AN ACT CONCERNING ONLINE POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND FILING OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE STATEMENTS.

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

Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 9-675 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective January 1, 2020):

(a) The State Elections Enforcement Commission shall (1) create a web-based program for the preparation and electronic submission of financial disclosure statements required by chapters 155 to 157, inclusive, and (2) (A) prescribe the standard reporting format and specifications for any software program created by a vendor for such purpose described in subdivision (1) of this subsection, and (B) for each state election cycle, prescribe the standard format and specifications for any platform used for the receipt of credit card contributions by the candidate committee or exploratory committee of any person seeking nomination or election for the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Comptroller, Attorney General, state senator or state representative. No software program created by a vendor may be used for the electronic submission of such financial disclosure statements, and, if applicable, no platform for the receipt of credit card contributions may be used, unless the commission determines that [the software program provides for the standard reporting format and] such program or platform complies with the required standards and specifications prescribed under subdivision (2) of this subsection [for any such software program.] The commission shall provide training in the use
of the web-based program created by the commission. As used in this section, "state election cycle" means the period beginning the day after a state election and ending the day of the next state election.

Sec. 2. Subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of section 9-608 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

(3) In addition to the requirements of subdivision (2) of this subsection, each contributor who makes a contribution to a candidate or exploratory committee for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller, Secretary of the State, State Treasurer, state senator or state representative, any political committee authorized to make contributions to such candidates or committees, and any party committee that separately, or in the aggregate, exceeds fifty dollars shall provide with the contribution on a form prescribed by the State Elections Enforcement Commission: (A) The name of the contributor's employer, if any; (B) the contributor's status as a communicator lobbyist, as defined in section 1-91, a member of the immediate family of a communicator lobbyist, a state contractor, a prospective state contractor or a principal of a state contractor or prospective state contractor, as defined in section 9-612; and (C) a certification that the contributor is not prohibited from making a contribution to such candidate or committee. The State Elections Enforcement Commission shall prepare a sample such form for such certification by the contributor and shall make it available to treasurers and contributors. Such sample form shall include an explanation of the terms "communicator lobbyist", "principal of a state contractor or prospective state contractor", "immediate family", "state contractor" and "prospective state contractor". The information on such sample form shall be included in any written solicitation conducted by any such committee. If a treasurer receives such a contribution and the contributor has not provided such certification, the treasurer shall: (i) Not later than three business days after receiving the contribution, send a request for the certification to the contributor by certified mail, return receipt requested; (ii) not deposit the contribution until the
treasurer obtains the certification from the contributor, notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-606; and (iii) return the contribution to the contributor if the contributor does not provide the certification not later than fourteen days after the treasurer's written request or at the end of the reporting period in which the contribution was received, whichever is later. No treasurer shall be required to obtain and keep more than one certification from each contributor, unless information certified to by the contributor, other than the amount contributed, changes. If a treasurer deposits a contribution based on a certification that is later determined to be false, the treasurer shall have a complete defense to any action, including but not limited to, any complaint investigated by the State Elections Enforcement Commission or any other investigation initiated by said commission, against such treasurer for the receipt of such contribution.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section 1</th>
<th>January 1, 2020</th>
<th>9-675(a)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sec. 2</td>
<td>from passage</td>
<td>9-608(c)(3)</td>
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