



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

Raised Bill No. 1188

LCO No. 5387



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:
(GAE)

***AN ACT CONCERNING REFERENDA, INDEPENDENT
EXPENDITURES AND CERTAIN OTHER POLITICAL SPENDING.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 9-601 of the general statutes is amended by adding
2 subdivisions (33) to (39), inclusive, as follows (*Effective from passage*):

3 (NEW) (33) "Independent expenditure political committee" means a
4 political committee that makes only (A) independent expenditures (i) to
5 promote the success or defeat of any candidate seeking (I) the
6 nomination for election, or (II) election, or (ii) for the purpose of aiding
7 or promoting the success or defeat of any (I) referendum question, or
8 (II) political party, and (B) contributions to other independent
9 expenditure political committees.

10 (NEW) (34) "Foreign national" means:

11 (A) A foreign principal and any agent or separate segregated fund of
12 a foreign principal;

13 (B) An individual who is not (i) a citizen of the United States, (ii) a
14 national of the United States, or (iii) lawfully admitted for permanent
15 residence; or

16 (C) A firm, partnership, corporation, association, organization or
17 other entity:

18 (i) With respect to which a foreign owner or a person described in
19 subparagraph (A) or (B) of this subdivision holds, owns, controls or
20 otherwise has a direct or indirect beneficial ownership of at least five
21 per cent of such entity's total equity or outstanding voting shares;

22 (ii) With respect to which two or more, in combination, foreign
23 owners or persons described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of this
24 subdivision hold, own, control or otherwise have a direct or indirect
25 beneficial ownership of at least twenty per cent of such entity's total
26 equity or outstanding voting shares, excluding interests held in a widely
27 held, diversified fund;

28 (iii) With respect to which a foreign owner or individual described in
29 subparagraph (A) or (B), as applicable, of this subdivision participates
30 directly or indirectly in decisions to engage in any activity subject to the
31 provisions of chapter 155 or 157; or

32 (iv) That is exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(4) of the
33 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding
34 internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to
35 time, and with respect to which at least twenty per cent of the income
36 received by such entity in the most recent taxable year derives from one
37 or more foreign owners.

38 (NEW) (35) "Foreign principal" has the same meaning as provided in
39 22 USC 611(b), as amended from time to time.

40 (NEW) (36) "National of the United States" has the same meaning as
41 provided in 8 USC 1101(a)(22), as amended from time to time.

42 (NEW) (37) "Lawfully admitted for permanent residence" has the

43 same meaning as provided in 8 USC 1101(a)(20), as amended from time
44 to time.

45 (NEW) (38) "Foreign owner" means a firm, partnership, corporation,
46 association, organization or other entity with respect to which a person
47 described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of subdivision (34) of this section
48 holds, owns, controls or otherwise has a direct or indirect beneficial
49 ownership of at least fifty per cent of such entity's total equity or
50 outstanding voting shares, excluding interests held in a widely held,
51 diversified fund.

52 (NEW) (39) "Widely held, diversified fund" means a pooled
53 investment, including a common trust fund of a financial institution,
54 mutual fund or limited partnership, (A) that has more than one hundred
55 investors, (B) that invests not more than five per cent of its value in the
56 securities of a single issuer, other than the federal government, (C) that
57 invests not more than twenty per cent of its value in any one economic
58 or geographic sector, and (D) for which no investor, and no immediate
59 family member of an investor, is able to exercise control over the
60 financial interests held by the pooled investment, including by
61 exercising the pooled investment's authority as the holder of corporate
62 securities.

63 Sec. 2. Subdivision (3) of section 9-601 of the general statutes is
64 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
65 *passage*):

66 (3) "Political committee" means (A) a committee organized by a
67 business entity or organization, (B) persons other than individuals, or
68 two or more individuals organized or acting jointly conducting their
69 activities in or outside the state, (C) an exploratory committee, (D) a
70 committee established by or on behalf of a slate of candidates in a
71 primary for the office of justice of the peace, but does not mean a
72 candidate committee or a party committee, (E) a legislative caucus
73 committee, [or] (F) a legislative leadership committee, or (G) an
74 independent expenditure political committee.

75 Sec. 3. Section 9-622 of the general statutes is repealed and the
76 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

77 The following persons shall be guilty of illegal practices and shall be
78 punished in accordance with the provisions of section 9-623:

79 (1) Any person who, directly or indirectly, individually or by another
80 person, gives or offers or promises to any person any money, gift,
81 advantage, preferment, entertainment, aid, emolument or other
82 valuable thing for the purpose of inducing or procuring any person to
83 sign a nominating, primary or referendum petition or to vote or refrain
84 from voting for or against any person or for or against any measure at
85 any election, caucus, convention, primary or referendum;

86 (2) Any person who, directly or indirectly, receives, accepts, requests
87 or solicits from any person, committee, association, organization or
88 corporation, any money, gift, advantage, preferment, aid, emolument or
89 other valuable thing for the purpose of inducing or procuring any
90 person to sign a nominating, primary or referendum petition or to vote
91 or refrain from voting for or against any person or for or against any
92 measure at any such election, caucus, primary or referendum;

93 (3) Any person who, in consideration of any money, gift, advantage,
94 preferment, aid, emolument or other valuable thing paid, received,
95 accepted or promised to the person's advantage or any other person's
96 advantage, votes or refrains from voting for or against any person or for
97 or against any measure at any such election, caucus, primary or
98 referendum;

99 (4) Any person who solicits from any candidate any money, gift,
100 contribution, emolument or other valuable thing for the purpose of
101 using the same for the support, assistance, benefit or expenses of any
102 club, company or organization, or for the purpose of defraying the cost
103 or expenses of any political campaign, primary, referendum or election;

104 (5) Any person who, directly or indirectly, pays, gives, contributes or
105 promises any money or other valuable thing to defray or towards

106 defraying the cost or expenses of any campaign, primary, referendum
107 or election to any person, committee, company, club, organization or
108 association, other than to a treasurer, except that this subdivision shall
109 not apply to any expenses for postage, telegrams, telephoning,
110 stationery, express charges, traveling, meals, lodging or photocopying
111 incurred by any candidate for office or for nomination to office, so far as
112 may be permitted under the provisions of this chapter;

113 (6) Any person who, in order to secure or promote the person's own
114 nomination or election as a candidate, or that of any other person,
115 directly or indirectly, promises to appoint, or promises to secure or
116 assist in securing the appointment, nomination or election of any other
117 person to any public position, or to any position of honor, trust or
118 emolument; but any person may publicly announce the person's own
119 choice or purpose in relation to any appointment, nomination or
120 election in which the person may be called to take part, if the person is
121 nominated for or elected to such office;

122 (7) Any person who, directly or indirectly, individually or through
123 another person, makes a payment or promise of payment to a treasurer
124 in a name other than the person's own, and any treasurer who
125 knowingly receives a payment or promise of payment, or enters or
126 causes the same to be entered in the person's accounts in any other name
127 than that of the person by whom such payment or promise of payment
128 is made;

129 (8) Any person who knowingly and wilfully violates any provision
130 of this chapter;

131 (9) Any person who offers or receives a cash contribution in excess of
132 one hundred dollars to promote the success or defeat of any political
133 party, candidate or referendum question;

134 (10) Any person who solicits, makes or receives a contribution that is
135 otherwise prohibited by any provision of this chapter;

136 (11) Any department head or deputy department head of a state

137 department who solicits a contribution on behalf of, or for the benefit of,
138 any candidate for state, district or municipal office or any political party;

139 (12) Any municipal employee who solicits a contribution on behalf
140 of, or for the benefit of, any candidate for state, district or municipal
141 office, any political committee or any political party, from (A) an
142 individual under the supervision of such employee, or (B) the spouse or
143 a dependent child of such individual;

144 (13) Any person who makes an expenditure, that is not an
145 independent expenditure, for a candidate without the knowledge of
146 such candidate. No candidate shall be civilly or criminally liable with
147 regard to any such expenditure;

148 (14) Any chief of staff of a legislative caucus who solicits a
149 contribution on behalf of or for the benefit of any candidate for state,
150 district or municipal office from an employee of the legislative caucus;

151 (15) Any chief of staff for a state-wide elected official who solicits a
152 contribution on behalf of or for the benefit of any candidate for state,
153 district or municipal office from a member of such official's staff; [or]

154 (16) Any chief of staff for the Governor or Lieutenant Governor who
155 solicits a contribution on behalf of or for the benefit of any candidate for
156 state, district or municipal office from a member of the staff of the
157 Governor or Lieutenant Governor, or from any commissioner or deputy
158 commissioner of any state agency;

159 (17) Any foreign national that makes, directly or indirectly, (A) any
160 contribution or any express or implied promise to make a contribution,
161 or (B) any expenditure; or

162 (18) Any person who solicits, accepts or receives any contribution or
163 covered transfer from a foreign national.

164 Sec. 4. Section 9-601c of the general statutes is amended by adding
165 subsection (e) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

166 (NEW) (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (d),
167 inclusive, of this section, an independent expenditure political
168 committee may coordinate with one or more other independent
169 expenditure political committees for the purpose of making one or more
170 independent expenditures.

171 Sec. 5. Subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of section 9-601d of the general
172 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
173 (*Effective from passage*):

174 (a) Any person [, as defined in section 9-601,] may, unless otherwise
175 restricted or prohibited by law, including, but not limited to, any
176 provision of this chapter or chapter 157, make unlimited independent
177 expenditures [, as defined in section 9-601c,] and accept unlimited
178 covered transfers, [, as defined in said section 9-601.] Except as provided
179 [pursuant to] in this section, any such person who makes or obligates to
180 make an independent expenditure or expenditures in excess of one
181 thousand dollars, in the aggregate, shall file statements according to the
182 same schedule and in the same manner as is required of a treasurer of a
183 [candidate] political committee pursuant to section 9-608, as amended
184 by this act. Any such person, other than a committee, shall file with the
185 proper authority, as provided in section 9-603, (1) a long-form report
186 and a short-form report pursuant to subsection (c) of this section for
187 such independent expenditure or expenditures, and (2) a short-form
188 report pursuant to subsection (d) of this section for each subsequent
189 independent expenditure made or obligated to be made.

190 (b) Any person who makes or obligates to make an independent
191 expenditure or expenditures in an election or primary for the office of
192 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, State Treasurer,
193 State Comptroller, Attorney General, state senator or state
194 representative, [which] or to promote the success or defeat of a
195 referendum question proposing a constitutional convention,
196 constitutional amendment or revision of the Constitution, that exceed
197 one thousand dollars, in the aggregate, during [a primary campaign or
198 a general election campaign, as defined in section 9-700, shall file,

199 electronically, a long-form and a short-form report of such independent
200 expenditure or expenditures with the State Elections Enforcement
201 Commission pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of this section. The
202 person that makes or obligates to make such independent expenditure
203 or expenditures shall file such reports] the period beginning on June first
204 in the year of a regular election, or on the day the Governor issues writs
205 of election pursuant to section 9-215 in the case of a special election for
206 the office of state senator or state representative, and ending on the day
207 following the primary or election for which such person made or
208 obligated to make such independent expenditure or expenditures, shall
209 electronically file, in the case of a committee, a report pursuant to section
210 9-608, as amended by this act, or, in the case of any person other than a
211 committee, a long-form report and a short-form report pursuant to
212 subsections (c) and (d) of this section not later than twenty-four hours
213 after (1) making any such payment, or (2) obligating to make any such
214 payment, with respect to the primary, [or] election [. If any such person
215 makes or incurs a subsequent independent expenditure, such person
216 shall report such expenditure pursuant to subsection (d) of this section.]
217 or referendum. In the case of a special election for the office of state
218 senator or state representative, if any person makes or obligates to make
219 an independent expenditure or expenditures for such special election
220 that exceeds one thousand dollars, in the aggregate, prior to the day the
221 Governor issues writs of election pursuant to section 9-215, such person
222 shall file a report not later than twenty-four hours after such writs of
223 election are issued. Such reports shall be filed under penalty of false
224 statement.

225 (c) The independent expenditure long-form report shall identify: (1)
226 The name of the person making or obligating to make such independent
227 expenditure or expenditures and, in the case of a person other than an
228 individual, provide (A) the name of a human being who had direct,
229 extensive and substantive decision-making authority over such
230 independent expenditure or expenditures, and (B) a certification that the
231 person making such independent expenditure is not a foreign national;
232 (2) the tax exempt status of such person and, if [applicable] such person

233 files a report with the Federal Election Commission, the Internal
234 Revenue Service or any similar out-of-state agency, provide identifying
235 information under which any such filing is made; (3) the mailing
236 address, and street address if different, of such person; (4) the principal
237 business address of the person, if different from either the mailing
238 address or street address; (5) the mailing address, and street address if
239 different, telephone number and electronic mail address of the agent for
240 service of process in this state of such person and of the human being
241 described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection; (6)
242 the date of the primary, [or] election or referendum for which [the] such
243 independent expenditure or expenditures were made or obligated to be
244 made; (7) the name of any candidate who, or the text of any referendum
245 question that, was the subject of [any] such independent expenditure or
246 expenditures and whether [the] such independent expenditure or
247 expenditures were in support of or in opposition to such candidate or
248 referendum question; and (8) the name, telephone number and
249 electronic mail address for the individual filing such report. Such
250 individual filing such report shall, under penalty of false statement,
251 affirm that the expenditure reported is an independent expenditure.
252 [under penalty of false statement.]

253 (d) As part of any filing made pursuant to subsection (c) of this
254 section and for each subsequent independent expenditure made or
255 obligated to be made by a person with respect to the primary, [or]
256 election or referendum for which a long-form report pursuant to
257 subsection (c) of this section has been filed on behalf of such person, an
258 individual shall file [, electronically,] a short-form report for each such
259 independent expenditure. [, not later than twenty-four hours after such
260 person makes a payment for an independent expenditure or obligates
261 to make such an independent expenditure.] Such short-form report shall
262 identify: (1) The name of the person making or obligating to make such
263 independent expenditure; (2) the amount of the independent
264 expenditure; (3) whether the independent expenditure was in support
265 of or in opposition to a candidate or referendum question and the name
266 of such candidate or text of such referendum question; (4) a brief

267 description of the independent expenditure made, including the type of
268 communication, based on categories determined by the State Elections
269 Enforcement Commission, and the allocation of such independent
270 expenditure in support of or in opposition to each such candidate or
271 referendum question, if such independent expenditure was made in
272 support of or in opposition to more than one candidate or question; and
273 (5) the name, telephone number and electronic mail address for the
274 individual filing such report. Such individual filing such report shall,
275 under penalty of false statement, affirm that the expenditure reported is
276 an independent expenditure. [under penalty of false statement.]

277 (e) No person reporting an independent expenditure pursuant to the
278 provisions of subsection (c) or (d) of this section shall be required to file
279 a statement pursuant to section 9-608, as amended by this act, for such
280 independent expenditure.

281 (f) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, as part
282 of any statement filed pursuant to this section, if a person who makes or
283 obligates to make an independent expenditure (A) has received a
284 covered transfer during the twelve-month period prior to (i) a primary
285 or election, as applicable to the reported independent expenditure, for
286 an office that a candidate described in subdivision (7) of subsection (c)
287 of this section is seeking, or (ii) a referendum on a question proposing a
288 constitutional convention, constitutional amendment or revision of the
289 Constitution, and (B) such independent expenditure is made or
290 obligated to be made on or after the date that is one hundred eighty days
291 prior to such primary, [or] election or referendum, such person shall
292 disclose the source and the amount of any such covered transfer such
293 person received that is in an amount that is five thousand dollars or
294 more, in the aggregate, during the twelve-month period prior to such
295 primary, [or] election or referendum, as applicable to the reported
296 independent expenditure.

297 (2) The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not apply
298 to any person who discloses the source and amount of a covered transfer
299 described in subdivision (1) of this subsection as part of any report to

300 the Federal Election Commission, [or] the Internal Revenue Service or
301 any similar out-of-state agency, provided such person includes a copy
302 of, or information sufficient to find, any such report as part of the report
303 of each applicable independent expenditure filed pursuant to this
304 section. If a source and amount of a covered transfer is not included as
305 part of any such report, the maker of the independent expenditure shall
306 disclose the source and amount of such covered transfer pursuant to
307 subdivision (1) of this subsection, if applicable.

308 (g) (1) A person may, unless otherwise restricted or prohibited by
309 law, including, but not limited to, any provision of this chapter or
310 chapter 157, establish a dedicated independent expenditure account [,
311 for the purpose of engaging in] that may be used to make independent
312 expenditures, [that] provided such account is segregated from all other
313 accounts controlled by such person. Such dedicated independent
314 expenditure account may receive covered transfers directly from
315 persons other than the person establishing the dedicated account and
316 may not receive transfers from another account controlled by the person
317 establishing the dedicated account, except as provided in subdivision
318 (2) of this subsection. If an independent expenditure is made from such
319 segregated account, any report required pursuant to this section or
320 disclaimer required pursuant to section 9-621 , as amended by this act,
321 [may include only] shall include those persons who made covered
322 transfers directly to the dedicated independent expenditure account.

323 (2) If a person who has made a covered transfer to another account
324 controlled by the person establishing a dedicated independent
325 expenditure account requests that such covered transfer be used for the
326 purposes of making an independent expenditure from the dedicated
327 independent expenditure account, the amount of such covered transfer
328 may be transferred to the dedicated independent expenditure account
329 and shall be treated as a covered transfer directly to the dedicated
330 independent expenditure account.

331 (h) Any person may file a complaint with the commission upon the
332 belief that (1) any such independent expenditure report or statement is

333 false, or (2) any person who is required to file an independent
334 expenditure report under this subsection has failed to do so. The
335 commission shall make a prompt determination on such a complaint.

336 (i) (1) [If a] Notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-623, (A) any
337 person who fails to file a report in accordance with the provisions of this
338 section or section 9-608, as amended by this act, for an independent
339 expenditure or expenditures made or obligated to be made more than
340 ninety days before the day of a primary, [or election, the person] election
341 or referendum shall be subject to a civil penalty, imposed by the State
342 Elections Enforcement Commission, of not more than ten thousand
343 dollars, [If a] and (B) any person who fails to file a report required in
344 accordance with the provisions of this section for an independent
345 expenditure or expenditures made or obligated to be made ninety days
346 or less before the day of a primary, [or election, such person] election or
347 referendum shall be subject to a civil penalty, imposed by the State
348 Elections Enforcement Commission, of not more than twenty thousand
349 dollars or twice the amount of such independent expenditure or
350 expenditures, whichever is greater.

351 (2) [If] Notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-623, if the State
352 Elections Enforcement Commission finds that any such failure is
353 knowing and wilful, [the] such person responsible for [the] such failure
354 shall [also be fined] be subject to an additional civil penalty, imposed by
355 the commission, of not more than fifty thousand dollars or ten times the
356 amount of such independent expenditure or expenditures, whichever is
357 greater, and the commission may refer the matter to the office of the
358 Chief State's Attorney.

359 (3) If the State Elections Enforcement Commission finds that a person
360 is subject to a civil penalty under this subsection, (A) in the case of a
361 committee, (i) the chairman, and (ii) any officer, or (B) in the case of a
362 person other than a committee, (i) the chief executive or chief financial
363 officer, or equivalent, (ii) any other officer, and (iii) any manager who
364 had direct, extensive and substantive decision-making authority over
365 the independent expenditure or expenditures made or obligated to be

366 made by such person, shall be liable for paying any amount of such civil
367 penalty imposed that is not paid by such person within one year after
368 the latter of the date on which the commission imposed such civil
369 penalty or the date of the final judgment following any judicial review
370 of the commission's action.

371 Sec. 6. Subsection (b) of section 9-605 of the general statutes is
372 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
373 *passage*):

374 (b) The registration statement shall include: (1) The name and address
375 of the committee; (2) a statement of the purpose of the committee; (3) the
376 name and address of its treasurer, and deputy treasurer if applicable; (4)
377 the name, address and position of its [chairman] chairperson, and other
378 principal officers if applicable; (5) the name and address of the
379 depository institution for its funds; (6) the name of each person, other
380 than an individual, that is a member of the committee; (7) the name and
381 party affiliation of each candidate whom the committee is supporting
382 and the office or position sought by each candidate; (8) if the committee
383 is supporting the entire ticket of any party, a statement to that effect and
384 the name of the party; (9) if the committee is supporting or opposing
385 any referendum question, a brief statement identifying the substance of
386 the question; (10) if the committee is established or controlled by a
387 [business entity or organization] person or individual acting as the agent
388 of a person, the name of the [entity or organization] person and, if the
389 committee is established or controlled by a person other than a human
390 being, (A) the name of its chief executive officer or equivalent, and (B) a
391 certification that the person making the expenditure is not a foreign
392 national; (11) if the committee is established by an organization, a
393 statement of whether it will receive its funds from the organization's
394 treasury or from voluntary contributions; (12) if the committee files
395 reports with the Federal Elections Commission, the Internal Revenue
396 Service or any similar out-of-state agency, a statement to that effect
397 including the name of the commission or agency and identifying
398 information under which any such filings are made; (13) a statement
399 indicating whether the committee is established for a single primary,

400 election or referendum or for ongoing political activities; (14) if the
401 committee is established or controlled by a lobbyist, a statement to that
402 effect and the name of the lobbyist; (15) the name and address of the
403 person making the initial contribution or disbursement, if any, to the
404 committee; and (16) any information that the State Elections
405 Enforcement Commission requires to facilitate compliance with the
406 provisions of this chapter or chapter 157. If no such initial contribution
407 or disbursement, as described in subdivision (15) of this subsection, has
408 been made at the time of the filing of such statement, the treasurer of the
409 committee shall, not later than forty-eight hours after receipt of such
410 contribution or disbursement, file a report with the State Elections
411 Enforcement Commission. The report shall be in the same form as
412 statements filed under section 9-608, as amended by this act.

413 Sec. 7. Subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of section 9-607 of the general
414 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
415 (*Effective from passage*):

416 (g) (1) As used in this subsection, (A) "the lawful purposes of the
417 committee" means: (i) For a candidate committee or exploratory
418 committee, the promoting of the nomination or election of the candidate
419 who established the committee, except that after a political party
420 nominates candidates for election to the offices of Governor and
421 Lieutenant Governor, whose names shall be so placed on the ballot in
422 the election that an elector will cast a single vote for both candidates, as
423 prescribed in section 9-181, a candidate committee established by either
424 such candidate may also promote the election of the other such
425 candidate; (ii) for a political committee, other than an independent
426 expenditure political committee described in subparagraph (A)(iv) of
427 this subdivision, the promoting of a political party, including party
428 building activities, of the success or defeat of candidates for nomination
429 and election to public office or position subject to the requirements of
430 this chapter, or of the success or defeat of referendum questions,
431 provided [a political committee formed for a single referendum
432 question shall not promote the success or defeat of any candidate, and
433 provided further] a legislative leadership committee or a legislative

434 caucus committee may expend funds to defray costs for conducting
 435 legislative or constituency-related business which are not reimbursed or
 436 paid by the state; [and] (iii) for a party committee, the promoting of the
 437 party, of party building activities, of the candidates of the party and of
 438 the success or defeat of referendum questions and the continuing
 439 operating costs of the party; and (iv) for an independent expenditure
 440 political committee, the promoting of a political party, of the success or
 441 defeat of candidates for nomination or election to public office or
 442 position subject to the requirements of this chapter, or of the success or
 443 defeat of referendum questions, and (B) "immediate family" means a
 444 spouse or dependent child of a candidate who resides in the candidate's
 445 household.

446 Sec. 8. Subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of section
 447 9-608 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted
 448 in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

449 (C) [(i) Each political committee formed solely to aid or promote the
 450 success or defeat of any referendum question, which does not receive
 451 contributions from a business entity or an organization, shall distribute
 452 its surplus to a party committee, to a political committee organized for
 453 ongoing political activities, to a national committee of a political party,
 454 to all contributors to the committee on a prorated basis of contribution,
 455 to state or municipal governments or agencies or to any organization
 456 which is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the
 457 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding
 458 internal revenue code of the United States, as from time to time
 459 amended. (ii) Each political committee formed solely to aid or promote
 460 the success or defeat of any referendum question, which receives
 461 contributions from a business entity or an organization] An
 462 independent expenditure political committee, other than such a
 463 committee formed for ongoing political activities, shall distribute its
 464 surplus to all contributors to the committee on a prorated basis of
 465 contribution, to state or municipal governments or agencies, or to any
 466 organization which is tax-exempt under [said provisions] Sections
 467 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended from

468 time to time. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, a
469 committee formed for a single referendum shall not be required to
470 expend its surplus [not later than] within ninety days after the
471 referendum and may continue in existence if a substantially similar
472 referendum question on the same issue will be submitted to the
473 electorate within six months after the first referendum. If two or more
474 substantially similar referenda on the same issue are submitted to the
475 electorate, each no more than six months apart, the committee shall
476 expend such surplus within ninety days following the date of the last
477 such referendum;

478 Sec. 9. Section 9-611 of the general statutes is repealed and the
479 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

480 (a) No individual shall make a contribution or contributions to, for
481 the benefit of, or pursuant to the authorization or request of, a candidate
482 or a committee supporting or opposing any candidate's campaign for
483 nomination at a primary, or any candidate's campaign for election, to
484 the office of (1) Governor, in excess of three thousand five hundred
485 dollars; (2) Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, Treasurer,
486 Comptroller or Attorney General, in excess of two thousand dollars; (3)
487 chief executive officer of a town, city or borough, in excess of one
488 thousand dollars; (4) state senator or probate judge, in excess of one
489 thousand dollars; or (5) state representative or any other office of a
490 municipality not previously included in this subsection, in excess of two
491 hundred fifty dollars. The limits imposed by this subsection shall be
492 applied separately to primaries and elections.

493 (b) (1) No individual shall make a contribution or contributions to, or
494 for the benefit of, an exploratory committee, in excess of three hundred
495 seventy-five dollars, if the candidate establishing the exploratory
496 committee certifies on the statement of organization for the exploratory
497 committee pursuant to subsection (c) of section 9-604 that the candidate
498 will not be a candidate for the office of state representative. No
499 individual shall make a contribution or contributions to, or for the
500 benefit of, any exploratory committee, in excess of two hundred fifty

501 dollars, if the candidate establishing the exploratory committee does not
502 so certify.

503 (2) No individual shall make a contribution or contributions to, or for
504 the benefit of, a political committee formed by a slate of candidates in a
505 primary for the office of justice of the peace, in excess of two hundred
506 fifty dollars.

507 [(c) No individual shall make contributions to such candidates or
508 committees which in the aggregate exceed thirty thousand dollars for
509 any single election and primary preliminary to such election.]

510 [(d)] (c) No individual shall make a contribution to any candidate or
511 committee, other than a contribution in kind, in excess of one hundred
512 dollars except by personal check or credit card of that individual.

513 [(e)] (d) No individual who is less than eighteen years of age shall
514 make a contribution or contributions, in excess of thirty dollars to, for
515 the benefit of, or pursuant to the authorization or request of: (1) A
516 candidate or a committee supporting or opposing any candidate's
517 campaign for nomination at a primary to any office; (2) a candidate or a
518 committee supporting or opposing any candidate's campaign for
519 election to any office; (3) an exploratory committee; (4) any other
520 political committee in any calendar year; or (5) a party committee in any
521 calendar year. Notwithstanding any provision of subdivision (2) of
522 section 9-7b, any individual who is less than eighteen years of age who
523 violates any provision of this subsection shall not be subject to the
524 provisions of subdivision (2) of section 9-7b.

525 Sec. 10. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 9-612 of the general statutes
526 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
527 *from passage*):

528 (a) (1) No individual shall make a contribution or contributions in any
529 one calendar year in excess of ten thousand dollars to the state central
530 committee of any party, or for the benefit of such committee pursuant
531 to its authorization or request; or two thousand dollars to a town

532 committee of any political party, or for the benefit of such committee
533 pursuant to its authorization or request; or two thousand dollars to a
534 legislative caucus committee or legislative leadership committee; [,] or
535 one thousand dollars to any other political committee [other than (1)]
536 except (A) a political committee formed solely to aid or promote the
537 success or defeat of a referendum question, [(2)] (B) an exploratory
538 committee, [(3)] (C) a political committee established by an
539 organization, or for the benefit of such committee pursuant to its
540 authorization or request, or [(4)] (D) a political committee formed by a
541 slate of candidates in a primary for the office of justice of the peace of
542 the same town.

543 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this
544 subsection and unless otherwise restricted or prohibited by law, an
545 individual may make contributions to an independent expenditure
546 political committee, including a political committee formed solely to aid
547 or promote the success or defeat of any referendum question.

548 (b) (1) No individual shall make a contribution to a political
549 committee established by an organization which receives its funds from
550 the organization's treasury. With respect to a political committee
551 established by an organization which has complied with the provisions
552 of subsection (b) or (c) of section 9-614, as amended by this act, and has
553 elected to receive contributions, no individual other than a member of
554 the organization may make contributions to the committee, in which
555 case the individual may contribute not more than seven hundred fifty
556 dollars in any one calendar year to such committee or for the benefit of
557 such committee pursuant to its authorization or request.

558 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this
559 subsection and unless otherwise restricted or prohibited by law, an
560 individual may make contributions to an independent expenditure
561 political committee established by an organization.

562 Sec. 11. Section 9-613 of the general statutes is repealed and the
563 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

564 (a) [No] Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, a business
565 entity shall not make any contributions or expenditures (1) to, or for the
566 benefit of, any candidate's campaign (A) for election to any public office
567 or position subject to this chapter, or (B) for nomination at a primary for
568 any such office or position, or (2) to promote the defeat of any candidate
569 for any such office or position. [No] A business entity shall not make
570 any other contributions or expenditures to promote the success or defeat
571 of any political party. [, except as provided in subsection (b) of this
572 section. No] A business entity shall not establish more than one political
573 committee. A political committee shall be deemed to have been
574 established by a business entity if the initial disbursement or
575 contribution to the committee is made under subsection (b) of this
576 section or by an officer, director, owner, limited or general partner or
577 holder of stock constituting five per cent or more of the total outstanding
578 stock of any class of the business entity.

579 (b) A business entity may make reasonable and necessary transfers or
580 disbursements to or for the benefit of a political committee established
581 by such business entity, for the administration of, or solicitation of
582 contributions to, such political committee. Nonmonetary contributions
583 by a business entity which are incidental in nature and are directly
584 attributable to the administration of such political committee shall be
585 exempt from the reporting requirements of this chapter.

586 [(c) The provisions of this section shall not preclude a business entity
587 from making contributions or expenditures to promote the success or
588 defeat of a referendum question.]

589 [(d) A] (c) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, a
590 political committee organized by a business entity shall not make a
591 contribution or contributions to or for the benefit of any candidate's
592 campaign for nomination at a primary or any candidate's campaign for
593 election to the office of: (1) Governor, in excess of five thousand dollars;
594 (2) Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Comptroller
595 or Attorney General, in excess of three thousand dollars; (3) state
596 senator, probate judge or chief executive officer of a town, city or

597 borough, in excess of one thousand five hundred dollars; (4) state
598 representative, in excess of seven hundred fifty dollars; or (5) any other
599 office of a municipality not included in subdivision (3) of this
600 subsection, in excess of three hundred seventy-five dollars. The limits
601 imposed by this subsection shall apply separately to primaries and
602 elections and contributions by any such committee to candidates
603 designated in this subsection shall not exceed one hundred thousand
604 dollars in the aggregate for any single election and primary preliminary
605 thereto. Contributions to such committees shall also be subject to the
606 provisions of section 9-618, as amended by this act, in the case of
607 committees formed for ongoing political activity or section 9-619, as
608 amended by this act, in the case of committees formed for a single
609 election or primary.

610 [(e) No] (d) A political committee organized by a business entity shall
611 not make a contribution or contributions to (1) a state central committee
612 of a political party, in excess of seven thousand five hundred dollars in
613 any calendar year, (2) a town committee of any political party, in excess
614 of one thousand five hundred dollars in any calendar year, (3) an
615 exploratory committee in excess of three hundred seventy-five dollars,
616 or (4) any other kind of political committee, in excess of two thousand
617 dollars in any calendar year.

618 [(f)] (e) As used in this subsection, "investment services" means
619 investment legal services, investment banking services, investment
620 advisory services, underwriting services, financial advisory services or
621 brokerage firm services. [No] A political committee established by a
622 firm which provides investment services and to which the State
623 Treasurer pays compensation, expenses or fees or issues a contract shall
624 not make a contribution to, or solicit contributions on behalf of, an
625 exploratory committee or candidate committee established by a
626 candidate for nomination or election to the office of State Treasurer
627 during the term of office of the State Treasurer who does business with
628 such firm.

629 [(g)] (f) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (e),

630 inclusive, of this section, a [corporation, cooperative association, limited
631 partnership, professional association, limited liability company or
632 limited liability partnership, whether formed in this state or any other,
633 acting alone,] business entity may make independent expenditures and
634 contributions to an independent expenditure political committee.

635 (2) An independent expenditure political committee organized by a
636 business entity shall not make any contribution unless such contribution
637 is to another independent expenditure political committee.

638 Sec. 12. Section 9-614 of the general statutes is repealed and the
639 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

640 (a) An organization may make contributions or expenditures, other
641 than [those made to promote] for the purposes of promoting the success
642 or defeat of a referendum question, only by first forming its own
643 political committee. [The] Unless such political committee is an
644 independent expenditure political committee, the political committee
645 shall then be authorized to (1) receive funds (A) exclusively from the
646 organization's treasury or from voluntary contributions made by its
647 members, but not both, (B) from another political committee, or [,] (C)
648 from a candidate committee distributing a surplus, and [(1) to] (2) make
649 (A) contributions or expenditures to, or for the benefit of, a candidate's
650 campaign or a political party, or [(2) to make] (B) contributions to
651 another political committee. [No] An organization shall not form more
652 than one political committee. A political committee shall be deemed to
653 have been established by an organization if the initial contribution to the
654 committee is made by the organization's treasury or an officer or
655 director of the organization.

656 (b) A political committee established by an organization may elect to
657 alter the manner in which it is funded if it complies with the
658 requirements of this subsection. The committee chairperson shall notify
659 the repository with which the committee's most recent statement of
660 organization is filed, in writing, of the committee's intent to alter its
661 manner of funding. [Within] Not later than fifteen days after the date of

662 receipt of such notification, the treasurer of such political committee
663 shall return any funds remaining in the account of the committee to the
664 organization's treasury after payment of each outstanding liability.
665 [Within] Not later than seven days after the distribution and payments
666 have been made, the treasurer shall file a statement with the same
667 repository itemizing each such distribution and payment. Upon such
668 filing, the treasurer may receive voluntary contributions from any
669 member of the organization which established such committee subject
670 to the limitations imposed in subsection (b) of section 9-612, as amended
671 by this act.

672 (c) The chairperson of each political committee established by an
673 organization on or after July 1, 1985, shall designate the manner in
674 which the committee shall be funded in the committee's statement of
675 organization.

676 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (c), inclusive,
677 of this section, an organization [, acting alone,] may make independent
678 expenditures and contributions to an independent expenditure political
679 committee.

680 Sec. 13. Section 9-615 of the general statutes is repealed and the
681 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

682 (a) [No] A political committee established by an organization shall
683 not make a contribution or contributions to, or for the benefit of, any
684 candidate's campaign for nomination at a primary or for election to the
685 office of: (1) Governor, in excess of five thousand dollars; (2) Lieutenant
686 Governor, Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Comptroller or Attorney
687 General, in excess of three thousand dollars; (3) chief executive officer
688 of a town, city or borough, in excess of one thousand five hundred
689 dollars; (4) state senator or probate judge, in excess of one thousand five
690 hundred dollars; (5) state representative, in excess of seven hundred
691 fifty dollars; or (6) any other office of a municipality not previously
692 included in this subsection, in excess of three hundred seventy-five
693 dollars.

694 (b) [No such] A political committee established by an organization
695 shall not make a contribution or contributions to, or for the benefit of,
696 an exploratory committee, in excess of three hundred seventy-five
697 dollars. Any such political committee may make unlimited
698 contributions to a political committee formed solely to aid or promote
699 the success or defeat of a referendum question.

700 (c) The limits imposed by subsection (a) of this section shall apply
701 separately to primaries and elections. [and no such] A political
702 committee established by an organization shall not make contributions
703 to the candidates designated in this section which in the aggregate
704 exceed fifty thousand dollars for any single election and primary
705 preliminary thereto.

706 (d) [No] Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, a political
707 committee established by an organization shall not make contributions
708 in any one calendar year to, or for the benefit of, (1) the state central
709 committee of a political party, in excess of seven thousand five hundred
710 dollars; (2) a town committee, in excess of one thousand five hundred
711 dollars; or (3) any political committee, other than an exploratory
712 committee or a committee formed solely to aid or promote the success
713 or defeat of a referendum question, in excess of two thousand dollars.

714 (e) Contributions to a political committee established by an
715 organization shall be subject to the provisions of section 9-618, as
716 amended by this act, in the case of a committee formed for ongoing
717 political activity or section 9-619, as amended by this act, in the case of
718 a committee formed for a single election or primary.

719 (f) An independent expenditure political committee established by an
720 organization shall not make any contribution unless such contribution
721 is to another independent expenditure political committee.

722 Sec. 14. Subsection (a) of section 9-618 of the general statutes is
723 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
724 *passage*):

725 (a) (1) A political committee organized for ongoing political activities
 726 may make unlimited contributions to, or for the benefit of, any national
 727 committee of a political party [;] or a committee of a candidate for
 728 federal or out-of-state office. Except as provided in subdivision (3) of
 729 subsection (d) of this section, no such political committee shall make a
 730 contribution or contributions in excess of two thousand dollars to
 731 another political committee in any calendar year. No political committee
 732 organized for ongoing political activities shall make a contribution in
 733 excess of three hundred seventy-five dollars to an exploratory
 734 committee. If such an ongoing committee is established by an
 735 organization or a business entity, its contributions shall be subject to the
 736 limits imposed by sections 9-613 to 9-615, inclusive, as amended by this
 737 act. A political committee organized for ongoing political activities may
 738 make [contributions] donations to a charitable organization which is a
 739 tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue
 740 Code, as from time to time amended, or make memorial [contributions]
 741 donations.

742 (2) An independent expenditure political committee organized for
 743 ongoing political activities shall not make any contribution unless such
 744 contribution is to another independent expenditure political committee.

745 Sec. 15. Subsection (a) of section 9-619 of the general statutes is
 746 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
 747 *passage*):

748 (a) [No] (1) A political committee established for a single primary or
 749 election shall not make contributions to a national committee, or a
 750 committee of a candidate for federal or out-of-state office. If such a
 751 political committee is established by an organization or a business
 752 entity, its contributions shall also be subject to the limitations imposed
 753 by sections 9-613 to 9-615, inclusive, as amended by this act. Except as
 754 provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of this section, [no] a
 755 political committee [formed] established for a single election or primary
 756 shall not, with respect to such election or primary, make a contribution
 757 or contributions in excess of two thousand dollars to another political

758 committee, provided [no] any such political committee shall not make a
759 contribution in excess of three hundred seventy-five dollars to an
760 exploratory committee.

761 (2) An independent expenditure political committee established for a
762 single primary or election shall not make any contribution unless such
763 contribution is to another independent expenditure political committee.

764 Sec. 16. Section 9-620 of the general statutes is repealed and the
765 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

766 (a) [A political committee formed solely to aid or promote the success
767 or defeat of a referendum question shall not make contributions to, or
768 for the benefit of, a party committee, a political committee, a national
769 committee, a committee of a candidate for federal or out-of-state office
770 or a candidate committee, except in the distribution of a surplus, as
771 provided in subsection (e) of section 9-608] Subject to the provisions of
772 this chapter, any person may establish an independent expenditure
773 political committee that may only make expenditures without the
774 consent, coordination or consultation of, a candidate or agent of the
775 candidate, candidate committee, party committee or political
776 committee. Subject to the provisions of this chapter, any such
777 independent expenditure political committee may accept contributions
778 from any person.

779 (b) [A political committee formed solely to aid or promote the success
780 or defeat of a referendum question shall not receive contributions from
781 a national committee or from a committee of a candidate for federal or
782 out-of-state office] Any person may establish an independent
783 expenditure political committee solely to aid or promote the success or
784 defeat of a single referendum question, or of multiple referendum
785 questions submitted to a vote on the same date. Such committee may
786 only make independent expenditures to aid or promote the success or
787 defeat of a single referendum question, or of multiple referendum
788 questions submitted to a vote on the same date. Subject to the provisions
789 of this chapter, such committee may accept contributions from any

790 person.

791 (c) [No person, other than an individual or a committee, shall make a
792 contribution to a political committee formed solely to aid or promote the
793 success or defeat of a referendum question, or to any other person, to
794 aid or promote the success or defeat of a referendum question, in excess
795 of ten cents for each individual residing in the state or political
796 subdivision thereof in which such referendum question is to be voted
797 upon, in accordance with the last federal decennial census] Except as
798 provided in this section, an independent expenditure political
799 committee shall not make contributions to, or for the benefit of, a party
800 committee, a political committee, a national committee, a committee of
801 a candidate for federal or out-of-state office or a candidate committee.

802 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (c), inclusive,
803 of this section, an independent expenditure political committee may
804 make contributions to another independent expenditure political
805 committee, make donations to any organization which is a tax-exempt
806 organization under Sections 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(19) of the Internal
807 Revenue Code, as amended from time to time, and refund contributions
808 to contributors.

809 Sec. 17. Subsections (c) to (m), inclusive, of section 9-621 of the general
810 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
811 (*Effective from passage*):

812 (c) (1) No business entity, organization, association, committee, or
813 group of two or more individuals who have joined solely to promote the
814 success or defeat of a referendum question shall make or incur any
815 expenditure for any written, typed or other printed communication
816 which promotes the success or defeat of any referendum question unless
817 such communication bears upon its face, as a disclaimer, the words
818 "paid for by" and the following: [(1)] (A) In the case of a business entity,
819 organization or association, the name of the business entity,
820 organization or association and the name of its chief executive officer or
821 equivalent, and in the case such communication is made during the

822 ninety-day period immediately prior to the referendum, such
823 communication shall also bear on its face the names of the five persons
824 who made the five largest aggregate covered transfers to such business
825 entity, organization or association during the twelve-month period
826 immediately prior to such referendum. The communication shall also
827 state that additional information about the business entity, organization
828 or association making such communication may be found on the State
829 Elections Enforcement Commission's Internet web site; [(2)] (B) in the
830 case of a political committee, the name of the committee and the name
831 of its treasurer; [(3)] (C) in the case of a party committee, the name of the
832 committee; or [(4)] (D) in the case of such a group of two or more
833 individuals, the name of the group and the name and address of its
834 agent.

835 (2) No person shall make or incur an independent expenditure for:

836 (A) A video broadcast by television, satellite or Internet which
837 promotes the success or defeat of any referendum question unless such
838 video is accompanied by the disclaimer described in subdivision (2) of
839 subsection (h) of this section;

840 (B) An audio communication broadcast by radio, satellite or Internet
841 which promotes the success or defeat of any referendum question unless
842 such audio communication is accompanied by the disclaimer described
843 in subdivision (3) of subsection (h) of this section; and

844 (C) Telephone calls which promote the success or defeat of any
845 referendum question unless such telephone calls are accompanied by
846 the disclaimer described in subdivision (4) of subsection (h) of this
847 section.

848 (d) The provisions of subsections (a), (b), [and] (c) and (h) of this
849 section do not apply to (1) any editorial, news story, or commentary
850 published in any newspaper, magazine or journal on its own behalf and
851 upon its own responsibility and for which it does not charge or receive
852 any compensation whatsoever, (2) any banner, (3) political
853 paraphernalia including pins, buttons, badges, emblems, hats, bumper

854 stickers or other similar materials, or (4) signs with a surface area of not
855 more than thirty-two square feet.

856 (e) The treasurer of a candidate committee which sponsors any
857 written, typed or other printed communication for the purpose of
858 raising funds to eliminate a campaign deficit of that committee shall
859 include in such communication a statement that the funds are sought to
860 eliminate such a deficit.

861 (f) The treasurer of an exploratory committee or candidate committee
862 established by a candidate for nomination or election to the office of
863 Treasurer which committee sponsors any written, typed or other
864 printed communication for the purpose of raising funds shall include in
865 such communication a statement concerning the prohibitions set forth
866 in subsection (n) of section 1-84, subsection (e) of section 9-612 and
867 subsection (f) of section 9-613, as amended by this act.

868 (g) In the event a treasurer of a candidate committee is replaced
869 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 9-602, nothing in this section shall
870 be construed to prohibit the candidate committee from distributing any
871 printed communication subject to the provisions of this section that has
872 already been printed or otherwise produced, even though such
873 communication does not accurately designate the successor treasurer of
874 such candidate committee.

875 (h) (1) No person shall make or incur an independent expenditure for
876 any written, typed or other printed communication, including on a
877 billboard, or any web-based, written communication, which
878 communication promotes the success or defeat of any candidate's
879 campaign for nomination at a primary or election, unless such
880 communication bears upon its face, as a disclaimer, the words "Paid for
881 by" and the name of such person and the following statement: "This
882 message was made independent of any candidate or political party.". In
883 the case of a person making or incurring such an independent
884 expenditure during the ninety-day period immediately prior to the
885 primary or election for which the independent expenditure is made,

886 such communication shall also bear upon its face the names of the five
887 persons who made the five largest aggregate covered transfers to the
888 person making such communication during the twelve-month period
889 immediately prior to such primary or election, as applicable. The
890 communication shall also state that additional information about the
891 person making such communication may be found on the State
892 Elections Enforcement Commission's Internet web site.

893 (2) In addition to the requirements of subdivision (1) of this
894 subsection, no person shall make or incur an independent expenditure
895 for a video broadcast by television, satellite or Internet, unless at the end
896 of such advertising there appears for a period of not less than four
897 seconds as a disclaimer, the following as an audio message and a written
898 statement: "This message was paid for by (person making the
899 communication) and made independent of any candidate or political
900 party.". In the case of a person making or incurring such an independent
901 expenditure during the ninety-day period immediately prior to the
902 primary or election for which the independent expenditure is made,
903 such communication shall also list the names of the five persons who
904 made the five largest aggregate covered transfers to the person making
905 such communication during the twelve-month period immediately
906 prior to such primary or election, as applicable. The communication
907 shall also state that additional information about the person making
908 such communication may be found on the State Elections Enforcement
909 Commission's Internet web site.

910 (3) In addition to the requirements of subdivision (1) of this
911 subsection, no person shall make or incur an independent expenditure
912 for an audio communication broadcast by radio, satellite or Internet,
913 unless the advertising ends with a disclaimer that is a personal audio
914 statement by such person's agent (A) identifying the person paying for
915 the expenditure, and (B) indicating that the message was made
916 independent of any candidate or political party, using the following
917 form: "I am (name of the person's agent), (title), of (the person).
918 This message was made independent of any candidate or political
919 party.". In the case of a person making or incurring such an independent

920 expenditure during the ninety-day period immediately prior to the
921 primary or election for which the independent expenditure is made,
922 such communication shall state the names of the five persons who made
923 the five largest aggregate covered transfers to the person making such
924 communication during the twelve-month period immediately prior to
925 such primary or election, as applicable. The communication shall also
926 state that additional information about the person making such
927 communication may be found on the State Elections Enforcement
928 Commission's Internet web site.

929 (4) In addition to the requirements of subdivision (1) of this
930 subsection, no person shall make or incur an independent expenditure
931 for telephone calls, unless the narrative of the telephone call identifies
932 the person making the expenditure and during the ninety-day period
933 immediately prior to the primary or election for which the independent
934 expenditure is made, such communication shall state the names of the
935 five persons who made the five largest aggregate covered transfers to
936 the person making such communication during the twelve-month
937 period immediately prior to such primary or election, as applicable. The
938 communication shall also state that additional information about the
939 person making such communication may be found on the State
940 Elections Enforcement Commission's Internet web site.

941 (i) In any [print, television or social media promotion of a slate of]
942 organization expenditure for a party candidate listing of a candidate or
943 candidates by a party committee, [the party] legislative caucus
944 committee or legislative leadership committee, such committee shall use
945 applicable disclaimers pursuant to the provisions of this section for such
946 [promotion] organization expenditure, and no individual candidate
947 disclaimers shall be required.

948 (j) (1) Except as provided in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection,
949 if any person whose name is included on a disclaimer of a
950 communication pursuant to the provisions of this section, as a person
951 who made a covered transfer to the maker of the communication, is also
952 a recipient of a covered transfer, the maker of the communication, as

953 part of any report filed pursuant to section 9-601d, as amended by this
954 act, associated with the making of such communication, shall include
955 the names of the five persons who made the top five largest aggregate
956 covered transfers to such recipient during the twelve-month period
957 immediately prior to the primary or election, as applicable.

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

964 (3) The name of any person who made a covered transfer to a person
965 whose name is included on a disclaimer pursuant to the provisions of
966 this section shall not be disclosed pursuant to the provisions of
967 subdivision (1) of this subsection if the recipient of such covered transfer
968 accepts covered transfers from at least one hundred different sources,
969 provided no such source accounts for ten per cent or more of the total
970 amount of covered transfers accepted by the recipient during the
971 twelve-month period immediately prior to the primary or election, as
972 applicable.

973 (k) Any disclaimer required to be on the face of a written, typed or
974 other printed communication pursuant to the provisions of this section
975 shall be printed in no smaller than eight-point type of uniform font
976 when such disclaimer is on a communication contained in a flyer or
977 leaflet, newspaper, magazine or similar literature, or that is delivered by
978 mail.

979 (l) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (k), inclusive,
980 of this section, no person making an independent expenditure for a
981 communication shall be required to list as part of any disclaimer
982 pursuant to this section any person whose covered transfers to the
983 maker of the communication are not in an aggregate amount of five
984 thousand dollars or more during the twelve-month period immediately

985 prior to the primary, [or] election or referendum, as applicable, for
986 which such independent expenditure is made.

987 (m) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (k),
988 inclusive, of this section, any disclaimer required to be on the face of any
989 Internet text advertisement communication (1) that appears based on
990 the result of a search conducted by a user of an Internet search engine,
991 and (2) the text of which contains two hundred or fewer characters, shall
992 not be required to list the names of the five persons who made the top
993 five largest aggregate covered transfers to the maker of such
994 communication, as otherwise required by this section, if such disclaimer
995 (A) includes a link to an Internet web site that discloses the names of
996 such five persons, and (B) otherwise contains any statement required
997 pursuant to the provisions of this section.

998 Sec. 18. Subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of section 9-7a of the general
999 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
1000 (*Effective from passage*):

1001 (g) (1) (A) In the case of a written complaint filed with the commission
1002 pursuant to section 9-7b, commission staff shall conduct and complete a
1003 preliminary examination of such complaint by the fourteenth day
1004 following its receipt, at which time such staff shall, at its discretion, [(A)]
1005 (i) dismiss the complaint for failure to allege any substantial violation of
1006 state election law supported by evidence, [(B)] (ii) engage the
1007 respondent in discussions in an effort to speedily resolve any matter
1008 pertaining to a de minimis violation, or [(C)] (iii) investigate and docket
1009 the complaint for a determination by the commission that probable
1010 cause or no probable cause exists for any such violation. If commission
1011 staff dismisses a complaint pursuant to subparagraph [(A)] (A)(i) of this
1012 subdivision, such staff shall provide a brief written statement concisely
1013 setting forth the reasons for such dismissal. If commission staff engages
1014 a respondent pursuant to subparagraph [(B)] (A)(ii) of this subdivision
1015 but is unable to speedily resolve any such matter described in said
1016 subparagraph by the forty-fifth day following receipt of the complaint,
1017 such staff shall docket such complaint for a determination by the

1018 commission that probable cause or no probable cause exists for any
1019 violation of state election law. If the commission does not, by the sixtieth
1020 day following receipt of the complaint, either issue a decision or render
1021 its determination that probable cause or no probable cause exists for any
1022 violation of state election laws, the complainant or respondent may
1023 apply to the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford for an
1024 order to show cause why the commission has not acted upon the
1025 complaint and to provide evidence that the commission has
1026 unreasonably delayed action.

1027 (B) (i) For any complaint received on or after January 1, 2018, but prior
1028 to July 1, 2023, if the commission does not, by one year following receipt
1029 of such complaint, issue a decision thereon, the commission shall
1030 dismiss such complaint, provided the length of time of any delay caused
1031 by [(i)] (I) the commission or commission staff granting any extension
1032 or continuance to a respondent prior to the issuance of any such
1033 decision, [(ii)] (II) any subpoena issued in connection with such
1034 complaint, [(iii)] (III) any litigation in state or federal court related to
1035 such complaint, or [(iv)] (IV) any investigation by, or consultation of the
1036 commission or commission staff with, the Chief State's Attorney, the
1037 Attorney General, the United States Department of Justice or the United
1038 States Attorney for Connecticut related to such complaint, shall be
1039 added to such one year.

1040 (ii) For any complaint received on or after July 1, 2023, if the
1041 commission does not, by one year following receipt of such complaint,
1042 find reason to believe that a violation of state election law has been
1043 committed and commence a contested case, as defined in section 4-166,
1044 the commission shall dismiss such complaint, provided the length of
1045 time of any delay caused by (I) the commission or commission staff
1046 granting any extension or continuance to a respondent prior to the
1047 issuance of any such decision, (II) any subpoena issued in connection
1048 with such complaint, (III) any litigation in state or federal court related
1049 to such complaint, (IV) any investigation by the commission or
1050 commission staff involving a potential violation of state election law by
1051 a foreign national or of section 9-601c or 9-601d, as amended by this act,

1052 or (V) any investigation by, or consultation of the commission or
 1053 commission staff with, the Chief State's Attorney, the Attorney General,
 1054 the United States Department of Justice or the United States Attorney
 1055 for Connecticut related to such complaint, shall be added to such one
 1056 year.

1057 Sec. 19. Subdivision (18) of section 53a-119 of the general statutes is
 1058 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
 1059 *passage*):

1060 (18) Failure to repay surplus Citizens' Election Fund grant funds. A
 1061 person is guilty of failure to repay surplus Citizens' Election Fund grant
 1062 funds when such person fails to return to the Citizens' Election Fund
 1063 any surplus funds from a grant made pursuant to sections 9-700 to 9-
 1064 716, inclusive, [not later than ninety days after the primary or election
 1065 for which the grant is made] within the time prescribed for the
 1066 distribution of surplus under subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of section
 1067 9-608, as amended by this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	9-601(33) to (39)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	9-601(3)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	9-622
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	9-601c(e)
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	9-601d(a) to (i)
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	9-605(b)
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	9-607(g)(1)
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	9-608(e)(1)(C)
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	9-611
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>	9-612(a) and (b)
Sec. 11	<i>from passage</i>	9-613
Sec. 12	<i>from passage</i>	9-614
Sec. 13	<i>from passage</i>	9-615
Sec. 14	<i>from passage</i>	9-618(a)
Sec. 15	<i>from passage</i>	9-619(a)
Sec. 16	<i>from passage</i>	9-620
Sec. 17	<i>from passage</i>	9-621(c) to (m)

Sec. 18	<i>from passage</i>	9-7a(g)(1)
Sec. 19	<i>from passage</i>	53a-119(18)

Statement of Purpose:

To (1) prevent foreign interference in state referenda and elections and allow for greater enforcement of violations, (2) implement federal court rulings regarding independent expenditure political committees and contributions to such committees, (3) make adjustments to reflect the United States Supreme Court ruling on aggregate contribution limits for individuals, (4) more explicitly recognize referendum spending as a type of independent expenditure and require reporting as such, (5) impose attribution requirements for certain forms of referendum spending, (6) require, for organization expenditure party candidate listings, only the disclaimer of the paying committee and not the individual disclaimer of all candidates mentioned, and (7) make a conforming change regarding the distribution of surplus funds by candidate committees participating in the Citizens' Election Program.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]