



General Assembly

**Amendment**

January Session, 2023

LCO No. 10087



Offered by:

REP. CANDELORA V., 86<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. PERILLO J., 113<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. O'DEA, 125<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. ZUPKUS, 89<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. RUTIGLIANO, 123<sup>rd</sup> Dist.

REP. MASTROFRANCESCO, 80<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. ACKERT, 8<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 6904

File No. 543

Cal. No. 338

**"AN ACT CONCERNING CAMPAIGN FINANCE."**

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

3 "Sec. 501. Subsection (e) of section 9-610 of the general statutes is  
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
5 *1, 2023*):

6 (e) For purposes of this subsection and subsection (f) of this section,  
7 the exclusions to the term "contribution" in subsection (b) of section 9-  
8 601a shall not apply; [the term] "state office" means the office of  
9 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller,  
10 State Treasurer or Secretary of the State; [and the term] "state officer"  
11 means the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State  
12 Comptroller, State Treasurer or Secretary of the State; and "municipal  
13 office" means an elective office for which only the electors of a single

14 town, city, borough or political subdivision, as defined in section 9-372,  
15 may vote. Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, [to the  
16 contrary,] during any regular session of the General Assembly, during  
17 any special session of the General Assembly held between the  
18 adjournment of the regular session in an odd-numbered year and the  
19 convening of the regular session in the following even-numbered year  
20 or during any reconvened session of the General Assembly held in an  
21 odd-numbered year to reconsider vetoed bills, (1) no lobbyist or political  
22 committee established by or on behalf of a lobbyist shall make or offer  
23 to make a contribution to or on behalf of, and no lobbyist shall solicit a  
24 contribution on behalf of, (A) a candidate or exploratory committee  
25 established by a candidate for nomination or election to the General  
26 Assembly or a state office, [or] (B) a political committee (i) established  
27 for an assembly or senatorial district, (ii) established by a member of the  
28 General Assembly, [or] a state officer or such [member] member's or  
29 officer's agent, or in consultation with, or at the request or suggestion of,  
30 any such member, officer or agent, or (iii) controlled by such member,  
31 officer or agent, to aid or promote the nomination or election of any  
32 candidate or candidates to the General Assembly or a state office, or (C)  
33 a candidate or exploratory committee established by a member of the  
34 General Assembly, a state officer or such member's or officer's agent for  
35 nomination or election of such member or officer to a municipal office,  
36 and (2) no such candidate or political committee shall accept such a  
37 contribution. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a  
38 candidate committee established by a member of the General Assembly  
39 or a candidate for nomination or election to the General Assembly, at a  
40 special election for the General Assembly, from the date on which the  
41 candidate or the [chairman] chairperson of the committee files the  
42 designation of a treasurer and a depository institution under section 9-  
43 602 with the State Elections Enforcement Commission, to the date on  
44 which the special election is held, inclusive, or to an exploratory  
45 committee established by a member of the General Assembly to  
46 promote [his] such member's candidacy for an office other than the  
47 General Assembly or other than a municipal office.

48 Sec. 502. Subsection (f) of section 9-610 of the general statutes is  
49 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
50 *1, 2023*):

51 (f) (1) A political committee established by two or more individuals  
52 under subparagraph (B) of subdivision (3) of section 9-601, other than a  
53 committee established solely for the purpose of aiding or promoting  
54 [any candidate or candidates for municipal office or] the success or  
55 defeat of a referendum question, shall be subject to the prohibition on  
56 acceptance of lobbyist contributions under subsection (e) of this section  
57 unless the treasurer of the committee has filed a registration statement  
58 as described in subsection (b) of section 9-605 with the State Elections  
59 Enforcement Commission, on or before November 15, 2012, for all such  
60 political committees in existence on such date, or, if the committee is not  
61 in existence on such date, not later than ten days after the organization  
62 of the committee pursuant to subsection (a) of section 9-605, and on or  
63 before November fifteenth of each even-numbered year thereafter. Such  
64 statements shall be filed even if there are no changes, additions or  
65 deletions to the registration statement previously filed with the  
66 commission. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subdivision, if an  
67 officer of the committee has changed since the last registration statement  
68 filed with the commission, such registration statement shall be filed by  
69 the chairperson of the committee.

70 (2) A political committee established for ongoing political activities  
71 and required pursuant to subsection (a) of section 9-603 to file  
72 statements with the commission shall be subject to the prohibition on  
73 making contributions under subsection (e) of this section unless the  
74 treasurer of the committee has filed a registration statement as described  
75 in subsection (b) of section 9-605 with the commission, on forms  
76 prescribed by the commission, on or before November 15, 2012, for all  
77 such political committees in existence on such date, or, if the committee  
78 is not in existence on such date, not later than ten days after the  
79 organization of the committee pursuant to subsection (a) of section 9-  
80 605, and on or before November fifteenth of each even-numbered year  
81 thereafter. Such statements shall be filed even if there are no changes,

82 additions or deletions to the registration statement previously filed with  
83 the commission. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subdivision, if  
84 an officer of the committee has changed since the last registration  
85 statement filed with the commission, such registration statement shall  
86 be filed by the chairperson of the committee.

87 (3) The commission shall prepare a list of all such committees subject  
88 to the prohibitions under subsection (e) of this section, based upon an  
89 evaluation of registrations filed pursuant to this subsection and  
90 subsection (b) of section 9-605. Such list shall be available prior to the  
91 opening of each regular session of the General Assembly, and shall  
92 provide a copy of the list to the president pro tempore of the Senate, the  
93 speaker of the House of Representatives, the minority leader of the  
94 Senate, the minority leader of the House of Representatives and each  
95 state officer. During each such regular session, the commission shall  
96 prepare a supplemental list of committees that register after November  
97 fifteenth and are subject to such prohibitions, and the commission shall  
98 provide the supplemental list to such legislative leaders and state  
99 officers. The filing of the registration statement by the treasurer of the  
100 committee shall not impair the authority of the commission to act under  
101 section 9-7b. Any lobbyist or treasurer who acts in reliance on such lists  
102 in good faith shall have an absolute defense in any action brought under  
103 subsection (e) and this subsection, subsection (c) of section 9-604, and  
104 subsection (f) of section 9-608, as amended by this act.

105 Sec. 503. Subsection (f) of section 9-608 of the general statutes is  
106 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
107 *1, 2023*):

108 (f) If an exploratory committee has been established by a candidate  
109 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 9-604, the treasurer of the  
110 committee shall file a notice of intent to dissolve it with the appropriate  
111 authority not later than fifteen days after the candidate's declaration of  
112 intent to seek nomination or election to a particular public office, except  
113 that in the case of an exploratory committee established by a candidate  
114 for purposes that include aiding or promoting the candidate's candidacy

115 for nomination or election to the General Assembly or a state office, the  
116 treasurer of the committee shall file such notice of intent to dissolve the  
117 committee not later than fifteen days after the earlier of: (1) The  
118 candidate's declaration of intent to seek nomination or election to a  
119 particular public office, (2) the candidate's endorsement at a convention,  
120 caucus or town committee meeting, or (3) the candidate's filing of a  
121 candidacy for nomination under section 9-400 or 9-405. The treasurer  
122 shall also file a statement identifying all contributions received or  
123 expenditures made by the exploratory committee since the previous  
124 statement and the balance on hand or deficit, as the case may be. In the  
125 event of a surplus, the treasurer shall, not later than the filing of the  
126 statement, distribute the surplus to the candidate committee established  
127 pursuant to said section, except that (A) in the case of a surplus of an  
128 exploratory committee established by a candidate who intends to be a  
129 participating candidate, as defined in section 9-703, in the Citizens'  
130 Election Program, the treasurer may distribute to the candidate  
131 committee only that portion of such surplus that is attributable to  
132 contributions that meet the criteria for qualifying contributions for the  
133 candidate committee under section 9-704 and shall distribute the  
134 remainder of such surplus to the Citizens' Election Fund established in  
135 section 9-701, and (B) in the case of a surplus of an exploratory  
136 committee established for nomination or election to an office other than  
137 the General Assembly, [or] a state office or a municipal office, (i) the  
138 treasurer may only distribute to the candidate committee for  
139 nomination or election to the General Assembly, [or] state office or  
140 municipal office of such candidate that portion of such surplus which is  
141 in excess of the total contributions which the exploratory committee  
142 received from lobbyists or political committees established by lobbyists,  
143 during any period in which the prohibitions in subsection (e) of section  
144 9-610, as amended by this act, apply, and (ii) any remaining amount  
145 shall be returned to all such lobbyists and political committees  
146 established by or on behalf of lobbyists, on a prorated basis of  
147 contribution, or distributed to any charitable organization which is a  
148 tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue  
149 Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code

150 of the United States, as from time to time amended. If the candidate  
 151 decides not to seek nomination or election to any office, the treasurer  
 152 shall, [within] not later than fifteen days after such decision, comply  
 153 with the provisions of this subsection and distribute any surplus in the  
 154 manner provided by this section for political committees other than  
 155 those formed for ongoing political activities, except that if the surplus is  
 156 from an exploratory committee established by the State Treasurer, any  
 157 portion of the surplus that is received from a principal of an investment  
 158 services firm or a political committee established by such firm shall be  
 159 returned to such principal or committee on a prorated basis of  
 160 contribution. In the event of a deficit, the treasurer shall file a statement  
 161 thirty days after the decision or declaration with the proper authority  
 162 and, thereafter, on the seventh day of each month following if on the last  
 163 day of the previous month there was an increase or decrease in such  
 164 deficit in excess of five hundred dollars from that reported on the last  
 165 statement filed. The treasurer shall file supplemental statements until  
 166 the deficit is eliminated. If the exploratory committee does not have a  
 167 surplus or deficit, the statement filed after the candidate's declaration or  
 168 decision shall be the last required statement. If a candidate certifies on  
 169 the statement of organization for the exploratory committee pursuant to  
 170 subsection (c) of section 9-604 that the candidate will not be a candidate  
 171 for the office of state representative and subsequently establishes a  
 172 candidate committee for the office of state representative, the treasurer  
 173 of the candidate committee shall pay to the State Treasurer, for deposit  
 174 in the General Fund, an amount equal to the portion of any contribution  
 175 received by [said] such exploratory committee that exceeded two  
 176 hundred fifty dollars. As used in this subsection, "principal of an  
 177 investment services firm" has the meaning set forth in subsection (e) of  
 178 section 9-612 and "state office" [has the same meaning] and "municipal  
 179 office" have the same meanings set forth in subsection (e) of section 9-  
 180 610, as amended by this act."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Sec. 501	October 1, 2023	9-610(e)

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Sec. 502	<i>October 1, 2023</i>	9-610(f)
Sec. 503	<i>October 1, 2023</i>	9-608(f)