

# Government Administration and Elections Committee

## JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** HB-5455

**Title:** AN ACT CONCERNING CAMPAIGN CONSULTANTS AND DISCLOSURE.

**Vote Date:** 3/29/2022

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable

**PH Date:** 3/18/2022

**File No.:**

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### SPONSORS OF BILL:

Government Administration and Elections

### REASONS FOR BILL:

The bill is designed to provide for increased disclosure of money paid to campaign consultants.

### RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

**Mr. Michael Brandi, Executive Director and General Council, Connecticut State Elections Enforcement Commission:** They support this proposal. While small contributions and election grants are fully disclosed sometimes it is hidden through sub vendors and consultants. This legislation clarifies disclosure requirements for committees utilizing consultants and helps protect the treasurer by placing liability on the consultants. This will provide increased transparency with respect to the way election funds are spent and enhance direct enforcement authority over those hired by committees.

### NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

**Ms. Pamela Klem, Campaign Finance Specialist, League of Women Voter's of Connecticut:** They believe that transparency, accountability, and disclosure of campaign expenditures is crucial to the voters' ability to evaluate candidates and to ensure voter confidence. The bill protects treasurer by putting the responsibility for CEP compliance with the consultants actually managing expenditures and subcontractors.

**David Acquah-Mensak, Maia Cook, Dylan Council, Julian Daniel, Chris de Santis, Roxana Grunenwald, Yaz Leow, Joy Liu, Ryan Smith and Julia Sulkowaki,** all constituents from New Haven urge the committee to vote this bill out so that we can enshrine

the principle of popular sovereignty and continue to make our state a haven for the representation of all people.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

**Mr. David Godbout, Constituent**: He expressed opposition to all bills put forward by the committee under the claim of nullification.

**Reported by Richard Ferrari**

**Date: 3/29/22**