of the law teaching profession; and

1029 (6) Not later than February first in 2020, and not later than January  
1030 fifth in 2021, submit a report to the General Assembly in accordance  
1031 with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The report  
1032 shall include proposed legislative drafts and a description of the  
1033 research and projects initiated, pending or completed during the  
1034 preceding year with recommendations and comments. The  
1035 commission may also whenever it considers it appropriate submit  
1036 other recommendations and legislative proposals to the General  
1037 Assembly and its committees.

1038 (c) The commission shall terminate on July 1, 2021.

1039 Sec. 14. Subdivision (16) of section 4-166 of the general statutes is  
1040 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
1041 *October 1, 2019*):

1042 (16) "Regulation" means each agency statement of general  
1043 applicability, without regard to its designation, that implements,  
1044 interprets, or prescribes law or policy, or describes the organization,  
1045 procedure, or practice requirements of any agency. The term includes  
1046 the amendment or repeal of a prior regulation, but does not include  
1047 (A) statements concerning only the internal management of any  
1048 agency and not affecting private rights or procedures available to the  
1049 public, (B) declaratory rulings issued pursuant to section 4-176, as  
1050 amended by this act, other than declaratory rulings issued pursuant to  
1051 section 16 of this act, or (C) intra-agency or interagency memoranda;

1052 Sec. 15. Section 4-176 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1053 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

1054 (a) Any person may petition an agency, or an agency may on its  
1055 own motion initiate a proceeding, for a declaratory ruling as to the  
1056 validity of any regulation, or the applicability to specified  
1057 circumstances of a provision of the general statutes, a regulation, or a  
1058 final decision on a matter within the jurisdiction of the agency.

1059 (b) Each agency shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the  
1060 provisions of this chapter, that provide for (1) the form and content of  
1061 petitions for declaratory rulings, (2) the filing procedure for such  
1062 petitions and (3) the procedural rights of persons with respect to the  
1063 petitions.

1064 (c) Within thirty days after receipt of a petition for a declaratory  
1065 ruling, an agency shall give notice of the petition to all persons to  
1066 whom notice is required by any provision of law and to all persons  
1067 who have requested notice of declaratory ruling petitions on the  
1068 subject matter of the petition.

1069 (d) If the agency finds that a timely petition to become a party or to  
1070 intervene has been filed according to the regulations adopted under  
1071 subsection (b) of this section, the agency: (1) May grant a person status  
1072 as a party if the agency finds that the petition states facts  
1073 demonstrating that the petitioner's legal rights, duties or privileges  
1074 shall be specifically affected by the agency proceeding; and (2) may  
1075 grant a person status as an intervenor if the agency finds that the  
1076 petition states facts demonstrating that the petitioner's participation is  
1077 in the interests of justice and will not impair the orderly conduct of the  
1078 proceedings. The agency may define an intervenor's participation in  
1079 the manner set forth in subsection (d) of section 4-177a.

1080 (e) Within sixty days after receipt of a petition for a declaratory  
1081 ruling, an agency in writing shall: (1) Issue a ruling declaring the  
1082 validity of a regulation or the applicability of the provision of the  
1083 general statutes, the regulation, or the final decision in question to the  
1084 specified circumstances, (2) order the matter set for specified  
1085 proceedings, (3) agree to issue a declaratory ruling by a specified date,

1086 (4) decide not to issue a declaratory ruling and initiate regulation-  
1087 making proceedings, under section 4-168, on the subject, [or] (5) decide  
1088 not to issue a declaratory ruling, stating the reasons for its action, or (6)  
1089 in the case of a declaratory ruling issued under section 16 of this act,  
1090 publish notice of intent to adopt regulations concerning such  
1091 declaratory ruling.

1092 (f) A copy of all rulings issued and any actions taken under  
1093 subsection (e) of this section shall be promptly delivered to the  
1094 petitioner and other parties personally or by United States mail,  
1095 certified or registered, postage prepaid, return receipt requested.

1096 (g) If the agency conducts a hearing in a proceeding for a  
1097 declaratory ruling, the provisions of subsection (b) of section 4-177c,  
1098 section 4-178 and section 4-179 shall apply to the hearing.

1099 (h) [A] Except as provided in section 16 of this act, a declaratory  
1100 ruling shall be effective when personally delivered or mailed or on  
1101 such later date specified by the agency in the ruling, shall have the  
1102 same status and binding effect as an order issued in a contested case  
1103 and shall be a final decision for purposes of appeal in accordance with  
1104 the provisions of section 4-183. A declaratory ruling shall contain the  
1105 names of all parties to the proceeding, the particular facts on which it  
1106 is based and the reasons for its conclusion.

1107 (i) If an agency does not issue a declaratory ruling, other than a  
1108 declaratory ruling issued under section 16 of this act, within one  
1109 hundred eighty days after the filing of a petition therefor, or within  
1110 such longer period as may be agreed by the parties, the agency shall be  
1111 deemed to have decided not to issue such ruling.

1112 (j) The agency shall keep a record of the proceeding as provided in  
1113 section 4-177.

1114 Sec. 16. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2019*) Prior to issuing a  
1115 declaratory ruling pursuant to section 4-176 of the general statutes, as  
1116 amended by this act, the State Elections Enforcement Commission

1117 shall adopt such declaratory ruling as a regulation, in accordance with  
1118 the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes. The commission  
1119 shall publish on the eRegulations System a notice of intent to adopt  
1120 such declaratory ruling as a regulation not later than sixty days after  
1121 receipt of a petition for a declaratory ruling. Such declaratory ruling  
1122 shall be effective when the regulation is posted on the eRegulations  
1123 System by the Secretary of the State under section 4-172 of the general  
1124 statutes.

1125 Sec. 17. Subsection (a) of section 9-706 of the general statutes is  
1126 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
1127 *1, 2019*):

1128 (a) (1) [A] Except as provided in subdivision (6) of this subsection, a  
1129 participating candidate for nomination to the office of state senator or  
1130 state representative in 2008, or thereafter, or the office of Governor,  
1131 Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller, Secretary  
1132 of the State or State Treasurer in 2010, or thereafter, may apply to the  
1133 State Elections Enforcement Commission for a grant from the fund  
1134 under the Citizens' Election Program for a primary campaign, after the  
1135 close of the state convention of the candidate's party that is called for  
1136 the purpose of choosing candidates for nomination for the office that  
1137 the candidate is seeking, if a primary is required under chapter 153,  
1138 and (A) said party endorses the candidate for the office that the  
1139 candidate is seeking, (B) the candidate is seeking nomination to the  
1140 office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State  
1141 Comptroller, State Treasurer or Secretary of the State or the district  
1142 office of state senator or state representative and receives at least  
1143 fifteen per cent of the votes of the convention delegates present and  
1144 voting on any roll-call vote taken on the endorsement or proposed  
1145 endorsement of a candidate for the office the candidate is seeking, or  
1146 (C) the candidate circulates a petition and obtains the required number  
1147 of signatures for filing a candidacy for nomination for (i) the office of  
1148 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller,  
1149 State Treasurer or Secretary of the State or the district office of state  
1150 senator or state representative, pursuant to section 9-400, or (ii) the

1151 municipal office of state senator or state representative, pursuant to  
1152 section 9-406, whichever is applicable. The State Elections Enforcement  
1153 Commission shall make any such grants to participating candidates in  
1154 accordance with the provisions of subsections (d) to (g), inclusive, of  
1155 this section.

1156 (2) [A] Except as provided in subdivision (6) of this subsection, a  
1157 participating candidate for nomination to the office of state senator or  
1158 state representative in 2008, or thereafter, or the office of Governor,  
1159 Attorney General, State Comptroller, Secretary of the State or State  
1160 Treasurer in 2010, or thereafter, may apply to the State Elections  
1161 Enforcement Commission for a grant from the fund under the Citizens'  
1162 Election Program for a general election campaign:

1163 (A) After the close of the state or district convention or municipal  
1164 caucus, convention or town committee meeting, whichever is  
1165 applicable, of the candidate's party that is called for the purpose of  
1166 choosing candidates for nomination for the office that the candidate is  
1167 seeking, if (i) said party endorses said candidate for the office that the  
1168 candidate is seeking and no other candidate of said party files a  
1169 candidacy with the Secretary of the State in accordance with the  
1170 provisions of section 9-400 or 9-406, whichever is applicable, (ii) the  
1171 candidate is seeking election to the office of Governor, Lieutenant  
1172 Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller, State Treasurer or  
1173 Secretary of the State or the district office of state senator or state  
1174 representative and receives at least fifteen per cent of the votes of the  
1175 convention delegates present and voting on any roll-call vote taken on  
1176 the endorsement or proposed endorsement of a candidate for the office  
1177 the candidate is seeking, no other candidate for said office at such  
1178 convention either receives the party endorsement or said percentage of  
1179 said votes for said endorsement or files a certificate of endorsement  
1180 with the Secretary of the State in accordance with the provisions of  
1181 section 9-388 or a candidacy with the Secretary of the State in  
1182 accordance with the provisions of section 9-400, and no other  
1183 candidate for said office circulates a petition and obtains the required  
1184 number of signatures for filing a candidacy for nomination for said

1185 office pursuant to section 9-400, (iii) the candidate is seeking election to  
1186 the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State  
1187 Comptroller, State Treasurer or Secretary of the State or the district  
1188 office of state senator or state representative, circulates a petition and  
1189 obtains the required number of signatures for filing a candidacy for  
1190 nomination for said office pursuant to section 9-400 and no other  
1191 candidate for said office at the state or district convention either  
1192 receives the party endorsement or said percentage of said votes for  
1193 said endorsement or files a certificate of endorsement with the  
1194 Secretary of the State in accordance with the provisions of section 9-388  
1195 or a candidacy with the Secretary of the State in accordance with the  
1196 provisions of section 9-400, or (iv) the candidate is seeking election to  
1197 the municipal office of state senator or state representative, circulates a  
1198 petition and obtains the required number of signatures for filing a  
1199 candidacy for nomination for the office the candidate is seeking  
1200 pursuant to section 9-406 and no other candidate for said office at the  
1201 caucus, convention or town committee meeting either receives the  
1202 party endorsement or files a certification of endorsement with the  
1203 town clerk in accordance with the provisions of section 9-391;

1204 (B) After any primary held by such party for nomination for said  
1205 office, if the Secretary of the State declares that the candidate is the  
1206 party nominee in accordance with the provisions of section 9-440;

1207 (C) In the case of a minor party candidate, after the nomination of  
1208 such candidate is certified and filed with the Secretary of the State  
1209 pursuant to section 9-452; or

1210 (D) In the case of a petitioning party candidate, after approval by  
1211 the Secretary of the State of such candidate's nominating petition  
1212 pursuant to section 9-453o.

1213 (3) A participating candidate for nomination to the office of state  
1214 senator or state representative at a special election in 2008, or  
1215 thereafter, may apply to the State Elections Enforcement Commission  
1216 for a grant from the fund under the Citizens' Election Program for a

1217 general election campaign after the close of the district convention or  
1218 municipal caucus, convention or town committee meeting of the  
1219 candidate's party that is called for the purpose of choosing candidates  
1220 for nomination for the office that the candidate is seeking.

1221 (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of  
1222 this subsection, no participating candidate for nomination or election  
1223 who changes the candidate's status as a major party, minor party or  
1224 petitioning party candidate or becomes a candidate of a different  
1225 party, after filing the affidavit required under section 9-703, shall be  
1226 eligible to apply for a grant under the Citizens' Election Program for  
1227 such candidate's primary campaign for such nomination or general  
1228 election campaign for such election. The provisions of this subdivision  
1229 shall not apply in the case of a candidate who is nominated by more  
1230 than one party and does not otherwise change the candidate's status as  
1231 a major party, minor party or petitioning party candidate.

1232 (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, no candidate  
1233 may apply to the State Elections Enforcement Commission for a grant  
1234 from the fund under the Citizens' Election Program if such candidate  
1235 has been convicted of or pled guilty or nolo contendere to, in a court of  
1236 competent jurisdiction, any (A) criminal offense under this title unless  
1237 at least eight years have elapsed from the date of the conviction or plea  
1238 or the completion of any sentence, whichever date is later, without a  
1239 subsequent conviction of or plea to another such offense, or (B) a  
1240 felony related to the individual's public office, other than an offense  
1241 under this title in accordance with subparagraph (A) of this  
1242 subdivision.

1243 (6) A participating candidate may apply to the State Elections  
1244 Enforcement Commission for a grant from the fund for a primary  
1245 campaign or general election campaign, as applicable, in advance of  
1246 the schedule prescribed in subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of this  
1247 section for the purpose of receiving preapproval of such application as  
1248 a prospective participating candidate.

1249 Sec. 18. Subsection (g) of section 9-706 of the general statutes is  
1250 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
1251 *1, 2019*):

1252 (g) (1) Any application submitted pursuant to this section for a  
1253 primary or general election shall be submitted in accordance with the  
1254 following schedule: (A) By five o'clock p.m. on either the [third] first  
1255 Wednesday, Thursday or Friday in May of the year that the primary or  
1256 election will be held at which such participating candidate will seek  
1257 nomination or election, or (B) by five o'clock p.m. on any subsequent  
1258 Wednesday, Thursday or Friday of such year, provided no application  
1259 shall be accepted by the commission after five o'clock p.m. on or after  
1260 the fourth to last Friday prior to the primary or election at which such  
1261 participating candidate will seek nomination or election. Not later than  
1262 five business days following any such Wednesday, Thursday or  
1263 Friday, as applicable, for participating candidates seeking nomination  
1264 or election to the office of state senator or state representative, or ten  
1265 business days following any such Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, as  
1266 applicable, for participating candidates seeking nomination or election  
1267 to the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General,  
1268 State Comptroller, State Treasurer or Secretary of the State or, in the  
1269 event of a national, regional or local emergency or local natural  
1270 disaster, as soon thereafter as is practicable, the commission shall  
1271 review any application received by such Wednesday, Thursday or  
1272 Friday, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (d) of this  
1273 section and prioritized in the order received, and [determine whether  
1274 such application shall be approved or disapproved] shall approve or  
1275 disapprove such application. Notwithstanding the provisions of this  
1276 subsection, if an application for a general election grant is received  
1277 during the period beginning at five o'clock p.m. on the Wednesday of  
1278 the week preceding the week of the last primary application deadline  
1279 and ending five o'clock p.m. on the last primary application deadline,  
1280 as set forth in this subsection, the commission shall review such  
1281 application in accordance with the provisions of subsection (d) of this  
1282 section and [determine whether it shall be approved or disapproved]



1283 prioritized in the order received and shall approve or disapprove such  
1284 application not later than five business days or ten business days, as  
1285 applicable, after the first application deadline following the last  
1286 primary application deadline. For any such application that is  
1287 approved, any disbursement of funds by the commission shall be  
1288 made not later than twelve business days prior to any such primary or  
1289 general election. From the third week of June in even-numbered years  
1290 until the third week in July, the commission shall meet [twice] three  
1291 times weekly to determine whether or not to approve applications for  
1292 grants if there are pending grant applications. Nothing in this  
1293 subdivision shall be construed to prohibit the commission or any  
1294 member thereof from conducting a review of such applications  
1295 remotely, including, but not limited to, telephonically or via Internet-  
1296 based means. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to  
1297 prohibit the commission from reviewing grant applications in advance  
1298 of the schedule prescribed in this subdivision for the purpose of  
1299 preapproving any such application for a prospective participating  
1300 candidate, provided payment of any such grant resulting from any  
1301 such preapproved application shall remain contingent upon the  
1302 occurrence of the events set forth in subdivision (1) or (2), as  
1303 applicable, of subsection (a) of this section.

1304 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this  
1305 subsection, no application for a special election shall be accepted by  
1306 the commission after five o'clock p.m. on or after ten business days  
1307 prior to the special election at which such participating candidate will  
1308 seek election. Not later than three business days following such  
1309 deadline, or, in the event of a national, regional or local emergency or  
1310 local natural disaster, as soon thereafter as practicable, the commission  
1311 shall review any such application received by such deadline, in  
1312 accordance with the provisions of subsection (d) of this section, and  
1313 determine whether such application shall be approved or disapproved.  
1314 For any such application that is approved, any disbursement of funds  
1315 by the commission shall be made not later than seven business days  
1316 prior to any such special election.

1317 (3) The commission shall publish such application review schedules  
1318 and meeting schedules on the commission's web site and with the  
1319 Secretary of the State.

1320 Sec. 19. Subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of section 9-608 of the  
1321 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
1322 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

1323 (3) In addition to the requirements of subdivision (2) of this  
1324 subsection, each contributor who makes a contribution to a candidate  
1325 or exploratory committee for Governor, Lieutenant Governor,  
1326 Attorney General, State Comptroller, Secretary of the State, State  
1327 Treasurer, state senator or state representative, any political committee  
1328 authorized to make contributions to such candidates or committees,  
1329 and any party committee that separately, or in the aggregate, exceeds  
1330 fifty dollars shall provide with the contribution: (A) The name of the  
1331 contributor's employer, if any; (B) the contributor's status as a  
1332 communicator lobbyist, as defined in section 1-91, a member of the  
1333 immediate family of a communicator lobbyist, a state contractor, a  
1334 prospective state contractor or a principal of a state contractor or  
1335 prospective state contractor, as defined in section 9-612, as amended by  
1336 this act; and (C) a certification that the contributor is not prohibited  
1337 from making a contribution to such candidate or committee, which  
1338 certification shall constitute prima facie evidence of such fact. The State  
1339 Elections Enforcement Commission shall prepare a sample form for  
1340 such certification by the contributor and shall make it available to  
1341 treasurers and contributors. Such sample form shall include an  
1342 explanation of the terms "communicator lobbyist", "principal of a state  
1343 contractor or prospective state contractor", "immediate family", "state  
1344 contractor" and "prospective state contractor". The information on such  
1345 sample form shall be included in any written solicitation conducted by  
1346 any such committee. If a treasurer receives such a contribution and the  
1347 contributor has not provided such certification, the treasurer shall: (i)  
1348 Not later than three business days after receiving the contribution,  
1349 send a request for the certification to the contributor by certified mail,  
1350 return receipt requested; (ii) not deposit the contribution until the

1351 treasurer obtains the certification from the contributor,  
1352 notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-606; and (iii) return the  
1353 contribution to the contributor if the contributor does not provide the  
1354 certification not later than fourteen days after the treasurer's written  
1355 request or at the end of the reporting period in which the contribution  
1356 was received, whichever is later. No treasurer shall be required to  
1357 obtain and keep more than one certification from each contributor,  
1358 unless information certified to by the contributor, other than the  
1359 amount contributed, changes. If a treasurer deposits a contribution  
1360 based on a certification that is later determined to be false, the  
1361 treasurer shall have a complete defense to any action, including but  
1362 not limited to, any complaint investigated by the State Elections  
1363 Enforcement Commission or any other investigation initiated by said  
1364 commission, against such treasurer for the receipt of such contribution.

1365 Sec. 20. Subsection (c) of section 9-712 of the general statutes is  
1366 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
1367 *1, 2019*):

1368 (c) The commission shall not impose a penalty for the first failure of  
1369 a treasurer to file any statement or declaration required by this section  
1370 within the time required. If a treasurer fails to so file any such  
1371 statement or declaration [required by this section within the time  
1372 required] a second time, said treasurer shall be subject to a civil  
1373 penalty, imposed by the commission, of not more than one thousand  
1374 dollars. [for the first failure to file the statement within the time  
1375 required and] After such second failure, said treasurer shall be subject  
1376 to a civil penalty, imposed by the commission, of not more than five  
1377 thousand dollars for any subsequent such failure.

1378 Sec. 21. Subsection (d) of section 9-7a of the general statutes is  
1379 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
1380 *1, 2019*):

1381 (d) (1) The commission shall, subject to the provisions of chapter 67,  
1382 employ an executive director and such other employees as may be

1383 necessary to carry out the provisions of this section, section 9-7b and  
1384 section 9-623 and may apply to the Commissioner of Emergency  
1385 Services and Public Protection or to the Chief State's Attorney for  
1386 necessary investigatory personnel, which the same are hereby  
1387 authorized to provide.

1388 (2) Beginning January 15, 2021, the commission shall employ an  
1389 executive director to serve as such for a term not to exceed four years,  
1390 except that at the conclusion of such term the commission may  
1391 reemploy such person for an additional four years. Not later than  
1392 thirty days after each employment or reemployment, as applicable, of  
1393 an executive director, the commission shall submit a report to the joint  
1394 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
1395 matters relating to elections, in accordance with section 11-4a, on the  
1396 performance of the commission and the executive director thereof  
1397 during the immediately preceding term of such executive director.

1398 Sec. 22. Subsections (h) and (i) of section 9-610 of the general  
1399 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
1400 (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

1401 (h) [On] (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection,  
1402 on and after January 1, 2011, no communicator lobbyist, immediate  
1403 family member of a communicator lobbyist, agent of a communicator  
1404 lobbyist, or political committee established or controlled by a  
1405 communicator lobbyist or any such immediate family member or  
1406 agent shall knowingly solicit from any individual who is a member of  
1407 the board of directors of, an employee of or a partner in, or who has an  
1408 ownership interest of five per cent or more in, any client lobbyist that  
1409 the communicator lobbyist lobbies on behalf of pursuant to the  
1410 communicator lobbyist's registration under chapter 10 [(1)] (A) a  
1411 contribution on behalf of a candidate committee or an exploratory  
1412 committee established by a candidate for the office of Governor,  
1413 Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller, State  
1414 Treasurer, Secretary of the State, state senator or state representative, a  
1415 political committee established or controlled by any such candidate, a

1416 legislative caucus committee, a legislative leadership committee or a  
1417 party committee, or [(2)] (B) the purchase of advertising space in a  
1418 program for a fund-raising affair sponsored by a town committee, as  
1419 described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (10) of subsection (b) of  
1420 section 9-601a, as amended by this act.

1421 (2) In the case of the spouse of a communicator lobbyist, which  
1422 spouse is a member of the staff of a state officer or an employee of a  
1423 legislative caucus and is designated treasurer or deputy treasurer of a  
1424 candidate committee pursuant to subsection (a) of section 9-602, such  
1425 spouse may in the course of his or her duties as such treasurer or  
1426 deputy treasurer knowingly solicit contributions and purchases of  
1427 advertising space described in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

1428 (i) [No] (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection,  
1429 no communicator lobbyist or agent of such lobbyist, or member of the  
1430 immediate family of a communicator lobbyist shall bundle  
1431 contributions to, [(1)] (A) an exploratory committee or a candidate  
1432 committee established by a candidate for nomination or election to the  
1433 office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State  
1434 Comptroller, State Treasurer, Secretary of the State, state senator or  
1435 state representative, [(2)] (B) a political committee established or  
1436 controlled by any such candidate, [(3)] (C) a legislative caucus  
1437 committee or a legislative leadership committee, or [(4)] (D) a party  
1438 committee.

1439 (2) In the case of the spouse of a communicator lobbyist, which  
1440 spouse is a member of the staff of a state officer or an employee of a  
1441 legislative caucus and is designated treasurer or deputy treasurer of a  
1442 candidate committee pursuant to subsection (a) of section 9-602, such  
1443 spouse may in the course of his or her duties as such treasurer or a  
1444 deputy treasurer bundle contributions to such candidate committee.

1445 Sec. 23. Subsection (a) of section 9-610 of the general statutes is  
1446 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
1447 *1, 2019*):

1448 (a) (1) Any provision of this chapter to the contrary  
1449 notwithstanding, a candidate committee may join with one or more  
1450 candidate committees to establish a political committee for the purpose  
1451 of sponsoring one or more fund-raising events for those candidates.  
1452 Any individual, other than a candidate benefited, who is eligible and  
1453 qualifies to serve in accordance with the provisions of subsection (d) of  
1454 section 9-606 may serve as the treasurer or deputy treasurer of such a  
1455 political committee. The statements required to be filed by a political  
1456 committee under this chapter shall apply to any political committee  
1457 established pursuant to this subsection. After all expenses of the  
1458 political committee have been paid by its treasurer for each event, he  
1459 shall distribute all remaining funds from such event to the treasurers  
1460 of each of the candidate committees which established the political  
1461 committee. The distribution to each candidate committee shall be  
1462 made not later than fourteen days after the event, either in accordance  
1463 with a prior agreement of the candidates or, if no prior agreement was  
1464 made, in equal proportions to each candidate committee. Any  
1465 contribution which is made to such political committee shall, for  
1466 purposes of determining compliance with the limitations imposed by  
1467 this chapter, be deemed to have been made in equal proportions to  
1468 each candidate's campaign unless [(1)] (A) a prior agreement was  
1469 made by the candidates as to the disposition of remaining funds, and  
1470 [(2)] (B) those who contributed to the political committee were notified  
1471 of such disposition, in which case the contribution shall be deemed to  
1472 have been made to each candidate's campaign in accordance with the  
1473 agreement.

1474 (2) Any provision of this chapter to the contrary notwithstanding, in  
1475 the case of a candidate who appears on any written, typed or other  
1476 printed communication, or any web-based written communication,  
1477 which solicits contributions to benefit any political committee or party  
1478 committee, the candidate committee of such candidate shall not be  
1479 required to pay or reimburse such political committee or party  
1480 committee for its pro rata share of the expenses of such  
1481 communication, provided such communication shall not promote the

1482 success of such candidate's campaign for nomination or election or  
1483 promote the defeat of the campaign for nomination or election of any  
1484 opponent of such candidate.

1485 Sec. 24. Subsections (e) and (f) of section 9-706 of the general statutes  
1486 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
1487 *July 1, 2019*):

1488 (e) (1) The State Elections Enforcement Commission shall adopt  
1489 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, on  
1490 permissible expenditures under subsection (g) of section 9-607 for  
1491 qualified candidate committees receiving grants from the fund under  
1492 sections 9-700 to 9-716, inclusive.

1493 (2) Notwithstanding any regulation adopted pursuant to  
1494 subdivision (1) of this subsection, the qualified candidate committee of  
1495 a participating candidate may make de minimis expenditures for the  
1496 use of any social media account, Internet web site or electronic mail or  
1497 message account, system, program or contact list of such committee to  
1498 solicit contributions for the benefit of a legislative caucus committee,  
1499 legislative leadership committee or party committee.

1500 (f) [If] Whenever a nominated participating candidate dies,  
1501 withdraws the candidate's candidacy or becomes disqualified to hold  
1502 the office for which the candidate has been nominated after the  
1503 commission approves the candidate's application for a grant under this  
1504 section, the candidate committee of the candidate who is nominated to  
1505 replace said candidate pursuant to section 9-460 shall be eligible to  
1506 receive grants from the fund without complying with the provisions of  
1507 section 9-704, if said replacement candidate (1) files an affidavit under  
1508 section 9-703 certifying the candidate's intent to abide by the  
1509 expenditure limits set forth in subsection (c) of section 9-702, (2) in the  
1510 case of a replacement candidate for election to the office of (A) state  
1511 senator for a district, collects signatures on a form prescribed by the  
1512 commission from three hundred electors residing in municipalities  
1513 included, in whole or in part, in said district, or (B) state representative

1514 for a district, collects signatures on a form prescribed by the  
 1515 commission from one hundred fifty electors residing in municipalities  
 1516 included, in whole or in part, in said district, and (3) notifies the  
 1517 commission on a form prescribed by the commission."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	9-621
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	9-601c(b)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	9-603(b)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	9-704(e)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	9-706(d)
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2019, and applicable to actions pending on or filed on or after July 1, 2019</i>	9-601a(b)
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2019, and applicable to actions pending on or filed on or after July 1, 2019</i>	9-601b(b)
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	9-710(c)
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	9-7a(g)
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	9-7b(a)(1)
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	9-7b(a)(5)
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	New section
Sec. 14	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	4-166(16)
Sec. 15	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	4-176
Sec. 16	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	New section
Sec. 17	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	9-706(a)
Sec. 18	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	9-706(g)
Sec. 19	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	9-608(c)(3)
Sec. 20	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	9-712(c)
Sec. 21	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	9-7a(d)
Sec. 22	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	9-610(h) and (i)
Sec. 23	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	9-610(a)
Sec. 24	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	9-706(e) and (f)