



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2021

LCO No. 9206



Offered by:
SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 5

File No. 570

Cal. No. 338

(As Amended by Senate Amendment Schedule "A")

**"AN ACT CONCERNING INCREASED OPPORTUNITIES FOR
ABSENTEE VOTING, SAFE AND SECURE IN-PERSON VOTING,
VOTER REGISTRATION AND CERTAIN OTHER CHANGES
REGARDING ELECTION ADMINISTRATION."**

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

3 "Sec. 501. Subsection (b) of section 9-601a of the general statutes is
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
5 *passage*):

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

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

10 (2) Any communication made by a corporation, organization or

11 association solely to its members, owners, stockholders, executive or
12 administrative personnel, or their families;

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

17 (4) Uncompensated services provided by individuals volunteering
18 their time on behalf of a party committee, political committee, slate
19 committee or candidate committee, including any services provided for
20 the benefit of nonparticipating and participating candidates under the
21 Citizens' Election Program and any unreimbursed travel expenses made
22 by an individual who volunteers the individual's personal services to
23 any such committee. For purposes of this subdivision, an individual is
24 a volunteer if such individual is not receiving compensation for such
25 services regardless of whether such individual received compensation
26 in the past or may receive compensation for similar services that may be
27 performed in the future;

28 (5) The use of real or personal property, a portion or all of the cost of
29 invitations and the cost of food or beverages, voluntarily provided by
30 an individual to a candidate, including a nonparticipating or
31 participating candidate under the Citizens' Election Program, or to a
32 party, political or slate committee, in rendering voluntary personal
33 services at the individual's residential premises or a community room
34 in the individual's residence facility, to the extent that the cumulative
35 value of the invitations, food or beverages provided by an individual on
36 behalf of any candidate or committee does not exceed four hundred
37 dollars with respect to any single event or does not exceed eight
38 hundred dollars for any such event hosted by two or more individuals,
39 provided at least one such individual owns or resides at the residential
40 premises, and further provided the cumulative value of the invitations,
41 food or beverages provided by an individual on behalf of any such
42 candidate or committee does not exceed eight hundred dollars with
43 respect to a calendar year or single election, as the case may be;

44 (6) The sale of food or beverage for use by a party, political, slate or
45 candidate committee, including those for a participating or
46 nonparticipating candidate, at a discount, if the charge is not less than
47 the cost to the vendor, to the extent that the cumulative value of the
48 discount given to or on behalf of any single candidate committee does
49 not exceed four hundred dollars with respect to any single primary or
50 election, or to or on behalf of any party, political or slate committee, does
51 not exceed six hundred dollars in a calendar year;

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

53 (8) The payment, by a party committee or slate committee of the costs
54 of preparation, display, mailing or other distribution incurred by the
55 committee or individual with respect to any printed slate card, sample
56 ballot or other printed list containing the names of three or more
57 candidates;

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

63 (10) (A) The purchase of advertising space which clearly identifies the
64 purchaser, in a program for a fund-raising affair sponsored by the
65 candidate committee of a candidate for an office of a municipality,
66 provided the cumulative purchase of such space does not exceed two
67 hundred fifty dollars from any single such candidate or the candidate's
68 committee with respect to any single election campaign if the purchaser
69 is a business entity or fifty dollars for purchases by any other person;

70 (B) The purchase of advertising space which clearly identifies the
71 purchaser, in a program for a fund-raising affair or on signs at a fund-
72 raising affair sponsored by a party committee or a political committee,
73 other than an exploratory committee, provided the cumulative purchase
74 of such space does not exceed two hundred fifty dollars from any single
75 party committee or a political committee, other than an exploratory

76 committee, in any calendar year if the purchaser is a business entity or
77 fifty dollars for purchases by any other person. Notwithstanding the
78 provisions of this subparagraph, the following may not purchase
79 advertising space in a program for a fund-raising affair or on signs at a
80 fund-raising affair sponsored by a party committee or a political
81 committee, other than an exploratory committee: (i) A communicator
82 lobbyist, (ii) a member of the immediate family of a communicator
83 lobbyist, (iii) a state contractor, (iv) a prospective state contractor, or (v)
84 a principal of a state contractor or prospective state contractor. As used
85 in this subparagraph, "state contractor", "prospective state contractor"
86 and "principal of a state contractor or prospective state contractor" have
87 the same meanings as provided in subsection (f) of section 9-612;

88 (11) The payment of money by a candidate to the candidate's
89 candidate committee, provided the committee is for a nonparticipating
90 candidate;

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

95 (13) The advance of a security deposit by an individual to a telephone
96 company, as defined in section 16-1, for telecommunications service for
97 a committee or to another utility company, such as an electric
98 distribution company, provided the security deposit is refunded to the
99 individual;

100 (14) The provision of facilities, equipment, technical and managerial
101 support, and broadcast time by a community antenna television
102 company, as defined in section 16-1, for community access
103 programming pursuant to section 16-331a, unless (A) the major purpose
104 of providing such facilities, equipment, support and time is to influence
105 the nomination or election of a candidate, or (B) such facilities,
106 equipment, support and time are provided on behalf of a political party;

107 (15) The sale of food or beverage by a town committee to an

108 individual at a town fair, county fair, local festival or similar mass
109 gathering held within the state, to the extent that the cumulative
110 payment made by any one individual for such items does not exceed
111 fifty dollars;

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

114 (17) The donation of food or beverage by an individual for
115 consumption at a slate, candidate, political committee or party
116 committee meeting, event or activity that is not a fund-raising affair to
117 the extent that the cumulative value of the food or beverages donated
118 by an individual for a single meeting or event does not exceed fifty
119 dollars;

120 (18) The value associated with the de minimis activity on behalf of a
121 party committee, political committee, slate committee or candidate
122 committee, including for activities including, but not limited to, (A) the
123 creation of electronic or written communications or digital photos or
124 video as part of an electronic file created on a voluntary basis without
125 compensation, including, but not limited to, the creation and ongoing
126 content development and delivery of social media on the Internet or
127 telephone, including, but not limited to, the sending or receiving of
128 electronic mail or messages, (B) the posting or display of a candidate's
129 name or group of candidates' names at a town fair, county fair, local
130 festival or similar mass gathering by a party committee, or (C) the use
131 of personal property or a service that is customarily attendant to the
132 occupancy of a residential dwelling, or the donation of an item or items
133 of personal property that are customarily used for campaign purposes,
134 by an individual, to a candidate committee, provided the cumulative
135 fair market value of such use of personal property or service or items of
136 personal property does not exceed one hundred dollars in the aggregate
137 for any single election or calendar year, as the case may be;

138 (19) The use of offices, telephones, computers and similar equipment
139 provided by a party committee, legislative caucus committee or

140 legislative leadership committee that serve as headquarters for or are
141 used by such party committee, legislative caucus committee or
142 legislative leadership committee;

143 (20) A communication, as described in subdivision (7) of subsection
144 (b) of section 9-601b;

145 (21) An independent expenditure, as defined in section 9-601c;

146 (22) A communication containing an endorsement on behalf of a
147 candidate for nomination or election to the office of Governor,
148 Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, State Treasurer, State
149 Comptroller, Attorney General, state senator or state representative,
150 from a candidate for the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor,
151 Secretary of the State, State Treasurer, State Comptroller, Attorney
152 General, state senator or state representative, provided the candidate
153 (A) making the endorsement is unopposed at the time of the
154 communication, and (B) being endorsed paid for such communication;

155 (23) A communication that is sent by mail to addresses in the district
156 for which a candidate being endorsed by another candidate pursuant to
157 this subdivision is seeking nomination or election to the office of state
158 senator or state representative, containing an endorsement on behalf of
159 such candidate for such nomination or election from a candidate for the
160 office of state senator or state representative, provided the candidate (A)
161 making the endorsement is not seeking election to the office of state
162 senator or state representative for a district that contains any
163 geographical area shared by the district for the office to which the
164 endorsed candidate is seeking nomination or election, and (B) being
165 endorsed paid for such communication; [or]

166 (24) Campaign training events provided to multiple individuals by a
167 legislative caucus committee and any associated materials, provided the
168 cumulative value of such events and materials does not exceed six
169 thousand dollars in the aggregate for a calendar year; [.] or

170 (25) In the case of the candidate committee of a candidate for

171 nomination or election to the office of state senator or state
172 representative, any campaign communication of such candidate
173 committee that features or refers to a candidate for nomination or
174 election to any state office, as defined in section 9-610, except that if such
175 campaign communication expressly promotes the success of such
176 candidate for nomination or election to such state office, such campaign
177 communication shall be deemed a contribution to such state candidate
178 under subsection (a) of this section.

179 Sec. 502. Subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of section 9-607 of the
180 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
181 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

182 (g) (1) As used in this subsection, (A) "the lawful purposes of the
183 committee" means: (i) For a candidate committee or exploratory
184 committee, the promoting of the nomination or election of the candidate
185 who established the committee, except that (I) after a political party
186 nominates candidates for election to the offices of Governor and
187 Lieutenant Governor, whose names shall be so placed on the ballot in
188 the election that an elector will cast a single vote for both candidates, as
189 prescribed in section 9-181, a candidate committee established by either
190 such candidate may also promote the election of the other such
191 candidate, and (II) the candidate committee of a candidate for
192 nomination or election to the office of state senator or state
193 representative may feature or refer to a candidate for nomination or
194 election to any state office on any campaign communication, provided
195 such campaign communication does not expressly promote the success
196 of such candidate for nomination or election to such state office; (ii) for
197 a political committee, the promoting of a political party, including party
198 building activities, the success or defeat of candidates for nomination
199 and election to public office or position subject to the requirements of
200 this chapter, or the success or defeat of referendum questions, provided
201 a political committee formed for a single referendum question shall not
202 promote the success or defeat of any candidate, and provided further a
203 legislative leadership committee or a legislative caucus committee may
204 expend funds to defray costs for conducting legislative or constituency-

205 related business which are not reimbursed or paid by the state; and (iii)
206 for a party committee, the promoting of the party, party building
207 activities, the candidates of the party and continuing operating costs of
208 the party, [and] (B) "immediate family" means a spouse or dependent
209 child of a candidate who resides in the candidate's household, and (C)
210 "state office" has the same meaning as provided in section 9-610."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 501	<i>from passage</i>	9-601a(b)
Sec. 502	<i>from passage</i>	9-607(g)(1)