



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

***Raised Bill No. 252***

LCO No. 1905



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION  
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:  
(GAE)

***AN ACT CONCERNING REFERENDA, INDEPENDENT  
EXPENDITURES AND OTHER CAMPAIGN FINANCE CHANGES.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 9-601 of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes  
2 is amended by adding subdivisions (33) to (35), inclusive, as follows  
3 (*Effective from passage*):

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

11 (NEW) (34) "Consultant" means any person (A) that provides (i)  
12 campaign strategy, (ii) design or management of campaign  
13 communications, literature or advertising, or (iii) fundraising or  
14 management services, or (B) with duties that include identifying, hiring

15 or paying subvendors for goods or services on behalf of a committee or  
16 person required to file a report pursuant to section 9-601d, as amended  
17 by this act, or 9-608, as amended by this act, as applicable.

18 (NEW) (35) (A) "Subvendor" means any person that provides goods  
19 or services to a consultant or that contracts with a consultant or other  
20 subvendor to provide goods or services to a committee or person  
21 required to file a report pursuant to section 9-601d, as amended by this  
22 act, or 9-608, as amended by this act, as applicable.

23 (B) "Subvendor" does not include a person who is an employee of a  
24 consultant if such person has been an employee of such consultant for  
25 three or more consecutive months prior to any month in which a  
26 committee or person is required to file a report accounting for any  
27 expenditure to such consultant or any subvendor for such consultant.

28 Sec. 2. Subdivision (3) of section 9-601 of the 2024 supplement to the  
29 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
30 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

31 (3) "Political committee" means (A) a committee organized by a  
32 business entity or organization, (B) persons other than individuals, or  
33 two or more individuals organized or acting jointly conducting their  
34 activities in or outside the state, (C) an exploratory committee, (D) a  
35 committee established by or on behalf of a slate of candidates in a  
36 primary for the office of justice of the peace, but does not mean a  
37 candidate committee or a party committee, (E) a legislative caucus  
38 committee, [or] (F) a legislative leadership committee, or (G) an  
39 independent expenditure political committee.

40 Sec. 3. Section 9-601c of the general statutes is amended by adding  
41 subsection (e) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

42 (NEW) (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (d),  
43 inclusive, of this section, an independent expenditure political  
44 committee may coordinate with one or more other independent  
45 expenditure political committees for the purpose of making one or more

46 independent expenditures.

47 Sec. 4. Subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of section 9-601d of the general  
48 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
49 (*Effective from passage*):

50 (a) Any person, as defined in section 9-601, as amended by this act,  
51 may, unless otherwise restricted or prohibited by law, including, but not  
52 limited to, any provision of this chapter or chapter 157, make unlimited  
53 independent expenditures, as defined in section 9-601c, as amended by  
54 this act, and accept unlimited covered transfers, as defined in [said]  
55 section 9-601, as amended by this act. Except as provided [pursuant to]  
56 in this section, any such person who makes or obligates to make an  
57 independent expenditure or expenditures in excess of one thousand  
58 dollars, in the aggregate, shall file statements according to the same  
59 schedule and in the same manner as is required of a treasurer of a  
60 [candidate] political committee pursuant to section 9-608, as amended  
61 by this act. Any such person, other than a committee, shall file with the  
62 proper authority, as provided in section 9-603 (1) a long-form report and  
63 a short-form report pursuant to subsection (c) of this section for such  
64 independent expenditure or expenditures, or (2) a short-form report  
65 pursuant to subsection (d) of this section from each subsequent  
66 independent expenditure made or obligated to be made.

67 (b) Any person who makes or obligates to make an independent  
68 expenditure or expenditures in an election or primary for the office of  
69 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, State Treasurer,  
70 State Comptroller, Attorney General, state senator or state  
71 representative, [which] or to promote the success or defeat of a  
72 referendum question proposing a constitutional convention,  
73 constitutional amendment or revision of the Constitution, that exceed  
74 one thousand dollars, in the aggregate, during [a primary campaign or  
75 a general election campaign, as defined in section 9-700, shall file,  
76 electronically, a long-form and a short-form report of such independent  
77 expenditure or expenditures with the State Elections Enforcement  
78 Commission pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of this section. The

79 person that makes or obligates to make such independent expenditure  
80 or expenditures shall file such reports] the period beginning on June first  
81 in the year of a regular election, or on the day the Governor issues writs  
82 of election pursuant to section 9-215 in the case of a special election for  
83 the office of state senator or state representative, and ending on the day  
84 following the primary or election for which such person made or  
85 obligated to make such independent expenditure or expenditures, shall  
86 electronically file, in the case of a committee, a report pursuant to section  
87 9-608, as amended by this act, or, in the case of any person other than a  
88 committee, a long-form report and a short-form report pursuant to  
89 subsections (c) and (d) of this section not later than twenty-four hours  
90 after (1) making any such payment, or (2) obligating to make any such  
91 payment, with respect to the primary, [or] election [. If any such person  
92 makes or incurs a subsequent independent expenditure, such person  
93 shall report such expenditure pursuant to subsection (d) of this section]  
94 or referendum. In the case of a special election for the office of state  
95 senator or state representative, if any person makes or obligates to make  
96 an independent expenditure or expenditures for such special election  
97 that exceed one thousand dollars, in the aggregate, prior to the day the  
98 Governor issues writs of election pursuant to section 9-215, such person  
99 shall file a report not later than twenty-four hours after such writs of  
100 election are issued. Such reports shall be filed under penalty of false  
101 statement.

102 (c) The independent expenditure long-form report shall identify: (1)  
103 The name of the person making or obligating to make such independent  
104 expenditure or expenditures and, in the case of a person other than an  
105 individual, provide the name of a human being who had direct,  
106 extensive and substantive decision-making authority over such  
107 independent expenditure or expenditures; (2) the tax exempt status of  
108 such person and, if [applicable] such person files a report with the  
109 Federal Election Commission, the Internal Revenue Service or any  
110 similar out-of-state agency, provide identifying information under  
111 which any such filing is made; (3) the mailing address, and street  
112 address if different, of such person; (4) the principal business address of

113 the person, if different from either the mailing address or street address;  
114 (5) the mailing address, and street address if different, telephone  
115 number and electronic mail address of the agent for service of process  
116 in this state of such person and of the human being described in  
117 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection; (6) the date of the  
118 primary, [or] election or referendum for which [the] such independent  
119 expenditure or expenditures were made or obligated to be made; (7) the  
120 name of any candidate who, or the text of any referendum question that,  
121 was the subject of [any] such independent expenditure or expenditures  
122 and whether [the] such independent expenditure or expenditures were  
123 in support of or in opposition to such candidate or referendum question;  
124 and (8) the name, telephone number and electronic mail address for the  
125 individual filing such report. Such individual filing such report shall,  
126 under penalty of false statement, affirm that the expenditure reported is  
127 an independent expenditure. [under penalty of false statement.]

128 (d) As part of any filing made pursuant to subsection (c) of this  
129 section and for each subsequent independent expenditure made or  
130 obligated to be made by a person with respect to the primary, [or]  
131 election or referendum for which a long-form report pursuant to  
132 subsection (c) of this section has been filed on behalf of such person, an  
133 individual shall file [, electronically,] a short-form report for each such  
134 independent expenditure. [, not later than twenty-four hours after such  
135 person makes a payment for an independent expenditure or obligates  
136 to make such an independent expenditure.] Such short-form report shall  
137 identify: (1) The name of the person making or obligating to make such  
138 independent expenditure; (2) the amount of the independent  
139 expenditure; (3) whether the independent expenditure was in support  
140 of or in opposition to a candidate or referendum question and the name  
141 of such candidate or text of such referendum question; (4) a brief  
142 description of the independent expenditure made, including the type of  
143 communication, based on categories determined by the State Elections  
144 Enforcement Commission, and the allocation of such independent  
145 expenditure in support of or in opposition to each such candidate or  
146 referendum question, if such independent expenditure was made in

147 support of or in opposition to more than one candidate or referendum  
148 question; and (5) the name, telephone number and electronic mail  
149 address for the individual filing such report. Such individual filing such  
150 report shall, under penalty of false statement, affirm that the  
151 expenditure reported is an independent expenditure. [under penalty of  
152 false statement.]

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

157 (f) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, as part  
158 of any statement filed pursuant to this section, if a person who makes or  
159 obligates to make an independent expenditure (A) has received a  
160 covered transfer during the twelve-month period prior to (i) a primary  
161 or election, as applicable to the reported expenditure, for an office that  
162 a candidate described in subdivision (7) of subsection (c) of this section  
163 is seeking, or (ii) a referendum on a question proposing a constitutional  
164 convention, constitutional amendment or revision of the Constitution,  
165 and (B) such independent expenditure is made or obligated to be made  
166 on or after the date that is one hundred eighty days prior to such  
167 primary, [or] election or referendum, such person shall disclose the  
168 source and the amount of any such covered transfer such person  
169 received that is in an amount that is five thousand dollars or more, in  
170 the aggregate, during the twelve-month period prior to such primary,  
171 [or] election or referendum, as applicable to the reported expenditure.

172 (2) The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not apply  
173 to any person who discloses the source and amount of a covered transfer  
174 described in subdivision (1) of this subsection as part of any report to  
175 the Federal Election Commission, [or] the Internal Revenue Service or  
176 any similar out-of-state agency, provided such person includes a copy  
177 of, or information sufficient to find, any such report as part of the report  
178 of each applicable independent expenditure filed pursuant to this  
179 section. If a source and amount of a covered transfer is not included as

180 part of any such report, the maker of the independent expenditure shall  
181 disclose the source and amount of such covered transfer pursuant to  
182 subdivision (1) of this subsection, if applicable.

183 (g) (1) A person may, unless otherwise restricted or prohibited by  
184 law, including, but not limited to, any provision of this chapter or  
185 chapter 157, establish a dedicated independent expenditure account [,  
186 for the purpose of engaging in] that may be used to make independent  
187 expenditures, [that] provided such account is segregated from all other  
188 accounts controlled by such person. Such dedicated independent  
189 expenditure account may receive covered transfers directly from  
190 persons other than the person establishing the dedicated account and  
191 may not receive transfers from another account controlled by the person  
192 establishing the dedicated account, except as provided in subdivision  
193 (2) of this subsection. If an independent expenditure is made from such  
194 segregated account, any report required pursuant to this section or  
195 disclaimer required pursuant to section 9-621, as amended by this act,  
196 [may include only] shall include those persons who made covered  
197 transfers directly to the dedicated independent expenditure account.

198 (2) If a person who has made a covered transfer to another account  
199 controlled by the person establishing a dedicated independent  
200 expenditure account requests that such covered transfer be used for the  
201 purposes of making an independent expenditure from the dedicated  
202 independent expenditure account, the amount of such covered transfer  
203 may be transferred to the dedicated independent expenditure account  
204 and shall be treated as a covered transfer directly to the dedicated  
205 independent expenditure account.

206 (h) Any person may file a complaint with the commission upon the  
207 belief that (1) any such independent expenditure report or statement is  
208 false, or (2) any person who is required to file an independent  
209 expenditure report under this subsection has failed to do so. The  
210 commission shall make a prompt determination on such a complaint.

211 (i) (1) [If] Notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-623, if (A) a

212 person fails to file a report in accordance with the provisions of this  
213 section or section 9-608, as amended by this act, for an independent  
214 expenditure or expenditures made or obligated to be made more than  
215 ninety days before the day of a primary, [or election, the] election or  
216 referendum, such person shall be subject to a civil penalty, imposed by  
217 the State Elections Enforcement Commission, of not more than ten  
218 thousand dollars, [ If] and (B) a person fails to file a report required in  
219 accordance with the provisions of this section for an independent  
220 expenditure or expenditures made or obligated to be made ninety days  
221 or less before the day of a primary, [or] election or referendum, such  
222 person shall be subject to a civil penalty, imposed by the State Elections  
223 Enforcement Commission, of not more than twenty thousand dollars or  
224 twice the amount of such independent expenditure or expenditures,  
225 whichever is greater.

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

234 (3) If the State Elections Enforcement Commission finds that a person  
235 is subject to a civil penalty under this subsection, (A) in the case of a  
236 committee, (i) the chairperson, and (ii) any officer, or (B) in the case of a  
237 person other than a committee, (i) the chief executive or chief financial  
238 officer, or equivalent, (ii) any other officer, and (iii) any manager who  
239 had direct, extensive and substantive decision-making authority over  
240 the independent expenditure or expenditures made or obligated to be  
241 made by such person, shall be liable for paying any amount of such civil  
242 penalty imposed that is not paid by such person within one year after  
243 the latter of (I) the date on which the commission imposed such civil  
244 penalty, or (II) the date of the final judgment following any judicial  
245 review of the commission's action.



246 Sec. 5. Subsection (b) of section 9-605 of the general statutes is  
247 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
248 *passage*):

249 (b) The registration statement shall include: (1) The name and address  
250 of the committee; (2) a statement of the purpose of the committee; (3) the  
251 name and address of its treasurer, and deputy treasurer if applicable; (4)  
252 the name, address and position of its [chairman] chairperson, and other  
253 principal officers if applicable; (5) the name and address of the  
254 depository institution for its funds; (6) the name of each person, other  
255 than an individual, that is a member of the committee; (7) the name and  
256 party affiliation of each candidate whom the committee is supporting  
257 and the office or position sought by each candidate; (8) if the committee  
258 is supporting the entire ticket of any party, a statement to that effect and  
259 the name of the party; (9) if the committee is supporting or opposing  
260 any referendum question, a brief statement identifying the substance of  
261 the question; (10) if the committee is established or controlled by a  
262 [business entity or organization] person or an individual acting as the  
263 agent of a person, the name of [the entity or organization] such person  
264 and, if the committee is established or controlled by a person other than  
265 a human being, the name of its chief executive officer or equivalent; (11)  
266 if the committee is established by an organization, a statement of  
267 whether it will receive its funds from the organization's treasury or from  
268 voluntary contributions; (12) if the committee files reports with the  
269 Federal Elections Commission, the Internal Revenue Service or any  
270 similar out-of-state agency, a statement to that effect including the name  
271 of the agency and identifying information under which any such filings  
272 are made; (13) a statement indicating whether the committee is  
273 established for a single primary, election or referendum or for ongoing  
274 political activities; (14) if the committee is established or controlled by a  
275 lobbyist, a statement to that effect and the name of the lobbyist; (15) the  
276 name and address of the person making the initial contribution or  
277 disbursement, if any, to the committee; and (16) any information that  
278 the State Elections Enforcement Commission requires to facilitate  
279 compliance with the provisions of this chapter or chapter 157. If no such

280 initial contribution or disbursement, as described in subdivision (15) of  
281 this subsection, has been made at the time of the filing of such statement,  
282 the treasurer of the committee shall, not later than forty-eight hours after  
283 receipt of such contribution or disbursement, file a report with the State  
284 Elections Enforcement Commission. The report shall be in the same  
285 form as statements filed under section 9-608, as amended by this act.

286 Sec. 6. Subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of section 9-607 of the general  
287 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
288 (*Effective from passage*):

289 (g) (1) As used in this subsection, (A) "the lawful purposes of the  
290 committee" means: (i) For a candidate committee or exploratory  
291 committee, the promoting of the nomination or election of the candidate  
292 who established the committee, except that after a political party  
293 nominates candidates for election to the offices of Governor and  
294 Lieutenant Governor, whose names shall be so placed on the ballot in  
295 the election that an elector will cast a single vote for both candidates, as  
296 prescribed in section 9-181, a candidate committee established by either  
297 such candidate may also promote the election of the other such  
298 candidate; (ii) for a political committee, other than an independent  
299 expenditure political committee described in subparagraph (A)(iv) of  
300 this subdivision, the promoting of a political party, including party  
301 building activities, the success or defeat of candidates for nomination  
302 and election to public office or position subject to the requirements of  
303 this chapter [ ] or the success or defeat of referendum questions,  
304 provided [a political committee formed for a single referendum  
305 question shall not promote the success or defeat of any candidate, and  
306 provided further] a legislative leadership committee or a legislative  
307 caucus committee may expend funds to defray costs for conducting  
308 legislative or constituency-related business which are not reimbursed or  
309 paid by the state; [and] (iii) for a party committee, the promoting of the  
310 party, including party building activities, the candidates of the party or  
311 the success or defeat of referendum questions, and continuing operating  
312 costs of the party; and (iv) for an independent expenditure political  
313 committee, the promoting of a political party, the success or defeat of

314 candidates for nomination or election to public office or position subject  
315 to the requirements of this chapter or the success or defeat of  
316 referendum questions, and (B) "immediate family" means a spouse or  
317 dependent child of a candidate who resides in the candidate's  
318 household.

319 Sec. 7. Subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of section  
320 9-608 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted  
321 in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

322 (C) [(i) Each political committee formed solely to aid or promote the  
323 success or defeat of any referendum question, which does not receive  
324 contributions from a business entity or an organization, shall distribute  
325 its surplus to a party committee, to a political committee organized for  
326 ongoing political activities, to a national committee of a political party,  
327 to all contributors to the committee on a prorated basis of contribution,  
328 to state or municipal governments or agencies or to any organization  
329 which is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the  
330 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding  
331 internal revenue code of the United States, as from time to time  
332 amended. (ii) Each political committee formed solely to aid or promote  
333 the success or defeat of any referendum question, which receives  
334 contributions from a business entity or an organization] An  
335 independent expenditure political committee, other than an  
336 independent expenditure political committee formed for ongoing  
337 political activities, shall distribute its surplus to all contributors to the  
338 committee on a prorated basis of contribution, to state or municipal  
339 governments or agencies, or to any organization which is tax-exempt  
340 under [said provisions] Sections 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(19) of the Internal  
341 Revenue Code, as amended from time to time. Notwithstanding the  
342 provisions of this subsection, a committee formed for a single  
343 referendum shall not be required to expend its surplus [not later than]  
344 within ninety days after the referendum and may continue in existence  
345 if a substantially similar referendum question on the same issue will be  
346 submitted to the electorate within six months after the first referendum.  
347 If two or more substantially similar referenda on the same issue are

348 submitted to the electorate, each no more than six months apart, the  
349 committee shall expend such surplus within ninety days following the  
350 date of the last such referendum;

351 Sec. 8. Section 9-611 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
352 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

353 (a) No individual shall make a contribution or contributions to, for  
354 the benefit of, or pursuant to the authorization or request of, a candidate  
355 or a committee supporting or opposing any candidate's campaign for  
356 nomination at a primary, or any candidate's campaign for election, to  
357 the office of (1) Governor, in excess of three thousand five hundred  
358 dollars; (2) Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, Treasurer,  
359 Comptroller or Attorney General, in excess of two thousand dollars; (3)  
360 chief executive officer of a town, city or borough, in excess of one  
361 thousand dollars; (4) state senator or probate judge, in excess of one  
362 thousand dollars; or (5) state representative or any other office of a  
363 municipality not previously included in this subsection, in excess of two  
364 hundred fifty dollars. The limits imposed by this subsection shall be  
365 applied separately to primaries and elections.

366 (b) (1) No individual shall make a contribution or contributions to, or  
367 for the benefit of, an exploratory committee, in excess of three hundred  
368 seventy-five dollars, if the candidate establishing the exploratory  
369 committee certifies on the statement of organization for the exploratory  
370 committee pursuant to subsection (c) of section 9-604 that the candidate  
371 will not be a candidate for the office of state representative. No  
372 individual shall make a contribution or contributions to, or for the  
373 benefit of, any exploratory committee, in excess of two hundred fifty  
374 dollars, if the candidate establishing the exploratory committee does not  
375 so certify.

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

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

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

386 [(e)] (d) No individual who is less than eighteen years of age shall  
387 make a contribution or contributions, in excess of thirty dollars to, for  
388 the benefit of, or pursuant to the authorization or request of: (1) A  
389 candidate or a committee supporting or opposing any candidate's  
390 campaign for nomination at a primary to any office; (2) a candidate or a  
391 committee supporting or opposing any candidate's campaign for  
392 election to any office; (3) an exploratory committee; (4) any other  
393 political committee in any calendar year; or (5) a party committee in any  
394 calendar year. Notwithstanding any provision of subdivision (2) of  
395 section 9-7b, any individual who is less than eighteen years of age who  
396 violates any provision of this subsection shall not be subject to the  
397 provisions of subdivision (2) of section 9-7b.

398 Sec. 9. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 9-612 of the 2024 supplement  
399 to the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in  
400 lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

401 (a) (1) No individual shall make a contribution or contributions in any  
402 one calendar year in excess of fifteen thousand dollars to the state central  
403 committee of any party, or for the benefit of such committee pursuant  
404 to its authorization or request; or two thousand dollars to a town  
405 committee of any political party, or for the benefit of such committee  
406 pursuant to its authorization or request; or two thousand dollars to a  
407 legislative caucus committee or legislative leadership committee; [,] or  
408 one thousand dollars to any other political committee [other than (1)]  
409 except (A) a political committee formed solely to aid or promote the  
410 success or defeat of a referendum question, [(2)] (B) an exploratory  
411 committee, [(3)] (C) a political committee established by an

412 organization, or for the benefit of such committee pursuant to its  
413 authorization or request, or [(4)] (D) a political committee formed by a  
414 slate of candidates in a primary for the office of justice of the peace of  
415 the same town.

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

421 (b) (1) No individual shall make a contribution to a political  
422 committee established by an organization which receives its funds from  
423 the organization's treasury. With respect to a political committee  
424 established by an organization which has complied with the provisions  
425 of subsection (b) or (c) of section 9-614, as amended by this act, and has  
426 elected to receive contributions, no individual other than a member of  
427 the organization may make contributions to the committee, in which  
428 case the individual may contribute not more than seven hundred fifty  
429 dollars in any one calendar year to such committee or for the benefit of  
430 such committee pursuant to its authorization or request.

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

435 Sec. 10. Section 9-613 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
436 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

437 (a) [No] Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, a business  
438 entity shall not make any contributions or expenditures (1) to, or for the  
439 benefit of, any candidate's campaign for election to any public office or  
440 position subject to this chapter or for nomination at a primary for any  
441 such office or position, or (2) to promote the defeat of any candidate for  
442 any such office or position. [No] A business entity shall not make any  
443 other contributions or expenditures to promote the success or defeat of

444 any political party. [ except as provided in subsection (b) of this section.  
445 No] A business entity shall not establish more than one political  
446 committee. A political committee shall be deemed to have been  
447 established by a business entity if the initial disbursement or  
448 contribution to the committee is made under subsection (b) of this  
449 section or by an officer, director, owner, limited or general partner or  
450 holder of stock constituting five per cent or more of the total outstanding  
451 stock of any class of the business entity.

452 (b) A business entity may make reasonable and necessary transfers or  
453 disbursements to or for the benefit of a political committee established  
454 by such business entity, for the administration of, or solicitation of  
455 contributions to, such political committee. Nonmonetary contributions  
456 by a business entity which are incidental in nature and are directly  
457 attributable to the administration of such political committee shall be  
458 exempt from the reporting requirements of this chapter.

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

462 [(d)] (c) [A] Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, a  
463 political committee organized by a business entity shall not make a  
464 contribution or contributions to or for the benefit of any candidate's  
465 campaign for nomination at a primary or any candidate's campaign for  
466 election to the office of: (1) Governor, in excess of five thousand dollars;  
467 (2) Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Comptroller  
468 or Attorney General, in excess of three thousand dollars; (3) state  
469 senator, probate judge or chief executive officer of a town, city or  
470 borough, in excess of one thousand five hundred dollars; (4) state  
471 representative, in excess of seven hundred fifty dollars; or (5) any other  
472 office of a municipality not included in subdivision (3) of this  
473 subsection, in excess of three hundred seventy-five dollars. The limits  
474 imposed by this subsection shall apply separately to primaries and  
475 elections and contributions by any such committee to candidates  
476 designated in this subsection shall not exceed one hundred thousand

477 dollars in the aggregate for any single election and primary preliminary  
478 thereto. Contributions to such committees shall also be subject to the  
479 provisions of section 9-618, as amended by this act, in the case of  
480 committees formed for ongoing political activity or section 9-619, as  
481 amended by this act, in the case of committees formed for a single  
482 election or primary.

483 [(e)] (d) [No] Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, a  
484 political committee organized by a business entity shall not make a  
485 contribution or contributions to (1) a state central committee of a  
486 political party, in excess of seven thousand five hundred dollars in any  
487 calendar year, (2) a town committee of any political party, in excess of  
488 one thousand five hundred dollars in any calendar year, (3) an  
489 exploratory committee in excess of three hundred seventy-five dollars,  
490 or (4) any other kind of political committee, in excess of two thousand  
491 dollars in any calendar year.

492 [(f)] (e) As used in this subsection, "investment services" means  
493 investment legal services, investment banking services, investment  
494 advisory services, underwriting services, financial advisory services or  
495 brokerage firm services. [No] A political committee established by a  
496 firm which provides investment services and to which the State  
497 Treasurer pays compensation, expenses or fees or issues a contract shall  
498 not make a contribution to, or solicit contributions on behalf of, an  
499 exploratory committee or candidate committee established by a  
500 candidate for nomination or election to the office of State Treasurer  
501 during the term of office of the State Treasurer who does business with  
502 such firm.

503 [(g)] (f) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a  
504 [corporation, cooperative association, limited partnership, professional  
505 association, limited liability company or limited liability partnership,  
506 whether formed in this state or any other, acting alone,] business entity  
507 may make independent expenditures and contributions to an  
508 independent expenditure political committee.



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

512       Sec. 11. Section 9-614 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
513 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

514       (a) An organization may make contributions or expenditures, other  
515 than [those made to promote] for the purposes of promoting the success  
516 or defeat of a referendum question, only by first forming its own  
517 political committee. [The] Unless such political committee is an  
518 independent expenditure political committee, the political committee  
519 shall then be authorized to (1) receive funds (A) exclusively from the  
520 organization's treasury or from voluntary contributions made by its  
521 members, but not both, (B) from another political committee, or [,] (C)  
522 from a candidate committee distributing a surplus, and [(1) to] (2) make  
523 (A) contributions or expenditures to, or for the benefit of, a candidate's  
524 campaign or a political party, or [(2) to make] (B) contributions to  
525 another political committee. [No] An organization shall not form more  
526 than one political committee. A political committee shall be deemed to  
527 have been established by an organization if the initial contribution to the  
528 committee is made by the organization's treasury or an officer or  
529 director of the organization.

530       (b) A political committee established by an organization may elect to  
531 alter the manner in which it is funded if it complies with the  
532 requirements of this subsection. The committee chairperson shall notify  
533 the repository with which the committee's most recent statement of  
534 organization is filed, in writing, of the committee's intent to alter its  
535 manner of funding. [Within] Not later than fifteen days after the date of  
536 receipt of such notification, the treasurer of such political committee  
537 shall return any funds remaining in the account of the committee to the  
538 organization's treasury after payment of each outstanding liability.  
539 [Within] Not later than seven days after the distribution and payments  
540 have been made, the treasurer shall file a statement with the same  
541 repository itemizing each such distribution and payment. Upon such

542 filing, the treasurer may receive voluntary contributions from any  
543 member of the organization which established such committee subject  
544 to the limitations imposed in subsection (b) of section 9-612, as amended  
545 by this act.

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

550 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, an organization [,  
551 acting alone,] may make independent expenditures and contributions  
552 to an independent expenditure political committee.

553 Sec. 12. Section 9-615 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
554 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

555 (a) [No] A political committee established by an organization shall  
556 not make a contribution or contributions to, or for the benefit of, any  
557 candidate's campaign for nomination at a primary or for election to the  
558 office of: (1) Governor, in excess of five thousand dollars; (2) Lieutenant  
559 Governor, Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Comptroller or Attorney  
560 General, in excess of three thousand dollars; (3) chief executive officer  
561 of a town, city or borough, in excess of one thousand five hundred  
562 dollars; (4) state senator or probate judge, in excess of one thousand five  
563 hundred dollars; (5) state representative, in excess of seven hundred  
564 fifty dollars; or (6) any other office of a municipality not previously  
565 included in this subsection, in excess of three hundred seventy-five  
566 dollars.

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

573 (c) The limits imposed by subsection (a) of this section shall apply  
574 separately to primaries and elections and no such committee shall make  
575 contributions to the candidates designated in this section which in the  
576 aggregate exceed fifty thousand dollars for any single election and  
577 primary preliminary thereto.

578 (d) ~~[No] Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, a~~ political  
579 committee established by an organization shall not make contributions  
580 in any one calendar year to, or for the benefit of, (1) the state central  
581 committee of a political party, in excess of seven thousand five hundred  
582 dollars; (2) a town committee, in excess of one thousand five hundred  
583 dollars; or (3) any political committee, other than an exploratory  
584 committee or a committee formed solely to aid or promote the success  
585 or defeat of a referendum question, in excess of two thousand dollars.

586 (e) Contributions to a political committee established by an  
587 organization shall be subject to the provisions of section 9-618, as  
588 amended by this act, in the case of a committee formed for ongoing  
589 political activity or section 9-619, as amended by this act, in the case of  
590 a committee formed for a single election or primary.

591 (f) An independent expenditure political committee established by an  
592 organization shall not make any contribution unless such contribution  
593 is to another independent expenditure political committee.

594 Sec. 13. Subsection (a) of section 9-618 of the 2024 supplement to the  
595 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
596 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

597 (a) (1) A political committee organized for ongoing political activities  
598 may make unlimited contributions to, or for the benefit of, any national  
599 committee of a political party [;] or [a] any committee of a candidate for  
600 federal or out-of-state office. Except as provided in subdivision (3) of  
601 subsection (d) of this section, no such political committee shall make a  
602 contribution or contributions in excess of two thousand dollars to  
603 another political committee in any calendar year. No political committee  
604 organized for ongoing political activities shall make a contribution in

605 excess of three hundred seventy-five dollars to an exploratory  
606 committee. If such an ongoing committee is established by an  
607 organization or a business entity, its contributions shall be subject to the  
608 limits imposed by sections 9-613 to 9-615, inclusive, as amended by this  
609 act. A political committee organized for ongoing political activities may  
610 make [contributions] donations to a charitable organization which is a  
611 tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue  
612 Code, as from time to time amended, or make memorial [contributions]  
613 donations.

614 (2) An independent expenditure political committee organized for  
615 ongoing political activities shall not make any contribution unless such  
616 contribution is to another independent expenditure political committee.

617 Sec. 14. Subsection (a) of section 9-619 of the 2024 supplement to the  
618 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
619 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

620 (a) [No] (1) A political committee established for a single primary or  
621 election shall not make contributions to a national committee, or a  
622 committee of a candidate for federal or out-of-state office. If such a  
623 political committee is established by an organization or a business  
624 entity, its contributions shall also be subject to the limitations imposed  
625 by sections 9-613 to 9-615, inclusive, as amended by this act. Except as  
626 provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of this section, [no] a  
627 political committee [formed] established for a single election or primary  
628 shall not, with respect to such election or primary, make a contribution  
629 or contributions in excess of two thousand dollars to another political  
630 committee, provided [no such] a political committee established for a  
631 single election or primary shall not make a contribution in excess of  
632 three hundred seventy-five dollars to an exploratory committee.

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

636 Sec. 15. Section 9-620 of the general statutes is repealed and the

637 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

638 (a) [A political committee formed solely to aid or promote the success  
639 or defeat of a referendum question shall not make contributions to, or  
640 for the benefit of, a party committee, a political committee, a national  
641 committee, a committee of a candidate for federal or out-of-state office  
642 or a candidate committee, except in the distribution of a surplus, as  
643 provided in subsection (e) of section 9-608.] Subject to the provisions of  
644 this chapter, any person may establish an independent expenditure  
645 political committee that may only make expenditures without the  
646 consent, coordination or consultation of a candidate or agent of the  
647 candidate, candidate committee, party committee or political  
648 committee. Subject to the provisions of this chapter, any such  
649 independent expenditure political committee may accept contributions  
650 from any person.

651 (b) [A political committee formed solely to aid or promote the success  
652 or defeat of a referendum question shall not receive contributions from  
653 a national committee or from a committee of a candidate for federal or  
654 out-of-state office] Any person may establish an independent  
655 expenditure political committee solely to aid or promote the success or  
656 defeat of a single referendum question, or of multiple referendum  
657 questions submitted to a vote on the same date. Such committee may  
658 only make independent expenditures to aid or promote the success or  
659 defeat of a single referendum question, or of multiple referendum  
660 questions submitted to a vote on the same date. Subject to the provisions  
661 of this chapter, such committee may accept contributions from any  
662 person.

663 (c) [No person, other than an individual or a committee, shall make a  
664 contribution to a political committee formed solely to aid or promote the  
665 success or defeat of a referendum question, or to any other person, to  
666 aid or promote the success or defeat of a referendum question, in excess  
667 of ten cents for each individual residing in the state or political  
668 subdivision thereof in which such referendum question is to be voted  
669 upon, in accordance with the last federal decennial census] Except as

670 provided in this section, an independent expenditure political  
671 committee shall not make contributions to, or for the benefit of, a party  
672 committee, a political committee, a national committee, a committee of  
673 a candidate for federal or out-of-state office or a candidate committee.

674 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, an independent  
675 expenditure political committee may make contributions to another  
676 independent expenditure political committee, make donations to any  
677 organization which is a tax-exempt organization under Sections  
678 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended from  
679 time to time, and refund contributions to contributors.

680 Sec. 16. Subsections (c) and (d) of section 9-621 of the general statutes  
681 are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
682 *from passage*):

683 (c) (1) No business entity, organization, association, committee, or  
684 group of two or more individuals who have joined solely to promote the  
685 success or defeat of a referendum question shall make or incur any  
686 expenditure for any written, typed or other printed communication  
687 which promotes the success or defeat of any referendum question unless  
688 such communication bears upon its face, as a disclaimer, the words  
689 "paid for by" and the following: [(1)] (A) In the case of a business entity,  
690 organization or association, the name of the business entity,  
691 organization or association and the name of its chief executive officer or  
692 equivalent, and in the case such communication is made during the  
693 ninety-day period immediately prior to the referendum, such  
694 communication shall also bear on its face the names of the five persons  
695 who made the five largest aggregate covered transfers to such business  
696 entity, organization or association during the twelve-month period  
697 immediately prior to such referendum. The communication shall also  
698 state that additional information about the business entity, organization  
699 or association making such communication may be found on the State  
700 Elections Enforcement Commission's Internet web site; [(2)] (B) in the  
701 case of a political committee, the name of the committee and the name  
702 of its treasurer; [(3)] (C) in the case of a party committee, the name of the

703 committee; or [(4)] (D) in the case of such a group of two or more  
704 individuals, the name of the group and the name and address of its  
705 agent.

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

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

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

715 (C) Telephone calls which promote the success or defeat of any  
716 referendum question unless such telephone calls are accompanied by  
717 the disclaimer described in subdivision (4) of subsection (h) of this  
718 section.

719 (d) The provisions of subsections (a), (b) and (c) of this section do not  
720 apply to (1) any editorial, news story, or commentary published in any  
721 newspaper, magazine or journal on its own behalf and upon its own  
722 responsibility and for which it does not charge or receive any  
723 compensation whatsoever, (2) any banner, (3) political paraphernalia  
724 including pins, buttons, badges, emblems, hats, bumper stickers or  
725 other similar materials, or (4) signs with a surface area of not more than  
726 thirty-two square feet.

727 Sec. 17. Subdivision (1) of subsection (h) of section 9-621 of the general  
728 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
729 (*Effective from passage*):

730 (h) (1) No person shall make or incur an independent expenditure for  
731 any written, typed or other printed communication, including on a  
732 billboard, or any web-based, written communication, which promotes

733 the success or defeat of any candidate's campaign for nomination at a  
734 primary or election, unless such communication bears upon its face, as  
735 a disclaimer, the words "Paid for by" and the name of such person and  
736 the following statement: "This message was made independent of any  
737 candidate or political party.". In the case of a person making or incurring  
738 such an independent expenditure during the ninety-day period  
739 immediately prior to the primary or election for which the independent  
740 expenditure is made, such communication shall also bear upon its face  
741 the names of the five persons who made the five largest aggregate  
742 covered transfers to the person making such communication during the  
743 twelve-month period immediately prior to such primary or election, as  
744 applicable. The communication shall also state that additional  
745 information about the person making such communication may be  
746 found on the State Elections Enforcement Commission's Internet web  
747 site.

748 Sec. 18. Subsection (i) of section 9-621 of the general statutes is  
749 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
750 *passage*):

751 (i) In any [print, television or social media promotion of a slate of]  
752 organization expenditure for a party candidate listing of a candidate or  
753 candidates by a party committee, [the party] legislative caucus  
754 committee or legislative leadership committee, such committee shall use  
755 applicable disclaimers pursuant to the provisions of this section for such  
756 promotion, and no individual candidate disclaimers shall be required.

757 Sec. 19. Subsection (l) of section 9-621 of the general statutes is  
758 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
759 *passage*):

760 (l) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, no person making  
761 an independent expenditure for a communication shall be required to  
762 list as part of any disclaimer pursuant to this section any person whose  
763 covered transfers to the maker of the communication are not in an  
764 aggregate amount of five thousand dollars or more during the twelve-



765 month period immediately prior to the primary, [or] election or  
766 referendum, as applicable, for which such independent expenditure is  
767 made.

768 Sec. 20. Subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of section 9-7a of the general  
769 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
770 (*Effective from passage*):

771 (g) (1) (A) In the case of a written complaint filed with the commission  
772 pursuant to section 9-7b, commission staff shall conduct and complete a  
773 preliminary examination of such complaint by the fourteenth day  
774 following its receipt, at which time such staff shall, at its discretion, ~~[(A)]~~  
775 (i) dismiss the complaint for failure to allege any substantial violation of  
776 state election law supported by evidence, ~~[(B)]~~ (ii) engage the  
777 respondent in discussions in an effort to speedily resolve any matter  
778 pertaining to a de minimis violation, or ~~[(C)]~~ (iii) investigate and docket  
779 the complaint for a determination by the commission that probable  
780 cause or no probable cause exists for any such violation. If commission  
781 staff dismisses a complaint pursuant to subparagraph (A)(i) of this  
782 subdivision, such staff shall provide a brief written statement concisely  
783 setting forth the reasons for such dismissal. If commission staff engages  
784 a respondent pursuant to subparagraph ~~[(B)]~~ (A)(ii) of this subdivision  
785 but is unable to speedily resolve any such matter described in said  
786 subparagraph by the forty-fifth day following receipt of the complaint,  
787 such staff shall docket such complaint for a determination by the  
788 commission that probable cause or no probable cause exists for any  
789 violation of state election law. If the commission does not, by the sixtieth  
790 day following receipt of the complaint, either issue a decision or render  
791 its determination that probable cause or no probable cause exists for any  
792 violation of state election laws, the complainant or respondent may  
793 apply to the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford for an  
794 order to show cause why the commission has not acted upon the  
795 complaint and to provide evidence that the commission has  
796 unreasonably delayed action.

797 (B) (i) For any complaint received on or after January 1, 2018, but prior

798 to July 1, 2024, if the commission does not, by one year following receipt  
799 of such complaint, issue a decision thereon, the commission shall  
800 dismiss such complaint, provided the length of time of any delay caused  
801 by [(i)] (I) the commission or commission staff granting any extension  
802 or continuance to a respondent prior to the issuance of any such  
803 decision, [(ii)] (II) any subpoena issued in connection with such  
804 complaint, [(iii)] (III) any litigation in state or federal court related to  
805 such complaint, or [(iv)] (IV) any investigation by, or consultation of the  
806 commission or commission staff with, the Chief State's Attorney, the  
807 Attorney General, the United States Department of Justice or the United  
808 States Attorney for Connecticut related to such complaint, shall be  
809 added to such one year.

810 (ii) For any complaint received on or after July 1, 2023, if the  
811 commission does not, by one year following receipt of such complaint,  
812 find reason to believe that a violation of state election law has been  
813 committed and commence a contested case, as defined in section 4-166,  
814 the commission shall dismiss such complaint, provided the length of  
815 time of any delay caused by (I) the commission or commission staff  
816 granting any extension or continuance to a respondent prior to the  
817 issuance of any such decision, (II) any subpoena issued in connection  
818 with such complaint, (III) any litigation in state or federal court related  
819 to such complaint, (IV) any investigation by the commission or  
820 commission staff involving a potential violation of section 9-601c, as  
821 amended by this act, or 9-601d, as amended by this act, or (V) any  
822 investigation by, or consultation of the commission or commission staff  
823 with, the Chief State's Attorney, the Attorney General, the United States  
824 Department of Justice or the United States Attorney for Connecticut  
825 related to such complaint, shall be added to such one year.

826 Sec. 21. Subdivision (18) of section 53a-119 of the general statutes is  
827 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
828 *passage*):

829 (18) Failure to repay surplus Citizens' Election Fund grant funds. A  
830 person is guilty of failure to repay surplus Citizens' Election Fund grant

831 funds when such person fails to return to the Citizens' Election Fund  
832 any surplus funds from a grant made pursuant to sections 9-700 to 9-  
833 716, inclusive, [not later than ninety days after the primary or election  
834 for which the grant is made] within the time prescribed for the  
835 distribution of surplus under subdivision (1) of subsection (e) of section  
836 9-608, as amended by this act.

837       Sec. 22. Subsection (a) of section 9-704 of the 2024 supplement to the  
838 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
839 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

840       (a) The amount of qualifying contributions that the candidate  
841 committee of a candidate shall be required to receive in order to be  
842 eligible for grants from the Citizens' Election Fund shall be:

843       (1) In the case of a candidate for nomination or election to the office  
844 of Governor, contributions from individuals in the aggregate amount of  
845 two hundred fifty thousand dollars, [of which] including contributions  
846 in the aggregate amount of two hundred twenty-five thousand dollars  
847 [or more is contributed by] from at least two thousand two hundred fifty  
848 individuals residing in the state, except that in the case of a primary or  
849 election held in 2022, or thereafter, the aggregate contribution amounts  
850 shall be first adjusted under subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this  
851 section and then rounded to the nearest multiple of one hundred dollars  
852 with exactly fifty dollars rounded upward. The provisions of this  
853 subdivision shall be subject to the following: (A) Except as provided in  
854 subparagraph (C) of this subdivision and subsection (g) of section 9-610,  
855 (i) on and after January 1, 2019, the candidate committee shall return the  
856 portion of any contribution or contributions from any individual,  
857 including said candidate, that exceeds two hundred fifty dollars, and (ii)  
858 any such excess portion shall not be considered in calculating the  
859 aggregate contribution amounts under this subdivision, (B) all  
860 contributions received by (i) an exploratory committee established by  
861 said candidate, or (ii) an exploratory committee or candidate committee  
862 of a candidate for the office of Lieutenant Governor who is deemed to  
863 be jointly campaigning with a candidate for nomination or election to

864 the office of Governor under subsection (a) of section 9-709, which meet  
865 the criteria for qualifying contributions to candidate committees under  
866 this section shall be considered in calculating the aggregate contribution  
867 amounts, and (C) in the case of a primary or election held in 2022, or  
868 thereafter, the two-hundred-fifty-dollar maximum individual  
869 contribution amount provided in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision  
870 shall be first adjusted under subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this  
871 section and then rounded to the nearest multiple of ten dollars with  
872 exactly five dollars rounded upward, provided such adjusted and  
873 rounded amount shall not exceed the applicable contribution limit set  
874 forth in subsection (a) of section 9-611, as amended by this act.

875 (2) In the case of a candidate for nomination or election to the office  
876 of Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller, State  
877 Treasurer or Secretary of the State, contributions from individuals in the  
878 aggregate amount of seventy-five thousand dollars, [of which]  
879 including contributions in the aggregate amount of sixty-seven  
880 thousand five hundred dollars [or more is contributed by] from at least  
881 six hundred seventy-five individuals residing in the state, except that in  
882 the case of a primary or election for Lieutenant Governor held in 2022,  
883 or thereafter, the aggregate contribution amounts shall be first adjusted  
884 under subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section and then rounded  
885 to the nearest multiple of one hundred dollars with exactly fifty dollars  
886 rounded upward and in the case of a primary or election for Attorney  
887 General, State Comptroller, State Treasurer or Secretary of the State held  
888 in 2018, or thereafter, the aggregate contribution amounts shall be first  
889 adjusted under subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section and then  
890 rounded to the nearest multiple of one hundred dollars with exactly fifty  
891 dollars rounded upward. The provisions of this subdivision shall be  
892 subject to the following: (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (C) of  
893 this subdivision and subsection (g) of section 9-610, (i) on and after  
894 January 1, 2019, the candidate committee shall return the portion of any  
895 contribution or contributions from any individual, including said  
896 candidate, that exceeds two hundred fifty dollars, and (ii) any such  
897 excess portion shall not be considered in calculating the aggregate

898 contribution amounts under this subdivision, (B) all contributions  
899 received by an exploratory committee established by said candidate that  
900 meet the criteria for qualifying contributions to candidate committees  
901 under this section shall be considered in calculating the aggregate  
902 contribution amounts, and (C) in the case of a primary or election held  
903 in 2022, or thereafter, the two-hundred-fifty-dollar maximum  
904 individual contribution amount provided in subparagraph (A) of this  
905 subdivision shall be first adjusted under subdivision (1) of subsection  
906 (c) of this section and then rounded to the nearest multiple of ten dollars  
907 with exactly five dollars rounded upward, provided such adjusted and  
908 rounded amount shall not exceed the applicable contribution limit set  
909 forth in subsection (a) of section 9-611, as amended by this act.

910 (3) In the case of a candidate for nomination or election to the office  
911 of state senator for a district, contributions from individuals in the  
912 aggregate amount of fifteen thousand dollars, including contributions  
913 from at least three hundred individuals residing in municipalities  
914 included, in whole or in part, in said district, except that in the case of a  
915 primary or election held in 2018, or thereafter, the aggregate  
916 contribution amount shall be first adjusted under subdivision (3) of  
917 subsection (b) of this section and then rounded to the nearest multiple  
918 of one hundred dollars with exactly fifty dollars rounded upward. The  
919 provisions of this subdivision shall be subject to the following: (A)  
920 Except as provided in subparagraph (D) of this subdivision and  
921 subsection (g) of section 9-610, (i) on and after December 1, 2017, the  
922 candidate committee shall return the portion of any contribution or  
923 contributions from any individual, including said candidate, that  
924 exceeds two hundred fifty dollars, and (ii) any such excess portion shall  
925 not be considered in calculating the aggregate contribution amount  
926 under this subdivision, (B) no contribution shall be counted for the  
927 purposes of the requirement under this subdivision for contributions  
928 from at least three hundred individuals residing in municipalities  
929 included, in whole or in part, in the district unless the contribution is  
930 five dollars or more, and (C) all contributions received by an exploratory  
931 committee established by said candidate that meet the criteria for

932 qualifying contributions to candidate committees under this section  
933 shall be considered in calculating the aggregate contribution amount  
934 under this subdivision and all such exploratory committee  
935 contributions that also meet the requirement under this subdivision for  
936 contributions from at least three hundred individuals residing in  
937 municipalities included, in whole or in part, in the district shall be  
938 counted for the purposes of said requirement, and (D) in the case of a  
939 primary or election held in 2020, or thereafter, the two-hundred-fifty-  
940 dollar maximum individual contribution amount provided in  
941 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision shall be adjusted under  
942 subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this section and then rounded to the  
943 nearest multiple of ten dollars with exactly five dollars rounded  
944 upward, provided such adjusted and rounded amount shall not exceed  
945 the applicable contribution limit set forth in subsection (a) of section 9-  
946 611, as amended by this act.

947 (4) In the case of a candidate for nomination or election to the office  
948 of state representative for a district, contributions from individuals in  
949 the aggregate amount of five thousand dollars, including contributions  
950 from at least one hundred fifty individuals residing in municipalities  
951 included, in whole or in part, in said district, except that in the case of a  
952 primary or election held in 2018, or thereafter, the aggregate  
953 contribution amount shall be first adjusted under subdivision (3) of  
954 subsection (b) of this section and then rounded to the nearest multiple  
955 of one hundred dollars with exactly fifty dollars rounded upward. The  
956 provisions of this subdivision shall be subject to the following: (A)  
957 Except as provided in subparagraph (D) of this subdivision and  
958 subsection (g) of section 9-610, (i) on and after December 1, 2017, the  
959 candidate committee shall return the portion of any contribution or  
960 contributions from any individual, including said candidate, that  
961 exceeds two hundred fifty dollars, and (ii) any such excess portion shall  
962 not be considered in calculating the aggregate contribution amount  
963 under this subdivision, (B) no contribution shall be counted for the  
964 purposes of the requirement under this subdivision for contributions  
965 from at least one hundred fifty individuals residing in municipalities

966 included, in whole or in part, in the district unless the contribution is  
967 five dollars or more, (C) all contributions received by an exploratory  
968 committee established by said candidate that meet the criteria for  
969 qualifying contributions to candidate committees under this section  
970 shall be considered in calculating the aggregate contribution amount  
971 under this subdivision and all such exploratory committee  
972 contributions that also meet the requirement under this subdivision for  
973 contributions from at least one hundred fifty individuals residing in  
974 municipalities included, in whole or in part, in the district shall be  
975 counted for the purposes of said requirement, and (D) in the case of a  
976 primary or election held in 2020, or thereafter, the two-hundred-fifty-  
977 dollar maximum individual contribution amount provided in  
978 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision shall be adjusted under  
979 subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this section and then rounded to the  
980 nearest multiple of ten dollars with exactly five dollars rounded  
981 upward, provided such adjusted and rounded amount shall not exceed  
982 the applicable contribution limit set forth in subsection (a) of section 9-  
983 611, as amended by this act.

984 (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions (3) and (4) of this  
985 subsection, in the case of a special election for the office of state senator  
986 or state representative for a district, (A) the aggregate amount of  
987 qualifying contributions that the candidate committee of a candidate for  
988 such office shall be required to receive in order to be eligible for a grant  
989 from the Citizens' Election Fund shall be seventy-five per cent or more  
990 of the corresponding amount required under the applicable said  
991 subdivision (3) or (4), as adjusted and rounded pursuant to the  
992 applicable provisions of subsection (b) of this section, and (B) the  
993 number of contributions required from individuals residing in  
994 municipalities included, in whole or in part, in said district shall be  
995 seventy-five per cent or more of the corresponding number required  
996 under the applicable said subdivision (3) or (4).

997 Sec. 23. Section 9-622 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
998 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

999 The following persons shall be guilty of illegal practices and shall be  
1000 punished in accordance with the provisions of section 9-623:

1001 (1) Any person who, directly or indirectly, individually or by another  
1002 person, gives or offers or promises to any person any money, gift,  
1003 advantage, preferment, entertainment, aid, emolument or other  
1004 valuable thing for the purpose of inducing or procuring any person to  
1005 sign a nominating, primary or referendum petition or to vote or refrain  
1006 from voting for or against any person or for or against any measure at  
1007 any election, caucus, convention, primary or referendum;

1008 (2) Any person who, directly or indirectly, receives, accepts, requests  
1009 or solicits from any person, committee, association, organization or  
1010 corporation, any money, gift, advantage, preferment, aid, emolument or  
1011 other valuable thing for the purpose of inducing or procuring any  
1012 person to sign a nominating, primary or referendum petition or to vote  
1013 or refrain from voting for or against any person or for or against any  
1014 measure at any such election, caucus, primary or referendum;

1015 (3) Any person who, in consideration of any money, gift, advantage,  
1016 preferment, aid, emolument or other valuable thing paid, received,  
1017 accepted or promised to the person's advantage or any other person's  
1018 advantage, votes or refrains from voting for or against any person or for  
1019 or against any measure at any such election, caucus, primary or  
1020 referendum;

1021 (4) Any person who solicits from any candidate any money, gift,  
1022 contribution, emolument or other valuable thing for the purpose of  
1023 using the same for the support, assistance, benefit or expenses of any  
1024 club, company or organization, or for the purpose of defraying the cost  
1025 or expenses of any political campaign, primary, referendum or election;

1026 (5) Any person who, directly or indirectly, pays, gives, contributes or  
1027 promises any money or other valuable thing to defray or towards  
1028 defraying the cost or expenses of any campaign, primary, referendum  
1029 or election to any person, committee, company, club, organization or  
1030 association, other than to a treasurer, except that this subdivision shall



1031 not apply to any expenses for postage, telegrams, telephoning,  
1032 stationery, express charges, traveling, meals, lodging or photocopying  
1033 incurred by any candidate for office or for nomination to office, so far as  
1034 may be permitted under the provisions of this chapter;

1035 (6) Any person who, in order to secure or promote the person's own  
1036 nomination or election as a candidate, or that of any other person,  
1037 directly or indirectly, promises to appoint, or promises to secure or  
1038 assist in securing the appointment, nomination or election of any other  
1039 person to any public position, or to any position of honor, trust or  
1040 emolument; but any person may publicly announce the person's own  
1041 choice or purpose in relation to any appointment, nomination or  
1042 election in which the person may be called to take part, if the person is  
1043 nominated for or elected to such office;

1044 (7) Any person who, directly or indirectly, individually or through  
1045 another person, makes a payment or promise of payment to a treasurer  
1046 in a name other than the person's own, and any treasurer who  
1047 knowingly receives a payment or promise of payment, or enters or  
1048 causes the same to be entered in the person's accounts in any other name  
1049 than that of the person by whom such payment or promise of payment  
1050 is made;

1051 (8) Any person who knowingly and wilfully violates any provision  
1052 of this chapter;

1053 (9) Any person who offers or receives a cash contribution in excess of  
1054 one hundred dollars to promote the success or defeat of any political  
1055 party, candidate or referendum question;

1056 (10) Any person who solicits, makes or receives a contribution that is  
1057 otherwise prohibited by any provision of this chapter;

1058 (11) Any department head or deputy department head of a state  
1059 department who solicits a contribution on behalf of, or for the benefit of,  
1060 any candidate for state, district or municipal office or any political party;

1061 (12) Any municipal employee who solicits a contribution on behalf  
1062 of, or for the benefit of, any candidate for state, district or municipal  
1063 office, any political committee or any political party, from (A) an  
1064 individual under the supervision of such employee, or (B) the spouse or  
1065 a dependent child of such individual;

1066 (13) Any person who makes an expenditure, that is not an  
1067 independent expenditure, for a candidate without the knowledge of  
1068 such candidate. No candidate shall be civilly or criminally liable with  
1069 regard to any such expenditure;

1070 (14) Any chief of staff of a legislative caucus who solicits a  
1071 contribution on behalf of or for the benefit of any candidate for state,  
1072 district or municipal office from an employee of the legislative caucus;

1073 (15) Any chief of staff for a state-wide elected official who solicits a  
1074 contribution on behalf of or for the benefit of any candidate for state,  
1075 district or municipal office from a member of such official's staff; [or]

1076 (16) Any chief of staff for the Governor or Lieutenant Governor who  
1077 solicits a contribution on behalf of or for the benefit of any candidate for  
1078 state, district or municipal office from a member of the staff of the  
1079 Governor or Lieutenant Governor, or from any commissioner or deputy  
1080 commissioner of any state agency;

1081 (17) Any consultant that fails to provide complete information to a  
1082 committee or person required to file any disclosure statement or report  
1083 pursuant to section 9-601d, as amended by this act, or 9-608, as amended  
1084 by this act, as applicable, which complete information is necessary for  
1085 such committee or person to file such statement or report; or

1086 (18) Any consultant that (A) except for such consultant's overhead or  
1087 normal operating expenses, makes or obligates to make an expenditure,  
1088 or directly or indirectly authorizes any subvendor to make or obligate  
1089 to make such an expenditure, on behalf of a candidate, committee or  
1090 other person, and (B) does so without the knowledge of such candidate,  
1091 committee or other person.

1092       Sec. 24. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section,  
1093 "consultant", "candidate", "committee", "expenditure", "subvendor" and  
1094 "person" have the same meanings as provided in section 9-601 of the  
1095 general statutes, as amended by this act.

1096       (b) (1) A consultant that receives or agrees to receive payment from a  
1097 candidate or committee and that makes or obligates to make any  
1098 expenditure, including any payment to a subvendor, for or on behalf of  
1099 a committee or person required to file a report pursuant to section 9-  
1100 601d of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or 9-608 of the  
1101 general statutes, as amended by this act, as applicable, shall, once such  
1102 consultant has made or obligated to make any such expenditure to a  
1103 subvendor, provide to such committee or person a statement with a  
1104 detailed account of such expenditure, including, but not limited to, (A)  
1105 the amount and date of such expenditure and the person that received  
1106 such payment, (B) the full name and street address of such subvendor,  
1107 (C) the purpose of such payment and a description of such purpose, (D)  
1108 the name of any candidate or text of any referendum question supported  
1109 or opposed by such expenditure, and (E) if applicable, the date of any  
1110 event with which such payment is associated, including, but not limited  
1111 to, any expenditure directly or indirectly made by a consultant to a  
1112 subvendor for any (i) written, typed or other printed communication, or  
1113 any web-based written communication, that (I) promotes the success or  
1114 defeat of any candidate's campaign for nomination or election or any  
1115 referendum question, or (II) solicits funds to benefit any candidate or  
1116 committee, (ii) advertising time or space, including, but not limited to,  
1117 television or Internet video, radio or Internet audio, telephone call or  
1118 web-based or social media communication, (iii) wages incurred as a  
1119 result of work for any candidate or committee, (iv) survey, poll,  
1120 signature gathering or door-to-door solicitation of voters, (v) facilities,  
1121 invitations or entertainment for fundraising or other campaign events,  
1122 or (vi) printing of mass campaign mailings or postage for such mailings.  
1123 Such consultant shall provide the information described in this  
1124 subdivision to such committee or person not later than five days after  
1125 making or obligating to make such expenditure.

1126 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this  
1127 subsection, if a consultant makes or obligates to make payment for an  
1128 expenditure for which a committee or person is required to file a report  
1129 pursuant to section 9-601d of the general statutes, as amended by this  
1130 act, or 9-608 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, as applicable,  
1131 such consultant shall, concomitant with making or obligating to make  
1132 such payment, provide to such committee or person complete  
1133 information necessary to file such report.

1134 (c) (1) Any committee or person that makes or obligates to make  
1135 payment for an expenditure to a consultant, which consultant is  
1136 required to provide to such committee or person the information  
1137 described in subsection (b) of this section, shall include in any report  
1138 required to be filed by such committee or person pursuant to section 9-  
1139 601d of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or 9-608 of the  
1140 general statutes, as amended by this act, as applicable, (A) the full name  
1141 and street address of each subvendor to which payment was made or  
1142 obligated to be made during the period covered by such filing, (B) the  
1143 amount and date of such payment, (C) the purpose of such payment and  
1144 a description of such purpose, (D) the name of any candidate or text of  
1145 any referendum question supported or opposed by such expenditure,  
1146 and (E) if applicable, the date of any event with which such payment is  
1147 associated. The contents of such report shall include any other  
1148 information that the State Elections Enforcement Commission may  
1149 require to facilitate compliance with the provisions of chapters 155 to  
1150 157, inclusive, of the general statutes, and shall be submitted on a form  
1151 prescribed by the commission.

1152 (2) Except for such consultant's overhead or normal operating  
1153 expenses, a consultant shall not make any expenditure for or on behalf  
1154 of a candidate or committee, including, but not limited to, any  
1155 expenditure described in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section,  
1156 unless complete information of such expenditure is provided to the  
1157 person required to file a report pursuant to section 9-601d of the general  
1158 statutes, as amended by this act, or 9-608 of the general statutes, as  
1159 amended by this act, as applicable, or the committee on whose behalf or

1160 for whose benefit such consultant is acting.

1161 (d) Each consultant shall keep a detailed account of each expenditure  
1162 made or obligated to be made for or on behalf of any committee or  
1163 person required to file a report pursuant to section 9-601d of the general  
1164 statutes, as amended by this act, or 9-608 of the general statutes, as  
1165 amended by this act, as applicable, and shall retain all records of each  
1166 transaction required to be included in any report filed pursuant to  
1167 section 9-601d of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or 9-608  
1168 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, as applicable, for a period  
1169 of four years after the date of the report in which such transaction was  
1170 included. Such records shall include, but need not be limited to, any  
1171 invoice, receipt, bill, statement, itinerary or other written or  
1172 documentary evidence demonstrating the campaign or other lawful  
1173 purpose of such expenditure and shall be made available to the State  
1174 Elections Enforcement Commission upon request.

1175 (e) If a subvendor makes or obligates to make any payment described  
1176 in subsection (b) of this section, such subvendor shall be deemed a  
1177 consultant and shall comply with the requirements set forth in this  
1178 section for a consultant.

1179 (f) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a financial  
1180 obligation shall not be made or incurred for or on behalf of a committee  
1181 unless authorized by the treasurer of such committee pursuant to  
1182 section 9-607 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

1183 Sec. 25. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) If the treasurer of the candidate  
1184 committee of a participating candidate, as described in section 9-703 of  
1185 the general statutes, spends or obligates to spend fifteen per cent or  
1186 more, in the aggregate, of the moneys received from the Citizens'  
1187 Election Fund on the services of a consultant or other professional  
1188 person as provided in subparagraph (P) of subdivision (2) of subsection  
1189 (g) of section 9-607 of the general statutes, such consultant or  
1190 professional person shall register with the State Elections Enforcement  
1191 Commission as such for the candidate committee and file an affidavit

1192 with the commission. The affidavit shall include written certifications  
 1193 that such consultant or professional person shall (1) comply with the  
 1194 provisions of chapters 155 and 157 of the general statutes, (2) maintain  
 1195 and furnish all records required pursuant to said chapters and any  
 1196 regulation adopted by the commission thereunder, and (3) expend all  
 1197 moneys for or on behalf of such candidate committee in accordance with  
 1198 the provisions of subsection (g) of section 9-607 of the general statutes,  
 1199 as amended by this act, and any regulation adopted by the commission  
 1200 under subsection (e) of section 9-706 of the general statutes. The  
 1201 commission shall prepare a list of each consultant or other professional  
 1202 person for the candidate committee of each participating candidate and  
 1203 shall make such list available for public inspection. As used in this  
 1204 section, "treasurer", "candidate committee" and "consultant" have the  
 1205 same meanings as provided in section 9-601 of the general statutes, as  
 1206 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 (35)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	9-601(3)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	9-601c(e)
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	9-601d(a) to (i)
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	9-605(b)
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	9-607(g)(1)
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	9-608(e)(1)(C)
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	9-611
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	9-612(a) and (b)
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>	9-613
Sec. 11	<i>from passage</i>	9-614
Sec. 12	<i>from passage</i>	9-615
Sec. 13	<i>from passage</i>	9-618(a)
Sec. 14	<i>from passage</i>	9-619(a)
Sec. 15	<i>from passage</i>	9-620
Sec. 16	<i>from passage</i>	9-621(c) and (d)
Sec. 17	<i>from passage</i>	9-621(h)(1)
Sec. 18	<i>from passage</i>	9-621(i)
Sec. 19	<i>from passage</i>	9-621(l)
Sec. 20	<i>from passage</i>	9-7a(g)(1)

Sec. 21	<i>from passage</i>	53a-119(18)
Sec. 22	<i>from passage</i>	9-704(a)
Sec. 23	<i>from passage</i>	9-622
Sec. 24	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 25	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To (1) implement federal court rulings regarding independent expenditure political committees and contributions to such committees, (2) reflect federal case law on aggregate contribution limits for individuals, (3) more explicitly recognize referendum spending as a type of independent expenditure and make changes related to reporting and attribution requirements, (4) adjust a disclaimer requirement to address certain organization expenditures, (5) make a conforming change regarding the distribution of surplus funds by candidate committees participating in the Citizens' Election Program, (6) allow the State Elections Enforcement Commission additional time to investigate certain complaints, (7) establish in-state contributor requirements for state-wide candidates participating in said program, (8) specify that individual contributions under said program may not exceed already-established contribution limits, and (9) provide for increased disclosure with respect to moneys paid to campaign consultants.

*[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.]*