LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 19:44A-3 et al

(Gubernatorial campaign contributions & expenditures--amendments)

LAWS OF: 1989

CHAPTER: 4

Bill No:

A1705/2250

Sponsor(s):

Martin

Date Introduced: Pre-filed

Committee: Assembly: State Government, Federal & Interstate Relations &

Veterans Affairs

Senate:

State Government

Amended during passage:

December 15, 1988

Date of Passage: Assembly:

January 10, 1989

Senate:

January 21, 1989

Date of Approval:

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement:

Yes

Committee Statement: Assembly: Yes

Senate:

Yes

Fiscal Note:

Yes

Veto Message:

No

Message on signing:

Yes

Following were printed:

Reports:

Yes

Hearings:

Yes

(over)

See newspaper clipping file, "New Jersey-Campaign funds-1988" in New Jersey Reference Department:

| 974 . 90 E38 | New Jersey. Election Law Enforcement Com Gubernatorial cost analysis |
|------------------------|---|
| 1988a | reportJune, 1988. Trenton, 1988. |
| 974.90 | New Jersey. Election Law Enforcement |
| E38 | ELEC white paper "contribution limits |
| 1988b | and prohibited contributions." October, 1988 |
| | Trenton, 1988. |
| 974.90 | New Jersey. Legislature. State Government Committee |
| E38 | Public hearing on A-1413, A-2529, A-2581, |
| 1988c | held 10-17-88 and 10-20-88. |
| | Trenton, 1988, |

[SECOND REPRINT]

ASSEMBLY, Nos. 1705 and 2250

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ADOPTED DECEMBER 12, 1988

Sponsored by Assemblymen MARTIN, CIMINO and BAER

| 1 | AN ACT concerning campaigns for nomination for election an | ıd |
|---|---|----|
| | for election to the office of Governor, amending an | ıd |
| 3 | supplementing P.L.1973, c.83 and amending P.L.1974, c.26 an | ıd |
| | P.L.1980, c.74. | |

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BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

- 1. Section 3 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-3) is amended to read as follows:
- 3. As used in this act, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:
 - a. The term "allied candidates" means candidates in any election who are (1) seeking nomination or election (A) to an office or offices in the same county or municipal government or school district or (B) to the Legislature representing in whole or part the same constituency, and who are (2) either (A) nominees of the same political party or (B) publicly declared in any manner, including the seeking or obtaining of any ballot position or common ballot slogan, to be aligned or mutually supportive.
 - b. The term "allied campaign organization" means any political committee, any State, county or municipal committee of a political party or any campaign organization of a candidate which is in support or furtherance of the same candidate or any one or more of the same group of allied candidates or the same public question as any other such committee or organization.
- c. The term "candidate" means an individual seeking or having sought election to a public office of the State or of a county, municipality or school district at an election; except that the term shall not include an individual seeking party office.
- d. The terms "contributions" and "expenditures" include all
 loans and transfers of money or other thing of value to or by any

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.
Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:
Assembly ASG committee amendments adopted December 19, 1988.
Assembly floor amendments adopted January 10, 1989.

- candidate, political committee or continuing political committee, and all pledges or other commitments or assumptions of commitments or assumptions of liability to make any such transfer; and for purposes of reports required under the provisions of this act shall be deemed to have been made upon the date when such commitment is made or liability assumed.
- 7 e. The term "election" means any election described in section 4 of this act.
- 9 f. The term "paid personal services" means personal, clerical, administrative or professional services of every kind and nature 11 including, without limitation, public relations, research, legal, canvassing, telephone, speech writing or other such services, performed other than on a voluntary basis, the salary, cost or 13 consideration for which is paid, borne or provided by someone other than the committee, candidate or organization for whom 15 such services are rendered. In determining the value, for the purpose of reports required under this act, of contributions made 17 in the form of paid personal services, the person contributing such services shall furnish to the treasurer through whom such 19 contribution is made a statement setting forth the actual amount 21 of compensation paid by said contributor to the individuals actually performing said services for the performance thereof. But if any individual or individuals actually performing such 23 services also performed for the contributor other services during 25 the same period, and the manner of payment was such that payment for the services contributed cannot readily be segregated from contemporary payment for the other services, 27 the contributor shall in his statement to the treasurer so state 29 and shall either (1) set forth his best estimate of the dollar amount of payment to each such individual which is attributable 31 to the contribution of his paid personal services, and shall certify the substantial accuracy of the same, or (2) if unable to determine such amount with sufficient accuracy, set forth the 33 total compensation paid by him to each such individual for the 35 period of time during which the services contributed by him were performed. If any candidate is a holder of public office to whom 37 there is attached or assigned, by virtue of said office, any aide or aides whose services are of a personal or confidential nature in assisting him to carry out the duties of said office, and whose 39

- salary or other compensation is paid in whole or part out of public funds, the services of such aide or aides which are paid for out of
- public funds shall be for public purposes only; but they may contribute their personal services, on a voluntary basis, to such
- 5 candidate for election campaign purposes.
 - g. (Deleted by amendment, P.L. 1983, c. 579.)
- 7 h. The term "political information" means any statement including, but not limited to, press releases, pamphlets,
- 9 newsletters, advertisements, flyers, form letters, or radio or television programs or advertisements which reflects the opinion
- of the members of the organization on any candidate or candidates for public office, on any public question, or which
- contains facts on any such candidate, or public question whether or not such facts are within the personal knowledge of members
- of the organization.
 - i. The term "political committee" means any two or more
- persons acting jointly, or any corporation, partnership, or any other incorporated or unincorporated association which is
- organized to, or does, aid or promote the nomination, election or defeat of any candidate or candidates for public office, or which
- 21 is organized to, or does, aid or promote the passage or defeat of a
- public question in any election, if the persons, corporation,
- partnership or incorporated or unincorporated association raises or expends \$1,000.00 or more to so aid or promote the
- nomination, election or defeat of a candidate or candidates or the passage or defeat of a public question; provided that for the
- purposes of this act, the term "political committee" shall not include a "continuing political committee," as defined by
- 29 subsection n. of this section.
- j. The term "public solicitation" means any activity by or on
- behalf of any candidate, political committee or continuing political committee whereby either (1) members of the general
- public are personally solicited for cash contributions not exceeding \$20.00 from each person so solicited and contributed
- on the spot by the person so solicited to a person soliciting or through a receptacle provided for the purpose of depositing
- 37 contributions, or (2) members of the general public are
- 39 tangible value as merchandise, at a price not exceeding \$20.00

personally solicited for the purchase of items having some

- per item, which price is paid on the spot in cash by the person so solicited to the person so soliciting, when the net proceeds of
 such solicitation are to be used by or on behalf of such candidate,
- political committee or continuing political committee.
- 5 k. The term "testimonial affair" means an affair of any kind or nature including, without limitation, cocktail parties,
- 5 breakfasts, luncheons, dinners, dances, picnics or similar affairs directly or indirectly intended to raise campaign funds in behalf
- 9 of a person who holds, or who is or was a candidate for nomination or election to a public office in this State, or directly
- or indirectly intended to raise funds in behalf of any State, county or municipal committee of a political party or in behalf of a political committee.
- l. The term "other thing of value" means any item of real or personal property, tangible or intangible, but shall not be deemed

to include personal services other than paid personal services.

- m. The term "qualified candidate" means:
 - (1) Any candidate for election to the office of Governor whose
- name appears on the general election ballot ¹[and]; ¹ who has deposited and expended [\$50,000.00] \$150,000.00 pursuant to
- section 7 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-32); ¹and who, not later than September 1 preceding a general election in which the office
- 23 of Governor is to be filled, (a) notifies the Election Law Enforcement Commission in writing that the candidate intends
- 25 that application will be made on the candidate's behalf for monies for general election campaign expenses under subsection
- b. of section 8 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-33), and (b) signs a statement of agreement, in a form to be prescribed by the
- 29 commission, to participate in two interactive gubernatorial election debates under the provisions of sections 9 through 11 of
- 31 this 1988 amendatory and supplementary act; 1 or
- (2) Any candidate for election to the office of Governor whose
- name does not appear on the general election ballot ¹[but]; ¹ who has deposited and expended [\$50,000.00] \$150,000.00 pursuant to
- section 7 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-32); ¹and who, not later than September 1 preceding a general election in which the office
- of Governor is to be filled, (a) notifies the Election Law Enforcement Commission in writing that the candidate intends
- that application will be made on the candidate's behalf for

- monies for general election campaign expenses under subsection b. of section 8 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-33), and (b) signs a
- 3 statement of agreement, in a form to be prescribed by the commission, to participate in two interactive gubernatorial
- election debates under the provisions of sections 9 through 11 of this 1988 amendatory and supplementary act;¹ or
- 7 (3) Any candidate for nomination for election to the office of Governor whose name appears on the primary election ballot
- ¹[and]; ¹ who has deposited and expended [\$50,000.00] <u>\$150,000.00</u> pursuant to section 7 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-32); ¹and who,
- not later than the last day for filing petitions to nominate candidates to be voted upon in a primary election for a general
- election in which the office of Governor is to be filled, (a) notifies the Election Law Enforcement Commission in writing
- that the candidate intends that application will be made on the candidate's behalf for monies for primary election campaign
- expenses under subsection a. of section 8 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-33), and (b) signs a statement of agreement, in a form
- to be prescribed by the commission, to participate in two interactive gubernatorial primary debates under the provisions of
- 21 sections 9 through 11 of this 1988 amendatory and supplementary act; 1 or
- 23 (4) Any candidate for nomination for election to the office of Governor whose name does not appear on the primary election
- ballot ¹[but]; ¹ who has deposited and expended [\$50,000.00] \$150,000.00 pursuant to section 7 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-32)
- 27 ¹; and who, not later than the last day for filing petitions to nominate candidates to be voted upon in a primary election for a
- general election in which the office of Governor is to be filled,

 (a) notifies the Election Law Enforcement Commission in writing
- that the candidate intends that application will be made on the candidate's behalf for monies for primary election campaign
- expenses under subsection a. of section 8 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-33), and (b) signs a statement of agreement, in a form
- to be prescribed by the commission, to participate in two interactive gubernatorial primary debates under the provisions of
- 37 <u>sections 9 through 11 of this 1988 amendatory and supplementary</u> act¹.
- n. The term "continuing political committee" means:

- 1 (1) the State committee, or any county or municipal committee, of a political party; or
- 3 (2) any group of two or more persons acting jointly, or any corporation, partnership, or any other incorporated or
- 5 unincorporated association, including a political club, political action committee, civic association or other organization, which
- in any calendar year contributes or expects to contribute at least \$2,500.00 to the aid or promotion of the candidacy of an
- 9 individual, or of the candidacies of individuals, for elective public office, or the passage or defeat of a public question or public
- questions, and which may be expected to make contributions toward such aid or promotion or passage or defeat during a
- subsequent election, provided that the group, corporation, partnership, association or other organization has been
- determined to be a continuing political committee under subsection b. of section 8 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-8).
- 17 ¹o. The term "statement of agreement" means a written declaration, by a candidate for nomination for election or for
- election to the office of Governor who intends that application will be made on that candidate's behalf to receive monies for
- primary election or general election campaign expenses under subsection a. or subsection b., respectively, of section 8 of
- 23 P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-33), that the candidate undertakes to abide by the terms of any rules established by any private
- organization sponsoring a gubernatorial primary or general election debate, as appropriate, to be held under the provisions of
- sections 9 through 12 of this 1988 amendatory and supplementary act and in which the candidate is to participate. The statement
- of agreement shall include an acknowledgment of notice to the candidate who signs it that failure on that candidate's part to
- participate in any of the gubernatorial debates may be cause for the termination of the payment of such monies on the
- candidate's behalf and for the imposition of liability for the return to the commission of such monies as may previously have
- 35 <u>been so paid.</u>¹

(cf: P.L.1983, c.579, s.7)

- 37 2. Section 7 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-7) is amended to read as follows:
- 7. The amount which may be spent in aid of the candidacy of

- any qualified candidate for Governor at any election shall not exceed in a primary election [\$0.35] ¹[\$1,750,000] ²[\$2,300,000¹]
- \$2,200,000², and in a general election [\$0.70, for each voter who voted in the last preceding general election in a presidential year
- 5 in New Jersey] \$5,000,000; but such sums shall not include the traveling expenses of the candidate or of any person other than
- the candidate if such traveling expenses are voluntarily paid by such person without any understanding or agreement with the
- 9 candidate that they shall be, directly or indirectly, repaid to him by the candidate.
- 11 (cf: P.L.1980, c.74, s.2)
 - ¹3. Section 19 of P.L.1980, c.74 (C.19:44A-7.1) is amended to
- 13 read as follows:
 - 19. a. For the purpose of [determining] ensuring the
- continuing adequacy of the limits set by law upon contributions [and], expenditures [in aid of the candidacy or in behalf of any
- candidate] and certain other amounts relating to campaigns for nomination or election to the office of Governor, the Election
- 19 Law Enforcement Commission [shall monitor] is authorized and directed to adjust the limits on those amounts as provided
- herein. The limitation amounts thus adjusted shall apply to the primary and general elections for the office of Governor to be
- held in the year following the year in which that adjustment is required hereunder to be made.
- b. The commission shall establish an index reflecting the changes occurring in the general level of prices[, with particular
- 27 reference to thosel of particular goods and services, including but not limited to goods and services within such categories of
- 29 <u>expenditure as mass media and other forms of public</u> communication, personnel, rent, office supplies and equipment,
- data processing, utilities, travel and entertainment, and legal and accounting services, directly affecting the overall costs of
- election campaigning in this State. [In the] The index shall be weighted in accordance with the impact in the preceding general
- election for the office of Governor of the respective prices of each of those several goods and services upon those overall
- 37 costs. Not later than December 1 of each year [next] preceding any year in which a [primary election and] general election [for]
- is to be held to fill the office of Governor [are to be held, and not

- later than 12 months before the date of the primary election] <u>for</u> a <u>four-year term</u>, the commission shall <u>determine the percentage</u>
- of change in this index which shall have occurred during the four-year period ending with the year of the gubernatorial
- election, and shall adjust the amounts, as set forth in subsection
 of this section, which shall be applicable under P.L.1973, c.83
- 7 (C.19:44A-1 et seq.) to the primary and general elections for the office of Governor to be held in the following year by multiplying
- 9 that percentage of change, plus 100%, times the amounts applicable thereunder to the primary and general election for
- that office held in the third year preceding the year in which that

 December 1 occurs; provided that any amount so adjusted shall be
- rounded as follows: if the adjusted amount is less than \$20,000 and is not an exact multiple of \$100, to the next higher exact
- multiple of \$100; if the adjusted amount is more than \$20,000 but less than \$200,000 and is not an exact multiple of \$1,000, to the
- next higher exact multiple of \$1,000; if the adjusted amount is more than \$200,000 but less than \$2,000,000 and is not an exact
- multiple of \$10,000, to the next higher exact multiple of \$10,000; and if the adjusted amount is more than \$2,000,000 but less than
- \$20,000,000 and is not an exact multiple of \$100,000, to the next higher exact multiple of \$100,000.
- 23 c. The amounts subject to adjustment as provided under this section shall be:
- 25 (1) The maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made to any candidate for nomination for election or for election
- to the office of Governor pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-29) and the amount of contributions with respect to
- which a qualified candidate for nomination for election or for election to that office shall be eligible to receive moneys from
- the fund for election campaign expenses pursuant to section 8 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-33);
- 33 (2) The amount of deposits or expenditures required to have been made by a candidate for nomination for election or for
- election to the office of Governor in order for that candidate to be a qualified candidate under subsection m. of section 3 of
- P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-3) and the amount of such deposits into such a candidate's bank account for which no payment of public
- funds is to be made pursuant to section 8 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-33);

- 1 (3) The maximum amount which may be spent in aid of the candidacy of a qualified candidate for the office of Governor in a
- primary or a general election pursuant to section 7 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-7); and
- 5 (4) The maximum amount which any qualified candidate for nomination for election in a primary election or for election to
- the office of Governor in a general election may receive from the fund for election campaign expenses pursuant to section 8 of
- 9 P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-33).
- d. Not later than December 15 of each year preceding any
- year in which a general election is to be held to fill the office of Governor for a four-year term, the commission shall report to
- the Legislature its [recommendations, if any, for altering those] adjustment of limits in accordance with [its findings pursuant to]
- transmittal of that report, the commission shall have had notice
- that a person has declared as a candidate for nomination for election or for election to the office of Governor in the
- forthcoming primary or general election, it shall promptly notify that candidate of the amounts of those adjusted limits. 1
- 21 (cf: P.L.1980, c.74, s.19)
 - ¹[3.] $\underline{4.1}$ Section 17 of P.L.1980, c.74 (C.19:44A-18.1) is
- 23 amended to read as follows:
 - 17. a. No person, candidate or political committee, otherwise
- 25 eligible to make political contributions, shall make any contribution or contributions for the purpose of any gubernatorial
- inaugural fund-raising event or events in the aggregate in excess of [\$250.00] \$500.
- b. For the purposes of the limitation in subsection a. of this section the term "gubernatorial inaugural fund-raising event"
- means any event or events held between the date of the general election for the office of Governor and a date 15 days after the
- date of the inauguration of the Governor, whether the event is sponsored by the inaugural committee, the State political party
- committee representing the party of the Governor-elect, or any
- other person or persons, and at which the Governor-elect is a 37 prominent participant or for which solicitations of contributions
- 39 except that this definition shall not apply to an event sponsored

include the name of the Governor-elect in prominent display;

- by a religious, charitable, benevolent, scientific, artistic or educational non-profit, institution as long as any proceeds from
- the event will not be controlled by the Governor-elect or any political committee or political party committee, and the
- 5 proceeds will not be contributed to the Governor-elect, the candidacy of the Governor-elect, a political committee or
- 7 political party committee.
 - c. The person or committee sponsoring the event shall make a
- 9 full report of all contributions and expenditures with respect to the event within 45 days following the event in accordance with
- 11 the provisions of this act.
 - (cf: P.L.1981, c.521, s.1)
- 13 ¹[4.] <u>5.</u>¹ Section 4 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-29) is amended to read as follows:
- 4. a. Except in the case of a candidate, as provided in subsection g. of this section, no person [or], political committee
- or continuing political committee, otherwise eligible to make political contributions, shall make any contribution or
- contributions to a candidate, his campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer, a State committee, county committee or
- 21 municipal committee of any political party, or to any other person or committee, in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of a
- candidate for nomination for election or for election to the office of Governor in any primary or general election in the aggregate
- in excess of \$1,500.00 ¹[, if the candidate has applied for or has indicated his intent to and, upon becoming a qualified candidate,
- 27 <u>actually does apply for payments from the fund for election</u> campaign expenses, and \$800.00 otherwise]¹. No candidate for
- 29 nomination for election or for election to the office of Governor in any primary or general election and no campaign treasurer or
- deputy campaign treasurer of such candidate shall knowingly accept from any person, candidate [or], political committee or
- 33 <u>continuing political committee</u> any contribution or contributions in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of such candidate in the
- aggregate in excess of \$1,500.00 ¹[, if the candidate has applied for or has indicated his intent to and, upon becoming a qualified
- candidate, actually does apply for payments from the fund for election campaign expenses, and \$800.00 otherwise, l¹ in any
- 39 primary or general election. No provision of this act shall be

- construed to prohibit a contribution or contributions in the aggregate in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of any candidate
- for nomination for election to the office of Governor in a primary election not in excess of \$1,500.00 ¹[, if the candidate has applied
- for or has indicated his intent to and, upon becoming a qualified candidate, actually does apply for payments from the fund for
- 7 <u>election campaign expenses, and</u> \$800.00]¹ [in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of any candidate for nomination for
- 9 election to the office of Governor in a primary election]

 1[otherwise,]1 and another contribution or contributions in the
- aggregate in the aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of any candidate for election to the office of Governor in a general
- election not in excess of \$1,500.00 ¹[or \$800.00]¹ [in the aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of any candidate for election to the
- office of Governor in a general election] ${}^{1}[$, as appropriate] 1 .
 - b. (Deleted by amendment. (P.L.1980, c.74).)
- 17 c. The spouse of any contributor may make a contribution or contributions in the aggregate in aid of the candidacy of or in
- behalf of a candidate for nomination for election or for election to the office of Governor of up to \$1,500.00 ¹[, if the candidate
- has applied for or has indicated his intent to and, upon becoming a qualified candidate, actually does apply for payments from the
- 23 <u>fund for election campaign expenses</u>, and \$800.00]¹ [in the aggregate in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of a candidate
- for election to the office of Governor in a general election]

 1[otherwise]1.
- d. No State committee of any political party shall knowingly accept from any person [or], political committee or continuing
- 29 <u>political committee</u>, any contribution or contributions in the aggregate <u>in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of a candidate</u>
- for election to the office of Governor in a general election in excess of \$1,500.00 ¹[, if the candidate has applied for or has
- indicated his intent to and, upon becoming a qualified candidate, actually does apply for payments from the fund for election
- campaign expenses, and \$800.00]¹ [in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of a candidate for election to the office of Governor in a
- general election] ¹[otherwise]¹. A State committee may allocate a contribution of up to \$1,500.00 ¹[or \$800.00, as appropriate,]¹
- 39 and up to \$1,500.00 $^{1}[or]$ \$800.00 as appropriate,] 1 of a

contribution in excess of [\$800.00] ¹[those respective amounts,] 1 $$1,500.00^{1}$ in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of such 3 candidate. A State committee shall create an account in a National or State bank in behalf of any candidate the committee 5 intends to or does assist for election to the office of Governor in a general election, shall deposit in such account and report to the 7 Election Law Enforcement Commission the name of the contributor of all moneys accepted or allocated in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of such candidate, and may make a 9 contribution or contributions from such account in any amount in 11 aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of such candidate. No State committee may make any contribution or contributions in aid of 13 the candidacy of or in behalf of such candidate of moneys not deposited in a bank account pursuant to this subsection, and no 15 State committee may make a contribution or contributions in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of such candidate of moneys or 17 other thing of value pledged or received in a calendar year in which no gubernatorial election was held.

e. The county [committees] committee of a political party in a 19 county and the municipal committees of [any] that political party 21 in the same county may make an expenditure or expenditures in the aggregate of [\$100,000.00] \$10,000.00 in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of any candidate for election to the office of 23 Governor in a general election [; except the county committee and municipal committees in the same county may not make an 25 expenditure or expenditures in the aggregate in excess of 27 \$10,000.00 in aid of the candidacy or in behalf of any such candidate]. No county committee or municipal committee may transfer or contribute any funds to any such candidate or to such 29 candidate's campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer, or 31 to any political committee supporting such candidate. candidate or his campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer shall determine the exact amount that individual county 33 committees or municipal committees may contribute in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of such candidate, and shall file a report 35 of such determination with the Election Law Enforcement 37 Commission no later than the seventh day prior to the general election being funded.

f. Communications on any subject by a corporation to its

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- stockholders and their families, or by a labor organization to its members and their families, and nonpartisan registration and
- 3 get-out-the-vote campaigns by a corporation aimed at its stockholders and their families, or by a labor organization aimed
- at its members and their families, shall not be construed to be in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of a candidate for election to
- 7 the office of Governor in any primary or general election.
 - g. No candidate receiving public funds may make expenditures
- 9 from his own funds, including any contributions from his own funds, in aid of his candidacy for nomination or election to the
- office of Governor in excess of \$25,000.00 for the primary election and \$25,000.00 for the general election.
- As used in this subsection "own funds" means funds to which the candidate is legally and beneficially entitled, but shall not
- include funds as to which he is a trustee, or funds given or otherwise transferred to the candidate by any person other than
- the spouse of the candidate for use in aid of his candidacy. (cf: P.L.1980, c.74, s.5)
- ¹[5.] <u>6.</u> ¹ Section 8 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-33) is amended to read as follows:
- 8. a. The campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer of
- any qualified candidate for nomination for election to the office
- of Governor in a primary election upon application to the commission shall promptly receive in behalf of the qualified
- candidate from the fund for election campaign expenses, but not prior to January 1 of the year of the election, moneys in an
- amount equal to [twice] ¹[one and one-half times] twice¹ the
- amount of no more than [\$800.00] \$1,500.00 of each contribution 29 deposited in the qualified candidate's primary election bank
- account described in section 7 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-32), except that no payment shall be made from the fund to any
- candidate for the first \$50,000.00 deposited in the qualified
- 33 candidate's bank account. The maximum amount which any qualified candidate for nomination for election to the office of
- Governor in a primary election may receive from the fund for election campaign expenses shall not exceed [\$0.20 for each voter
- 37 who voted in New Jersey in the last preceding general election in a presidential year] ${}^{1}[\$1,020,000]$ ${}^{2}[\$1,450,000^{1}]$ $\$1,350,000^{2}$.
- 39 Applications for payments and payments under this subsection

- following the date on which a candidate is determined to be a qualified candidate shall be made only on the basis of no less than
- 3 \$12,500.00 of such contributions.
 - b. The campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer of
- any qualified candidate for election to the office of Governor in a general election upon application to the commission shall
- 7 promptly receive in behalf of such qualified candidate from the fund for election campaign expenses, but not prior to the primary
- 9 election, moneys in an amount equal to twice the amount of no more than [\$800.00] \$1,500.00 of each contribution deposited in
- such qualified candidate's bank account described in section 7 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-32), except that no payment shall be
- made from the fund to any candidate for the first \$50,000.00 deposited in such qualified candidate's bank account.
- The maximum amount which any qualified candidate for election to the office of Governor in a general election may
- 17 receive from the fund for election campaign expenses shall not exceed [\$0.40 for each voter who voted in New Jersey in the last
- preceding general election in a presidential year] \$3,300,000.

 Applications for payments and payments under this subsection
- following the date on which a candidate is determined to be a qualified candidate shall be made only on the basis of no less than
- \$12,500.00 of such contributions.

(cf: P.L.1980, c.74, s.8)

- ¹[6.] <u>7.</u> Section 19 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-44) is amended to read as follows:
- 27 19. Notwithstanding any provision of this act any candidate in a primary election for the office of Governor, or his campaign
- treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer, or any candidate in a general election for the office of Governor, or his campaign
- 31 treasurer or deputy treasurer may borrow funds from any National or State bank. No person or political committee, other
- than the candidate himself or the State committee of any political party in a general election, may in any way endorse or
- guarantee such loan in an amount in the aggregate in excess of \$1500.00 ¹[, if the candidate has applied for or has indicated his
- intent to and, upon becoming a qualified candidate, actually does apply for payments from the fund for election campaign
- 39 expenses, and \$800.00 otherwise]1. The endorsement shall

- constitute a contribution for so long as the loan is outstanding.
 The amount borrowed by any such candidate or his campaign
- 3 treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer shall in the aggregate not exceed \$50,000.00 and must be repaid in full by such candidate or
- 5 his campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer from moneys accepted or allocated pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1974,
- 7 c.26 (C.19:44A-29) 20 days prior to the date of the primary or general election for which the loan was made, and certification
- of such repayment shall be made by the borrower to the Election

 Law Enforcement Commission in accordance with commission

11 regulations.

- Upon the failure of the borrower to repay the full amount borrowed on or before the twentieth day prior to the date of the primary or general election for the office of Governor, or to certify such repayment to the Election Law Enforcement
- Commission as required herein, all payments of moneys to such candidate from the fund for election campaign expenses pursuant
- to section 8 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-33) shall promptly cease; and the Election Law Enforcement Commission shall forthwith seek and may obtain in a summary action in the Superior Court an
- injunction prohibiting the expenditure by any such candidate of any moneys received by him at any time from the fund for
- election campaign expenses pursuant to said section 8 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-33), and any other moneys received by
- him in aid of or in behalf of his candidacy in said election. (cf: P.L.1980, c.74, s.15)
- ¹[7.] <u>8.</u>¹ (New section) a. Funds or other benefits received and payments made solely for the purpose of determining whether an
- 29 individual should become a candidate are not contributions or expenditures. Activities contemplated under this exemption
- 31 include, but are not limited to, conducting a poll, telephone calls and travel to determine whether an individual should become a
- 33 candidate.

The individual shall keep records of all such funds received and payments made.

b. If the individual subsequently becomes a candidate, the funds received and payments made are contributions and expenditures subject to the limitations, prohibitions and requirements of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et seq.). Such

- contributions and expenditures shall be reported with the first report filed by the candidate or the campaign committee of the
- 3 candidate, regardless of the date the funds were received or the payments made.
- 5 c. This exemption does not apply to funds received or payments made for general public political advertising; nor does
- this exemption apply to funds received or payments made for activities designed to amass campaign funds that would be spent
- 9 after the individual becomes a candidate.
- d. In no instance shall permissible activities conducted solely
 for the purpose of determining whether an individual will become
 a candidate be confined or limited on the basis of total funds
 received or payments made for such purpose.
- ¹[8.] 9.1 (New section) a. In any year in which a primary
- election is to be held to nominate candidates for the office of Governor, there shall be held among the several candidates for
- 17 each such nomination a series of interactive gubernatorial
- primary debates, in which all "qualified candidates," as defined
- by paragraph (3) or paragraph (4) of subsection m. of section 3 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-3), for that nomination who have
- applied or who intend to apply to receive money for election campaign expenses under subsection a. of section 8 of P.L.1974,
- c.26 (C.19:44A-33) shall participate, and in which any ¹[such qualified] other candidate ¹for that nomination who has ¹[not
- so applied and has not filed notice of an intent to so applyl deposited and expended the amount necessary, under paragraph
- 27 (3) or paragraph (4) of subsection m. of section 3 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-3), to be deemed a "qualified candidate" may
- elect to participate ¹, provided that other candidate notifies the
- Election Law Enforcement Commission of the candidate's intent to so participate within the time allowed under those paragraphs
- for such notification to be made by candidates wishing to become
- 33 <u>qualified candidates</u>¹; except that in any year in which no 1 [qualified] <u>such</u>¹ candidate or only one 1 [qualified] <u>such</u>¹
- candidate for that nomination is required or elects to participate, no gubernatorial primary debate shall be required to be held
- under this subsection. ¹[A candidate for nomination for election to the office of Governor shall notify the Election Law
- 39 Enforcement Commission of his intent to participate in the

- interactive gubernatorial primary debates not later than the last date upon which petitions may be filed to nominate candidates
- for that office to be voted upon at the primary election, and any candidate who fails to make a timely filing of that notice shall be
- 5 ineligible to participate in the debates or to receive money for election campaign expenses under subsection a. of section 8 of
- P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-33). The Election Law Enforcement Commission shall sponsor and shall have plenary responsibility for
- 9 conducting interactive gubernatorial primary debates under this subsection, except that the commission may designate any
- suitable private organization, which shall not be affiliated with any political party or with any holder of or candidate for public
- office and shall not have endorsed any candidate for such office, to assume such sponsorship and responsibility.]¹
- b. In any year in which a general election is to be held for the office of Governor, there shall be held a series of interactive
- gubernatorial election debates, in which all "qualified
- candidates," as defined by paragraph (1) or paragraph (2) of subsection m. of section 3 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-3), for
- election to that office who have applied or who intend to apply to
- receive money for election campaign expenses under subsection b. of section 8 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-33) shall participate,
- and in which any ¹[such qualified] other ¹ candidate for election to the office who has ¹[not so applied and has not filed notice of
- 25 an intent to so apply] <u>deposited and expended the amount</u>
- necessary, under paragraph (1) or paragraph (2) of subsection m.

 of section 3 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-3), to be deemed a
- "qualified candidate" 1 may elect to participate 1, provided that

 29 other candidate notifies the Election Law Enforcement
- Commission of the candidate's intent to so participate within the
- time allowed under those paragraphs for such notification to be made by candidates wishing to become qualified candidates¹;
- candidate for election to the office is required or elects to participate, no gubernatorial election debate shall be required to
- be held under this subsection. ¹[A candidate for election to the office of Governor shall notify the Election Law Enforcement
- 39 Commission of his intent to participate in the interactive

gubernatorial election debates not later than the last date upon which petitions may be filed to nominate candidates for that

office to be voted upon at the general election, and any candidate who fails to make a timely filing of that notice shall be ineligible

to participate in the debates or to receive money for election campaign expenses under subsection b. of section 8 of P.L.1974,

7 c.26 (C.19:44A-33). The commission shall sponsor and shall have plenary responsibility for conducting interactive gubernatorial

9 election debates under this subsection, except that the commission may designate any suitable private organization,

which shall not be affiliated with any political party or with any holder of or candidate for public office and shall not have

endorsed any candidate for such office, to assume such sponsorship and responsibility.]¹

15 $^{1}[9.]$ $\underline{10.}^{1}$ (New section) a. The series of gubernatorial primary debates under subsection a. of section $^{1}[8]$ $\underline{9}^{1}$ of this 1988

amendatory and supplementary act shall consist of two debates. Each of the debates shall be of at least one hour's duration. The

first debate in the series shall occur not earlier than the date on

which the ballot for the primary election in which candidates are to be nominated for election to the office of Governor is finally

certified by the Secretary of State to the clerks of the several counties, and the second debate in the series shall occur not later than the 11th day prior to the primary election to select

candidates for that office unless an emergency, as determined by the vote of a majority of the participating candidates, requires

the postponement thereof, but the second gubernatorial primary debate shall in no event be held later than the second day

preceding that primary election. ¹[Subject to the provisions of this act, all particulars regarding the time, place, manner of

conduct and subject matter of the gubernatorial primary debates shall be determined by regulation of the Election Law

33 Enforcement Commission or by any private organization which the commission shall have designated to serve as the sponsor of

35 those debates.] 1

b. The series of gubernatorial election debates under subsection b. of section ¹[8] 9¹ of this 1988 amendatory and supplementary act shall consist of two debates. Each of the gubernatorial election debates shall be of at least one hour's

- duration. The first debate in the series shall occur not earlier than the third Tuesday following the first Monday in September
- of the year in which a general election is to be held for the office of Governor, and the second debate in the series shall occur not
- later than the 11th day prior to the general election for that office unless an emergency, as determined by the vote of a
- 7 majority of the participating candidates, requires the postponement thereof, but the final gubernatorial election debate
- shall in no event be held later than the second day preceding that general election. ¹[Subject to the provisions of this act, all
- particulars regarding the time, place, manner of conduct and subject matter of the gubernatorial election debates shall be
- determined by regulation of the Election Law Enforcement Commission or by any private organization which the commission
- shall have designated to serve as the sponsor of those debates.]
- c. Private organizations which are not affiliated with any
 political party or with any holder of or candidate for public

office, which have not endorsed any candidate in the pending

- primary or general election for the office of Governor, and which have previously sponsored one or more televised debates for
- Statewide office in the State since 1976, shall be eligible to sponsor one or more interactive gubernatorial primary debates or
- interactive gubernatorial election debates under subsection a. or subsection b., respectively, of this section.
- 25 <u>The Election Law Enforcement Commission shall accept</u> applications from eligible private organizations to sponsor one or
- 27 more of those interactive gubernatorial debates. Applications to sponsor debates under subsection a. shall be submitted to the
- 29 <u>commission no later than March 15 of any year in which a</u> primary election is to be held to nominate candidates for the
- office of Governor, and applications to sponsor debates under subsection b. shall be submitted to the commission no later than
- July 1 of any year in which a general election is to be held to fill the office of Governor.
- Where the number of eligible applicants to sponsor gubernatorial primary debates or gubernatorial election debates
- exceeds the number prescribed under subsection a. and subsectionb. of this section, respectively, the Election Law Enforcement
- 39 Commission shall select the private organizations from among

the applicates within 30 days of the last day for submitting those applications, as provided by this subsection. To the maximum

3 extent practible and feasible, the commission shall select a different private organization to sponsor each of the interactive

5 gubernatorial debates, but shall not be precluded from selecting the same private organization to sponsor more than one debate.

The private organizations selected by the commission shall be responsible for selecting the date, time and location of the debates, subject to the limitations set forth in this section. The rules for conducting each debate shall be solely the responsibility of the private organizations so selected, but shall not be made final without consultation with both the chairman of the New Jersey Republican State Committee and the chairman of the New Jersey Democratic Committee in the case of gubernatorial primary debates, and with a representative designated by each of the participating candidates in the case of gubernatorial election

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 1 [10. (New section) a. In each year in which a primary election is to be held to nominate candidates for the office of Governor, the first application which the campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer of a candidate for nomination for election to the office makes to the Election Law Enforcement Commission under subsection a. of section 8 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-33) for moneys for use by the candidate to pay election campaign expenses shall include a statement, in a form to be prescribed by the commission and signed by the candidate, of the candidate's agreement to participate in a series of interactive gubernatorial debates, to be held as provided by subsection a. of section 8 of this 1988 amendatory and supplementary act. The statement shall include a declaration that the candidate undertakes to abide by the terms of any rules established by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, or by any private organization which the commission shall have designated to serve as the sponsor of those debates, under subsection a. of section 9 of this 1988 amendatory and supplementary act. The statement shall also include an acknowledgment of notice to the candidate that his failure to participate in any of the gubernatorial primary debates may be cause for the termination of payments in behalf of the candidate under subsection a. of section 8 of P.L.1974, c.26 1 (C.19:44A-33), and for the imposition of liability for the return to the commission of payments previously made by the commission

under that subsection for use by the candidate to pay election campaign expenses. No candidate shall receive any moneys for

5 election campaign expenses under subsection a. of section 8 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-33) until he has complied with the

7 provisions of this subsection.

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b. In each year in which a general election is to be held for the office of Governor, the first application which the campaign 9 treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer of a candidate for election to the office of Governor makes to the Election Law 11 Enforcement Commission under subsection b. of section 8 of 13 P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-33) for moneys for use by the candidate to pay election campaign expenses shall include a statement, in a form to be prescribed by the commission and signed by the 15 candidate, of the candidate's agreement to participate in a series of interactive gubernatorial debates, to be held as provided by 17 subsection b. of section 8 of this 1988 amendatory act. The statement shall include a declaration that the candidate 19 undertakes to abide by the terms of any rules established by the 21 Election Law Enforcement Commission, or by any private organization which the commission shall have designated to serve 23 as the sponsor of those debates, under subsection b. of section 9 of this 1988 amendatory and supplementary act. The statement shall also include an acknowledgment of notice to the candidate 25 that his failure to participate in any of the gubernatorial election debates may be cause for the termination of payments in behalf 27 of the candidate under subsection b. of section 8 of P.L.1974, 29 c.26 (C.19:44A-33), and for the imposition of liability for the return to the commission of payments previously made by the 31 commission under that subsection for use by the candidate to pay election campaign expenses. No candidate shall receive any moneys for election campaign expenses under subsection b. of 33 section 8 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-33) until he has complied

11. (New section) The Election Law Enforcement Commission shall have the power and duty, upon receipt of a complaint ¹[by] against ¹ a candidate for nomination for election or for election for the office of Governor ¹[, to hold a hearing to determine

with the provisions of this section.]1

whether a candidate] who is 1[a] required to participate in 1[a]1 1 gubernatorial primary ¹[debate] debates¹ or gubernatorial election ¹[debate] debates¹, respectively, ¹to hold a hearing to 3 determine whether that candidate has failed to participate in such ¹[a debate] <u>debates</u>¹. If, at the conclusion of a hearing 5 under this section, the commission determines by majority vote 7 that a candidate required to participate under section ¹[9] 10¹ of this 1988 amendatory and supplementary act has failed to do so, the chairman shall immediately inform the candidate in writing 9 of that determination, identifying in that writing the date and circumstances of the failure. If, after having found that a 11 candidate required to participate in a gubernatorial primary or gubernatorial election debate has failed to do so, the commission 13 further finds that the failure occurred under circumstances which were beyond the control of the candidate and of such a nature 15 that a reasonable person, taking into account the purposes of this 17 act and the relevant facts of the case, would find the failure justifiable or excusable, then the candidate shall not be subject to 19 any penalty or liability for his failure to participate. The candidate charged with the failure to participate shall have the 21 burden of showing justification or excuse.

The campaign of any candidate or former candidate who shall have been required to participate in a gubernatorial primary debate or gubernatorial election debate under this 1988 amendatory and supplementary act, but who shall have been found to have failed to do so without reasonable justification or excuse, shall be liable for return of moneys previously received for use by the candidate to pay primary election campaign expenses or general election campaign expenses, respectively. The commission shall determine the total amount of moneys for election campaign expenses in that year by the commission to the candidate under subsection a. or subsection b. of section 8 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-33), as appropriate, and shall notify the campaign treasurer or the deputy campaign treasurer of the candidate of the liability of the campaign of the candidate, as of the date of the notice, for the repayment of those moneys plus interest on the unpaid amount of that liability from that date at the rate of 1% for each month or fractional part of a month during which that amount remains unpaid.

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(New section) a. The Election Law Enforcement 1 Commission is hereby empowered and directed to adopt summarily and to publish any rule, and to take any administrative 3 action whatsoever, necessary to effectuate the purposes of this 1988 amendatory and supplementary act in a timely manner. This 5 adoption and publication of rules shall, to the extent feasible, be subject to the provisions of the "Administrative Procedure Act," 7 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), provided that the 9 commission shall be excused from strict compliance with any requirement under that act if and to the extent that it 11 determines, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, that the public interest in the timely implementation of the provisions of this 1988 amendatory and supplementary act so requires. For the 13 purposes of this section, "administrative action" shall include, but shall not be limited to, any action or omission to act, which 15 action or omission has as its purpose and result the effectuation 17 of the provision of section 14 of this 1988 amendatory and supplementary act regarding retroactivity. b. (1) If, on or after January 1, 1989 and prior to the effective 19 date of this 1988 amendatory and supplementary act, moneys are paid from the fund for election campaign expenses pursuant to 21 subsection a. of section 8 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-33) in 23 behalf of a qualified candidate under the provisions of paragraphs (3) or (4) of subsection m. of section 3 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-3), and that candidate ceases on that effective date to 25 meet the requirements of a "qualified candidate" under the amendatory provisions of section 1 of this 1988 amendatory and 27 supplementary act, the Election Law Enforcement Commission is 29 hereby authorized and directed to place into escrow any sums paid in behalf of the candidate from the fund for election campaign expenses, and not expended, until the candidate again 31 becomes a qualified candidate under those amendatory 33 provisions. On and after the 15th day following that effective date the commission may, and not later than the 45th day 35 following that effective date the commission shall, recover the funds so escrowed if the candidate has not by the date on which 37 such suit is commenced again become a qualified candidate. (2) If, on or after June 6, 1989 and prior to the effective date 39 of this 1988 amendatory and supplementary act, moneys are paid

- from the fund for election campaign expenses pursuant to subsection b. of section 8 of P.L.1974, c.26 (C.19:44A-33) in
- behalf of a qualified candidate under the provisions of paragraphs
 (1) or (2) of subsection m. of section 3 of P.L.1973, c.83
- 5 (C.19:44A-3), and that candidate ceases on that effective date to meet the requirements of a "qualified candidate" under the
- amendatory provisions of section 1 of this 1988 amendatory and supplementary act, the Election Law Enforcement Commission is
- 9 <u>hereby authorized and directed to place into escrow any sums</u> paid in behalf of the candidate from the fund for election
- campaign expenses, and not expended, until the candidate again becomes a qualified candidate under those amendatory
- provisions. On and after the 15th day following that effective date the commission may, and not later than the 45th day
- following that effective date the commission shall, recover the funds so escrowed if the candidate has not by the date on which
- such suit is commenced again become a qualified candidate.
- c. Subject to the provisions of subsection b. of this section, in
- 19 the case of any qualified candidate for nomination for election or for election to the office of Governor in 1989 in whose behalf
- 21 application is made prior to the effective date of this 1988 amendatory and supplementary act to receive moneys from the
- fund for election campaign expenses, if the application so made would have entitled the candidate to receive a larger amount of
- such moneys if that application had been made on or after that effective date, the candidate shall be entitled to receive in full
- that larger amount with respect to that application, provided the candidate continues to be or again becomes a qualified candidate
- 29 <u>under the appropriate amendatory provisions of section 1 of this</u> 1988 amendatory and supplementary act. ¹
- 31 ¹[12.] <u>13.</u>¹ (New section) If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence or other part of this 1988 amendatory and
- supplementary act is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder
- hereof, but shall be confined in its effect to the section, subsection, paragraph, sentence or other part hereof directly
- involved in the controversy in which said judgment shall have been rendered.
- 39 ¹[13.] 14.¹ This act shall take effect immediately ¹and shall

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be retroactive to January 1, 1989, but section 3 shall be applicable only to the primary and general elections for the office of Governor to be held in 1993 and thereafter¹.

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ELECTIONS

7 Governor

9 Makes certain changes in the law governing gubernatorial campaign contributions and expenditures.

ASSEMBLY, No. 2250

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel
PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1988 SESSION

By Assemblyman BAER

AN ACT to encourage, through the New Jersey gubernatorial campaign financing program, the holding of debates between certain candidates for election to the office of Governor and supplementing Title 19 of the Revised Statutes.

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BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

- 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Open Public Debate Act."
- The Legislature finds and declares it to be the policy of
 the State that election campaigns for the State's highest office,
 Governor, shall include a series of open public debates among
- the candidates for that office, and that the right of citizens to have access to such open public debates shall be upheld to the
- fullest extent possible. The Legislature further finds: that the public's effectiveness in fulfilling its role in a democratic
- society's selection of the highest officer in the State depends upon the availability to it of the most complete information
- about the candidates as is practical; that open public debates give the public more complete information about candidates by
- testing their views, proposals, knowledge and abilities against each other, by providing citizens with a unique opportunity to
- 23 make a clear and extensive comparison between candidates, and often by drawing out of candidates previously unrevealed
- intentions, positions, and plans; and that these objectives can be furthered by offering public funds for the partial financing of
- their gubernatorial campaigns in a way that will encourage the candidates to participate in such debates.
- Accordingly, the Legislature declares it to be the right of all the people, whose taxes are the source of any public financial support for election campaigns and for whose benefit those
- campaigns are conducted, that any candidate for election to the

- office of Governor seeking public financing be required to agree to participate in a series of debates, and that a candidate who
- fails to honor such an agreement shall be denied further financing and be required to repay to the State funds previously
- 5 received.
 - 3. As used in this act:
- 7 a. The term "arbitration board" or "board" means the gubernatorial debate arbitration board established as a temporary board under the provisions of section 7 of this act.
- b. The term "gubernatorial debate" or "debate" means any of
 the set of four or more debates among candidates for election to
 the office of Governor which is held pursuant to the provisions
 of section 4 of this act.
- In any year in which a general election is to be held for the office of Governor, there shall be held a series of gubernatorial debates, in which all "qualified candidates," as defined by paragraph (3) or paragraph (4) of subsection m. of section 3 of P.L. 1973, c. 83 (C. 19:44A-3), for election to that office who
- have applied to receive money for election campaign expenses under subsection b. of section 8 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C.
- 21 19:44A-33) shall participate.
- 5. The series of gubernatorial debates under section 4 of this act shall include at least four debates, or any greater number thereof as all of the participating candidates may mutually
- agree. Each of the debates shall be of at least one hour's duration. The first debate in the series shall occur not earlier
- than the third Tuesday following the first Monday in September of the year in which a general election is to be held for the
- office of Governor, and the last debate in the series shall occur not later than the 11th day prior to the general election for that
- office unless an emergency, as determined by the vote of a majority of the participating candidates, requires the
- postponement thereof, but the last debate shall in no event be held later than the second day preceding that general election.
- Subject to the provisions of this act, all particulars regarding the time, place, manner of conduct and subject matter of the
- gubernatorial debates shall be determined by the participating candidates by mutual agreement, as that agreement may be
- 39 modified by any rule adopted by the arbitration board

established under section 7 of this act. On or after the fourth Tuesday in July of each year in which an election is to be held

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for the office of Governor, but not later than the first Tuesday in August of that year, the participating candidates, or a person

whom they may designate, shall file with the Election Law Enforcement Commission a written statement, signed by each of

the participating candidates, of all rules which those participating candidates have mutually agreed shall govern the

9 time, place, manner of conduct and subject matter of the gubernatorial debates to be held in that year. A participating

candidate may at the time of that filing also file with the commission a statement of any rule, not inconsistent with the

rules contained in that statement of agreement, which that candidate has suggested but which has not been agreed to by all

of those candidates as of the date on which the statement of agreement is filed.

6. In each year in which an election is to be held for the office of Governor, the first application which the campaign

treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer of a candidate for election to the office of Governor makes to the Election Law

21 Enforcement Commission under subsection b. of section 8 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-33) for moneys for use by the

candidate to pay election campaign expenses shall include a statement, in a form to be prescribed by the commission and

signed by the candidate, of the candidate's agreement to participate in a series of gubernatorial debates, to be held as

provided by this act. The statement shall include a declaration that the candidate undertakes to abide by the terms of any rules

contained in a statement of agreement prepared and filed under section 5 of this act, and by any rule adopted by the

gubernatorial debate arbitration board under subsection a. of section 8 of this act. The statement shall also include an

acknowledgment of notice to the candidate that his failure to participate in any of the debates play be cause for the

termination of payments in behalf of the candidate under subsection b. of section 8 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-33), and

for the imposition of liability for the return to the commission of payments previously made by the commission under that

subsection for use by the candidate to pay election campaign

1 expenses. The filing of a statement of agreement prepared and filed under section 5 of this act shall satisfy the filing

3 requirements of this subsection if the content of the statement so prepared and filed otherwise conforms to the provisions of

5 this section. No candidate shall receive any moneys for election campaign expenses under subsection b. of section 8 of P.L. 1974,

7 c. 26 (C. 19:44A-33) until he has complied with the provisions of

this section. 9 7. In each year in which an election is to be held for the office of Governor, there shall be constituted a temporary 11 board, which shall be known as the gubernatorial debate arbitration board, the membership of which shall consist of one 13 representative for each of the participating candidates, each of those representatives to be designated by the candidate he represents, and one independent member, chosen as hereinafter 15 provided. No member, officer or employee of the Election Law 17 Enforcement Commission shall be a member of the arbitration board. On or before the first Tuesday in August of such year, 19 each participating candidate shall notify the commission of the name of the person who shall represent that candidate on the arbitration board and the name of a person whom the candidate 21 nominates to be the independent member thereof. 23 participating candidates nominate the same person to be the independent member of the arbitration board, that person shall 25 be the independent member. If two participating candidates nominate different persons to be the independent member, or if 27 a participating candidate fails to nominate a person to be the member, the commission shall independent select independent member, but no person who has been nominated by 29 one or more, but not all, of the participating candidates shall be chosen to be the independent member except by unanimous vote 31 of the members of the commission. The commission shall notify each participating candidate of renames of the members of the 33 arbitration board not later than the Friday following the first 35 Tuesday in August of the year of the election. Vacancies in the membership of the board shall be filled in the same manner as 37 the original appointments were made, provided that, in the case

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the

independent

member,

if

all

participating

candidates have not nominated to the commission the same person to fill the vacancy on or before the fifth day following

the occurrence of the vacancy, the commission shall select the member as hereinabove prescribed. The independent member

shall be the chairman and secretary of the arbitration board.

The board may employ from time to time any stenographic and

7 clerical assistants, and incur as a body expenses for any miscellaneous expenditures which are not attributable to the

9 individual members thereof, as it may deem necessary in order for it to perform its duties.

The members of the arbitration board shall receive no compensation for their service, but each member shall be

reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of his duties by the campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer

of the participating candidate of whom he is the designated representative, and the expenses of the chairman of the board

shall be reimbursed to him in equal shares by the campaign treasurers or deputy campaign treasurers of all of the

19 participating candidates in accordance with any rules that the commission may prescribe. Expenses reimbursed to a member

of the arbitration board hereunder shall be a legal expense for the purposes of paragraph (6) of subsection a of section 10 of

P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-35). Reasonable expenses incurred by the board for stenographic and clerical staff and for

25 miscellaneous expenditures shall be payable, upon issuance of a voucher therefor, by the commission from moneys appropriated

to the commission from the Gubernatorial Elections Fund. Expenses directly incurred by the commission in the

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performance of any function under the provisions of this act shall likewise be payable from those moneys.

A gubernatorial debate arbitration board shall terminate on the sixth day following the date of the general election of the year in which it was constituted.

8. a. The gubernatorial debate arbitration board shall have 35 the power and duty to adopt by majority vote of its full membership any rule proposed for such adoption by a member of 37 the arbitration board regarding the time, place, manner of conduct or subject matter of the gubernatorial debates which is conflict 39 supplements and not in with the rules

1 contained in the statement of agreement filed with the Election Law Enforcement Commission under section 5 of this act and 3 which the board determines is necessary for the full and fair implementation of the provisions and more effective 5 accomplishment of the purposes of this act. The board shall like wise have the power and duty to adopt by unanimous vote of its 7 full membership any such rule so proposed which revises or repeals a rule contained in the statement of agreement filed 9 with the commission under section 5 of this act or a rule adopted as provided by this subsection. Any rule adopted under this subsection shall indicate the date on which it shall take 11 effect. A person who is not a member of the arbitration board, or any group of such persons, may propose a rule for adoption by 13 the board by submitting a copy of the proposed rule to the 15 commission, which shall thereupon send a copy of the proposed rule to each member of the board for the member's consideration. On or after August 31, but not later than the 17 first Tuesday in September, in each year in which an election is to be held for the office of Governor, the chairman of the 19 arbitration board shall file with the commission a full statement of the rules adopted by the board under this subsection as of the 21 day before the date of that filing. If a rule is adopted under this subsection on or after that date, the chairman of the board shall 23 file a copy of that rule with the commission not later than the 25 third day following the adoption thereof.

b. The gubernatorial debate arbitration board shall have the power and duty to determine whether a candidate who is a properly participating candidate has failed to participate in a gubernatorial debate. A participating candidate may request the chairman of the board to call a meeting of the board for the purpose of holding a hearing on his allegation of such a failure to participate. The request shall be made in a writing signed by the requesting candidate. The chairman of the arbitration board shall immediately inform the members of the board, the candidates and the Election Law Enforcement Commission of the request and of the time, place and subject matter of the meeting, which shall be held not later than 48 hours following receipt of the request by the chairman of the arbitration board.

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A participating candidate requesting a hearing hereunder, or such counsel as he may appoint to represent him in the matter,

shall present at that hearing the grounds for the allegation of a failure by another candidate to participate in a gubernatorial

debate. A candidate alleged to have failed to participate in a gubernatorial debate shall have the right to be represented by

counsel at that hearing, at which hearing he shall be given a reasonable opportunity to rebut the allegation and to question

any person who has presented to the board evidence on this matter.

In the course of the hearing, the board may seek independent verification of the truth of any statement made during the proceedings which bears on any finding it may make or

conclusions it may draw in connection with the hearing.

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The chairman of the arbitration board shall cause a written record to be made of the proceedings of any hearing under this subsection and, upon the conclusion of those proceedings, shall forward a copy of that record, together with a copy of any documents relating thereto, to the Election Law Enforcement Commission.

If, at the conclusion of a hearing under this subsection, the arbitration board determines by majority vote, including in all cases the vote of the chairman, that a candidate has failed to participate in a gubernatorial debate, the chairman shall immediately inform the candidate and the commission in writing of that determination, identifying in that writing the date and circumstances of the failure. A candidate with respect to whom such a determination has been made shall be entitled to a review of the hearing by the Election Law Enforcement Commission if he applies to the commission therefor within three days of receiving notice of the determination and a majority of the members of the commission agree to undertake such a review, which shall be held not later than 48 hours following the application therefor. If, as the result of this review, the commission determines by majority vote that no such failure to participate in a gubernatorial debate has occurred, it shall promptly so inform each participating candidate and the chairman of the arbitration board.

1 c. If, after having found that a properly participating candidate has failed to participate in a gubernatorial debate, the

arbitration board further finds that the failure occurred under circumstances which were beyond the control of the candidate

and of such a nature that a reasonable person, taking into account the purposes of this act and the relevant facts of the

case, would find the failure justifiable or excusable, then the candidate shall not be subject to any penalty or liability for his

failure to participate. The candidate charged with the failure to participate shall have the burden of showing justification or

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d. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary of section 6 of P.L. 1973, c. 83 (C. 19:44A-6), the arbitration board shall upon request therefor by a participating candidate, have sole power to render by majority vote, which shall include the vote of the chairman, an advisory opinion as to whether a given set of facts and circumstances would constitute a failure by a candidate to participate in a gubernatorial debate.

9. Subject to the provisions of subsection c. of section 8 of this act, upon receipt from the gubernatorial debate arbitration board of notification of its determination under subsection b. of that section 8 that a qualified candidate has failed to participate in a gubernatorial debate, the Election Law Enforcement Commission shall cease to make any payments to the campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer of that candidate under subsection b. of section 8 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-33). If the commission does not receive from the candidate a timely application under subsection b. of section 8 of this act for a review of the hearing of the question of the failure; or if, having received an application, the commission declines to undertake the review or, having undertaken the

review, fails to make an affirmative determination that the candidate has not so failed to participate; then the campaign of the candidate shall be liable for return of moneys previously

received from the commission. The commission shall determine the total amount of moneys for election campaign expenses paid

on or after the date of the primary election in that year by the commission to the candidate under subsection b. of section 8 of

39 P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-33) and shall notify the campaign

1 treasurer or the deputy campaign treasurer of the candidate of the liability of the campaign of the candidate, as of the date of 3 the notice, for the repayment of those moneys plus interest on the unpaid amount of that liability from that date at the rate of 1% for each month or fractional part of a month during which 5 that amount remains unpaid. If the commission voids such a determination by the arbitration board of failure by the 7 candidate to participate, it shall forthwith resume making 9 payments to the campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer of the candidate in accordance with the provisions of subsection b. of section 8 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-33). 11

This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

17 This bill provides that any candidate for Governor in a general election seeking public financing shall be required to participate 19 in a series of four or more debates. A candidate failing to do so shall be denied further public financing and shall be required to 21 repay any public funds previously paid in support of his general election candidacy. The debates shall be held between mid-September and the date of the general election and each 23 would be of at least one hour's duration. Debate particulars, 25 such as time, place and subject matter, are to be determined by the mutual agreement of the participating candidates. The bill 27 also establishes a "gubernatorial debate arbitration board" to enforce agreements and review candidate participation. A 29 candidate determined by the board to have failed to participate in a debate could appeal that determination to the Election Law Enforcement Commission. 31

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STATE GOVERNMENT

Elections

The "Open Public Debate Act," revises gubernatorial campaign financing program.

ASSEMBLY, No. 1705

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1988 SESSION

By Assemblyman MARTIN

- AN ACT concerning the financing of gubernatorial campaigns, amending P.L. 1974, c. 26 and P.L. 1980, c. 74, amending and
- supplementing P.L. 1973, c. 83, and repealing section 7 of P.L. 1973, c. 83, sections 9 and 11 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 and section
- 5 19 of P.L. 1980, c. 74.
- 7 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:
- 9 1. Section 3 of P.L. 1973, c. 83 (C. 19:44A-3) is amended to read as follows:
- 3. As used in this act, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:
- a. The term "allied candidates" means candidates in any election who are (1) seeking nomination or election (A) to an
- office or offices in the same county or municipal government or school district or (B) to the Legislature representing in whole or
- part the same constituency, and who are (2) either (A) nominees of the same political party or (B) publicly declared in any
- manner, including the seeking or obtaining of any ballot position or common ballot slogan, to be aligned or mutually supportive.
- b. The term "allied campaign organization" means any political committee, any State, county or municipal committee
- of a political party or any campaign organization of a candidate which is in support or furtherance of the same candidate or any
- one or more of the same group of allied candidates or the same public question as any other such committee or organization.
- c. The term "candidate" means an individual seeking or having sought election to a public office of the State or of a
 county, municipality or school district at an election; except that the term shall not include an individual seeking party office.

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

- d. The terms "contributions" and "expenditures" include all loans and transfers (if money or other thing of value to or by any
- 3 candidate, political committee or continuing political committee, and all pledges or other commitments or
- assumptions of liability to make any such transfer; and for purposes of reports required under the provisions of this act
- shall be deemed to have been made upon the date when such commitment is made or liability assumed.
- 9 e. The term "election" means any election described in section 4 of this act.
- f. The term "paid personal services" means personal, clerical, administrative or professional services of every kind and nature
- including without limitation, public relations, research, legal, canvassing, telephone, speech writing or other such services,
- performed other than on a voluntary basis, the salary, cost or consideration for which is paid, borne or provided by someone
- other than the committee, candidate or organization for whom
- such services are rendered. In determining, the value, for the purpose of reports required under this act, of contributions made
- in the form of paid personal services, the person contributing
- such services shall furnish to the treasurer through whom such contribution is made a statement setting forth the actual
- 23 amount of compensation paid by said contributor to the
- individuals actually performing said services for the
- 25 performance thereof. But if any individual or individuals actually performing such services also performed for the
- 27 contributor other services during the same period, and the manner of payment was such that payment for the services
- contributed cannot readily be segregated from contemporary payment for the other services, the contributor shall in his
- statement to the treasurer so state and shall either (1) set forth his best estimate of the dollar amount of payment to each such
- individual which is attributable to the contribution of his paid
- personal services, and shall certify the substantial accuracy of the same, or (2) if unable to determine such amount with
- sufficient accuracy, set forth the total compensation paid by
- him to each such individual for the period of time during which the services contributed by him were performed. If any

- candidate is a holder of public office to whom there is attached or assigned, by virtue of said office, any aide or aides whose
- 3 services are of a personal or confidential nature in assisting him to carry out the duties of said office, and whose salary or other
- 5 compensation is paid in whole or part out of public funds, the services of such aide or aides which are paid for out of public
- funds shall be for public purposes only; but they may contribute their personal services, on a voluntary basis, to such candidate
- 9 for election campaign purposes.
 - g. (Deleted by amendment, P.L. 1983, c. 579.)
- h. The term "political information" means any statement "including but not limited to press releases, pamphlets,
- newsletters, advertisements, flyers, form letters, or radio or television programs or advertisements which reflects the opinion
- of the members of the organization on any candidate or candidates for public office, on any public question, or which
- contains facts on any such candidate, or public question whether or not such facts are within the personal knowledge of members
- 19 of the organization.
 - i. The term "political committee" means any two or more
- 21 persons acting jointly, or any corporation, partnership, or any other incorporated or unincorporated association which is
- organized to, or does, aid or promote the nomination, election or defeat of any candidate or candidates for public office, or which
- is organized to, or does, and or promote the passage or defeat of a public question in any election, if the persons, corporation,
- 27 partnership or incorporated or unincorporated association raises
- or expends \$1,000.00 or more to so aid or promote the nomination, election or defeat of a candidate or candidates or
- the passage or defeat of a public question; provided that for the
- purposes of this act, the term "political committee" shall not include a "continuing political committee," as defined by
- 33 subsection n. of this section.
- j. The term "public solicitation" means any activity by or on
- behalf of any candidate, political committee or continuing political committee whereby either (1) members of the general
- public are personally solicited for cash contributions not exceeding \$20.00 from each person so solicited and contributed
- on the spot by the person so solicited to a person soliciting or

- through a receptacle provided for the purpose of depositing contributions, or (2) members of the general public are
- 3 personally solicited for the purchase of items having some tangible value as merchandise, at a price not exceeding \$20.00
- 5 per item, which price is paid on the spot in cash by the person so solicited to the person so soliciting when the net proceeds of
- such solicitation are to be used by or on behalf of such candidate, political committee or continuing political
- 9 committee.
- k. The term "testimonial affair" means an affair of any kind
 or nature including, without limitation, cocktail parties,
 breakfasts, luncheons, dinners, dances, picnics or similar affairs
- directly or indirectly intended to raise campaign funds in behalf of a person who holds, or who is or was a candidate for
- nomination or election to a public office in this State, or directly or indirectly intended to raise funds in behalf of any
- State, county or municipal committee of a political party or in behalf of a political committee.
- l. The term "other thing of value" means any item of real or personal property, tangible or intangible, but shall not be
- 21 deemed to include personal services other than paid personal services.
- m. The term "qualified candidate" means:
- (1) Any candidate for election to the office of Governor whose name appears on the general election ballot and who has deposited and expended \$50,000.00 pursuant to section 7 of P.L.
- 27 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-32); or
- (2) Any candidate for election to the office of Governor whose name does not appear on the general election ballot but who has deposited and expended \$50,000.00 pursuant to section 7
- 31 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-32); or
- (3) Any candidate for nomination for election to the office of

 Governor whose name appears on the primary election ballot and
 who has deposited and expended \$50,000.00 pursuant to section 7
- 35 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-32); or
- (4) Any candidate for nomination for election to the office of
 37 Governor whose name does not appear on the primary election
 ballot but who has deposited and expended \$50,000.00 pursuant
- 39 to section 7 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-32).

For the purposes of this subsection, only the first \$500.00 of contributions from each contributor who is an individual shall be considered in calculating whether a candidate has deposited and

expended \$50,000.00 pursuant to section 7 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C.

5 <u>19:44A-32).</u>

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With respect to the elections to nominate and to elect a candidate for the office of Governor which shall be held, in 1989 and every fourth year thereafter, the amount required under this subsection to be deposited and expended pursuant to section 7 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-32) and the amount of contribution from an individual that is considered in calculating whether that amount has been so deposited and expended shall be the adjusted amount.

- n. The term "continuing political committee" means:
- 15 (1) the State committee, or any county or municipal committee, of a political party; or
- (2) any group of two or more persons acting jointly, or any 17 corporation, partnership, or any other incorporated or 19 unincorporated association, including a political club, political action committee, civic association or other organization, which 21 in any calendar year contributes or expects to contribute at least \$2,500.00 to the aid or promotion of the candidacy of an 23 individual, or of the candidacies of individuals, for elective public questions, and which may be expected to make 25 contributions toward such aid or promotion or passage or defeat during a subsequent election, provided that the group, 27 corporation, partnership, association or other organization has been determined to be a continuing political committee under subsection b. of section 8 of P.L. 1973, c. 83 (C. 19:44A-8). 29
- o. The term "adjusted amount," as applied in the several provisions of the law concerning campaign contributions expenditures and reporting by and public financing of election campaigns of qualified candidates for nomination for election or for election to the office of Governor, means, for any gubernatorial election year, the preliminary adjusted amount as determined under this subsection by the commission no later than November 30 of the preceding calendar year, revised as provided by this subsection. The preliminary adjusted amounts required for the purposes of those provisions to be determined

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under this subsection for a gubernatorial election year shall be 1 equal to the amounts severally applicable under those provisions during the preceding gubernatorial election year or, in the case 3 of the adjusted amounts which shall be applicable to the 1989 5 gubernatorial election year, the amounts severally applicable under those provisions as amended by this 1988 amendatory and 7 supplementary act, multiplied by a fraction, the denominator of which shall be equal to the average monthly consumer price index for all urban consumers in the New York City and 9 Philadelphia areas as reported by the United States Department of Labor for the months beginning with October of the second 11 year preceding the previous gubernatorial election year and 13 ending with the following September and the numerator of which shall be the average monthly consumer price index for those 15 consumers for the months beginning with October of the second year preceding the gubernatorial election year to which the adjusted amount will applicable and ending with the following 17 September, except that in no event shall any preliminary adjusted amount be less than the amount applicable to the 19 preceding gubernatorial election. The commission shall, where 21 necessary to obtain an exact multiple under the following schedule, increase the adjusted amounts by rounding upward the 23 preliminary adjusted amounts to the next greater multiple of: \$10.00 where the preliminary adjusted amount as provided 25 herein would be \$2,000.00 or less; to the next greater multiple of \$100.00 where the preliminary adjusted amount would be 27 more than \$2,000.00 but not more than \$20,000.00; to the next greater multiple of \$1,000.00 where the preliminary adjusted 29 amount would be more than \$20,000.00 but not more than \$200,000.00; to the next greater multiple of \$10,000.00 where the preliminary adjusted amount would be more than 31 \$200,000.00 but not more than \$2,000,000.00; and to the next greater multiple of \$100,000.00 where the preliminary adjusted 33 amount would be more than \$2,000,000.00 but not more than \$20,000,000.00. Where the preliminary adjusted amount is less 35 than \$200.00 the amount applicable to the preceding gubernatorial election year shall not be revised. 37 commission shall notify all candidates for nomination and for election to the office of Governor of the amount of the

- amounts adjusted under this subsection upon the determination of those amounts or upon the declaration by the candidate of his
 candidacy, whichever occurs later.
- 2. Section 8 of P.L. 1973, c. 83 (C. 19:44A-8) is amended to read as follows:
- a. (1) Each political committee shall make a full 7 cumulative report, upon a form prescribed by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, of all contributions in the form of moneys, loans, paid personal services, or other things of value 9 made to it and all expenditures made, incurred, or authorized by 11 it in furtherance of the nomination, election or defeat of any candidate, or in aid of the passage or defeat of any public question, or to provide political information on any candidate or 13 public question, during the period ending 48 hours preceding the date of the report and beginning on the date on which the first 15 of those contributions was received or the first of those 17 expenditures was made, whichever occurred first. cumulative report, except as hereinafter provided, shall contain 19 the name and mailing address of each person or group from whom moneys, loans, paid personal services or other things of 21 value have been contributed since 48 hours preceding the date on which the previous such report was made and the amount contributed by each person or group, and where the contributor 23 is an individual, the report shall indicate the occupation of the 25 individual and the name and mailing address of his employer. In the case of any loan reported pursuant to this section, the report 27 shall contain the name and mailing address of each person who has cosigned such loan since 48 hours preceding the date on 29 which the previous such report was made, and where an individual has cosigned such loans, the report shall indicate the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of 31 his employer. The cumulative report shall also contain the name 33 and address of each person, firm or organization to whom expenditures have been paid since 48 hours preceding the date 35 on which the previous such report was made and the amount and purpose of each such expenditure. The cumulative report shall be filed with the Election Law Enforcement Commission on the 37 dates designated in section 16 hereof.

1 The campaign treasurer of the political committee reporting shall certify to the correctness of each report.

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Each campaign treasurer of a political committee shall file written notice with the commission of a contribution in excess of \$250.00 received during the period between the 13th day prior to the election and the date of the election. The notice shall be filed in writing or by telegram within 48 hours of the receipt of the contribution and shall set forth the amount and date of the contribution [and], the name and mailing address of the contributor, and where the contributor is an individual, his occupation and the name and mailing address of his employer.

- (2) When a political committee or an individual seeking party office makes or authorizes an expenditure on behalf of a candidate, it shall provide immediate written notification to the candidate of the expenditure.
- b. (1) A group of two or more persons acting jointly, or any 17 corporation, partnership, \mathbf{or} any other incorporated unincorporated association including a political club, political action committee, civic association or other organization which 19 in any calendar year contributes or expects to contribute at 21 least \$2,500.00 to the aid or promotion of the candidacy of an individual, or of the candidacies of individuals, for elective 23 public office or the passage or defeat of a public question or public questions and which expects to make contributions toward such aid or promotion, or toward such passage or defeat, during 25 a subsequent election, shall certify that fact to the commission, and the commission, upon receiving that certification and on the 27 basis of any information as it may require of the group, corporation, partnership, association or other organization, shall 29 determine whether the group, corporation, 31 association or other organization is a continuing political committee for the purposes of this act. If the commission 33 determines that, the group, corporation partnership, association or other organization is a continuing political committee, it shall so notify that continuing political committee. 35
 - (2) A continuing political committee shall file with the Election Law Enforcement Commission, not later than April 15, July 15, October 15 and January 15 of each calendar year,

1 a cumulative quarterly report of all moneys, loans, paid personal services or other things of value contributed to it during the

3 period ending on the 15th day preceding that date and commencing on January 1 of that calendar year, or, in the case

5 of the cumulative quarterly report to be filed not later than January 15, of the previous calendar year, and all expenditures

7 made, incurred, or authorized by it during the period, whether or not such expenditures were made, incurred or authorized in

furtherance of the election or defeat of any candidate, or in aid 9 of the passage or defeat of any public question or to provide 11 information on any candidate or public question.

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The cumulative quarterly report shall contain the name and mailing address of each person or group from whom moneys, loans, paid personal services or other things of value have been contributed and the amount contributed by each person or group, and where an individual has made such contributions, the report shall indicate the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of his employer. In the case of any loan reported pursuant to this section, the report shall contain the name and address of each person who cosigns such loan, and where an individual has cosigned such loans, the report shall

21 indicate the occupation of the individual and the name and

mailing address of his employer. The report shall also contain the name and address of each person, firm or organization to

whom expenditures have been paid and the amount and purpose of each such expenditure. The treasurer of the continuing

27 political committee reporting shall certify to the correctness of each cumulative quarterly report.

Each continuing political committee shall provide immediate written notification to each candidate of all expenditures made or authorized on behalf of the candidate.

If any continuing political committee submitting cumulative quarterly reports as provided under this subsection receives a contribution from a single source of more than \$250.00 after the final day of a quarterly reporting period and on or before a primary, general, municipal, school or special election which occurs after that final day but prior to the final day of the next reporting period it shall, in writing or by telegram, report

that contribution to the commission within 48 hours of the receipt thereof, including in that report the amount and date of the contribution; the name and mailing address of the contributor; and where the contributor is an individual, his occupation and the name and mailing address of his employer.

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A continuing political committee which at any point expects to cease making contributions toward the aiding or promoting of the candidacy of an individual, or of the candidacies of individuals, for elective public office in this State or the passage or defeat of a public question or public questions in this State shall certify that fact in writing to the commission, and that certification shall be accompanied by a final accounting of any fund relating, to such aiding or promoting, including the final disposition of any balance in such fund at the time of dissolution. Until that certification has been filed, the committee shall continue to file the quarterly reports as provided under this subsection.

c. In any report filed pursuant to the provisions of this section the organization committee reporting, may exclude from the report the names and mailing addresses of contributors whose contributions during the period covered by the report did not exceed \$100.00, provided, however, that (1) such exclusion is unlawful if any person responsible for the preparation or filing of the report knew that it was make with respect to any person whose contributions relating to the same election or issue and made to the reporting organizations aggregate, in combination with the contribution in respect of which such exclusion is made, more than \$100.00 and (2) any person who knowingly prepares, assists in preparing, files or acquiesces in the filing of any report from which the identification of a contributor has been excluded contrary to the provisions of this section is subject to the provisions of section 21 of this act, but (3) nothing in this proviso shall be construed as requiring any committee or organization reporting pursuant to this act to report the amounts, or other circumstantial data regarding dates contributions made to any other organization or political committee, committee of a political party or campaign organization of a candidate.

Any report filed pursuant to the provisions of this section shall include an itemized accounting of all receipts and expenditures relative to any testimonial affairs held since the date of the most recent report filed, which accounting shall including the name and mailing address of each contributor in excess of \$100.00 to such testimonial affair and the amount contributed by each[,]; in the case of an individual contributor, the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of his employer; the expenses incurred[,]; and the disposition of the proceeds of such testimonial affair.

A political committee shall be exempt from any requirement 11 to file reports pursuant to this section of contributions received 13 or expenditures made in behalf of two or more joint candidates in any election if the committee files with the Election Law Enforcement Commission a sworn statement to the effect that 15 the total amount to be expended on behalf of their candidacies 17 shall not exceed \$4,000.00; provided, that if a committee which has filed such a sworn statement receives contributions from 19 any one source aggregating more than \$100.00, it shall forthwith report that fact, including the [identity] name and mailing 21 address of the source; where the source is an individual, the mailing address and occupation of the individual and the name 23 and mailing address of his employer; and the aggregate total of contributions [therefrom] from the source to the commission. Any sworn statement under this subsection may be filed with the 25 notice of designation by a political committee of a campaign treasurer and campaign depository under section 10 of P.L. 27 1973, c. 83 (C. 19:44A-10), if that committee knows or has reason to believe, at the time when the notice of designation is 29 given, that the total amount to be so expended shall not exceed 31 \$4,000.00.

3. Section 16 of P.L. 1973, c. 83 (C. 19:44A-16) is amended to read as follows:

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16. a. Except as provided by subsection h. of this section, each campaign treasurer of a candidate shall make a full cumulative report, upon a form prescribed by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, of all contributions in the form of moneys, loans, paid personal services or other things of value,

1 made to him or to the deputy campaign treasurers of the candidate, and all expenditures paid out of the campaign fund of the candidate, during the period ending with the second day 3 preceding the date of the cumulative report and beginning on 5 the date of the first of those contributions, the date of the first of those expenditures, or the date of the appointment of the campaign treasurer, whichever occurred first. The report shall 7 also contain the name and mailing address of each person or group from whom moneys, loans, paid personal services or other 9 things of value were contributed after the second day preceding 11 the date of the previous cumulative report and the amount contributed by each person or group, and where an individual has 13 made such contributions, the report shall indicate the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of his employer. In the case of any loan reported pursuant to this 15 section, the report shall further contain the name and mailing address of each person who cosigns such loan, the occupation of 17 the person and the name and mailing address of his employer. If no moneys, loans, paid personal services or other things of value 19 were contributed, the report shall so indicate, and if no 21 expenditures were paid or incurred, the report shall likewise to indicate. The campaign treasurer and the candidate shall 23 certify the correctness of the report.

During the period between the appointment of the 25 campaign treasurer and the election with respect to which contributions are accepted or expenditures made by him, the campaign treasurer shall file his cumulative campaign report (1) 27 on the 29th day preceding the election, and (2) on the 11th day preceding the election; and after the election he shall file his 29 report on the 20th day following such election. Concurrent with 31 the report filed on the 20th day following an election, or at any time thereafter, the campaign treasurer of a candidate or 33 committee may certify to the Election Law Enforcement Commission that the campaign fund of such candidate or political committee, having been instituted for the 35 purposes of the late election, has wound up its business and been dissolved or, in the case of a political committee which 37 continues its activities beyond the election that its business

- regarding the late election has been wound up; and said certification shall be accompanied by a final accounting of such
- 3 campaign fund, or of the transactions relating to such election, including the final disposition of any balance remaining in such
- fund at the time of dissolution or the arrangements which have been made for the discharge of any obligations remaining unpaid
- at the time of dissolution. Until such certification has been filed, each such treasurer shall continue to file[, at the
- 9 conclusion of each 60-day interval from the 20th day following such election,] reports in the form and manner herein
- prescribed. The reports following the report due on the 20th day after an election shall be due on January 1, April 1, July 1 and
- October 1, whichever date sequentially follows that 20th day, provided at least 60 days have lapsed between the date that the
- 20-day post-election report is due and the date of the first subsequent report. The reports thereafter shall be due on the
- 17 quarterly dates until the campaign fund is dissolved.
 - The Election Law Enforcement Commission shall promulgate
- regulations providing for the termination of post-election campaign reporting requirements applicable to political
- committees and candidates. The requirements to file post-election reports may be waived by the commission,
- 23 notwithstanding that the certification has not been filed, if the commission determines under any regulations so promulgated
- 25 that the outstanding obligations of the political committee do not exceed 10% of the expenditures of the campaign fund with
- respect to the election or [\$1,000.00] \$2,000.00, whichever is less, or are likely to be discharged or forgiven.
- c. In the case of an election of a candidate for an office elected by a municipal or countywide constituency or a school
- district a duplicate copy of the campaign treasurer's report, duly certified, shall be filed at the same time with the county
- clerk of the county; in which the candidate resides and the county clerk shall retain a written record of that filing for a
- period of not less than four years following the date of the election.
- 37 If a political committee or a continuing political committee, with the exception of political party committees for primary

elections, assumes for the purposes of reporting, the obligations of a candidate, the campaign treasurer or candidate shall not,

upon notice to the commission by such committee of that assumption of obligation, be required to report further.

- 5 d. There shall be no obligation to file the reports required by this section on behalf of a candidate if such candidate files with 7 the Election Law Enforcement Commission a sworn statement to the effect that the total amount to be expended in behalf of his candidacy by the candidate, by any State, county or 9 municipal committee of a political party, by any political committee, or by any person shall not in the aggregate exceed 11 \$2,000.00. The sworn statement may be submitted at the time 13 when the name and address of the campaign treasurer and depository is filed with the Election Law Enforcement Commission, provided that in [no] any case the sworn statement 15 is filed no later than the 29th day before an election. If a **17** candidate who has filed such a sworn statement receives contributions from any one source aggregating more than \$100.00 he shall forthwith make report of the same, including 19 the [identity] name and mailing address of the source and the aggregate total of contributions therefrom, and where the 21 source is an individual, the occupation of the individual and the 23 name and mailing address of his employer, to the Election Law Enforcement Commission.
- 25 There shall be no obligation imposed upon a candidate seeking election to a public office of a school district to file either the reports required under subsection b. of this section 27 [16b.] or the sworn statement referred to in subsection d. of this section or to comply with the requirements of [section] sections 29 9, 11 or 12 of this act, if the total amount expended and to be expended in behalf of his candidacy by the candidate, any 31 political committee, any continuing political committee or by any person does not in the aggregate exceed \$2,000.00; provided, 33 that if such candidate receives contributions from any one 35 source aggregating more than \$100.00, be shall forthwith make a report of the same, including the name and mailing address of 37 the source [and], the aggregate total of contributions therefrom, and where the source is an individual, the occupation of the

individual and the name and mailing address of his employer, to the commission.

f. In any report filed pursuant to the provisions of this 3 section, the names and addresses of contributors whose contributions during the period covered by the report did not 5 exceed \$100.00 may be excluded provided, however, that (1) 7 such exclusion is unlawful if any person responsible for the preparation or filing of the report knew that such exclusion was 9 made with respect to any person whose total contributions relating to the same election and made to the reporting 11 candidate or to an allied campaign organization or organizations aggregate, in combination with the total contributions in respect of which such exclusion is made, more than \$100.00, and (2) any 13 person who knowingly prepares, assists in preparing, files or **15** acquiesces in the filing of any report from which the identity of any contributor has been excluded contrary to the provisions of 17 this section is subject to the provisions of section 21 of this act, but (3) nothing in this proviso shall be construed as requiring any candidate reporting pursuant to this act to report the amounts, 19 dates or other circumstantial data regarding contributions made to any other candidate, political committee or committee of a 21 political party.

g. Any report filed pursuant to the provisions of this section shall include an itemized accounting of all receipts and expenditures relative to any testimonial affair held since the date of the most recent report filed, which accounting shall include the name and mailing address of each contributor in excess of \$100.00 to such testimonial affair and the amount contributed by each[,]; in the case of an individual contributor, the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of his employer; the expenses incurred[,]; and the disposition of the proceeds of such testimonial affair.

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h. If all expenditures and all receipts of contributions on behalf of a candidate which are required to be reported under subsection c. of this section are conducted by and through a political committee which is required to file financial reports under section 8 of P.L. 1973, c. 83 (C. 19:44A-8), the candidate may authorize that political committee to be his agent with

- respect to the reporting of those expenditures and receipts by filing with the Election Law Enforcement Commission a
- 3 certificate of that authorization on a form prescribed by the commission. The certificate shall provide for designation by the
- 5 candidate of the treasurer of the political committee as the campaign treasurer of the candidate for the purposes of
- subsection a. hereof and shall generally identify and be signed by the candidate and the chairman and the treasurer of the
- 9 political committee. Upon the filing of such a certificate of authorization and until the authorization is revoked in writing by
- the candidate, the political committee shall file the reports which the campaign treasurer of the candidate would otherwise
- be required to file under subsection a. of this section.
 - i. Each campaign treasurer of a candidate shall file written
- notice with the commission of a contribution in excess of \$250.00 received during the period between the 13th day prior to
- the election and the date of the election. The notice shall be filed in writing or by telegram within 48 hours of the receipt of
- the contribution and shall set forth the amount and date of the contribution [and], the name and mailing address of the
- contributor, and where the contributor is an individual, the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of
- 23 his employer.
 - 4. Section 17 of P.L. 1980, c. 74 (C. 19:44A-18.1) is amended
- 25 to read as follows:
- 17. a. No person, candidate or political committee,
- otherwise eligible to make political contributions, shall make any contribution or contributions for the purpose of any
- gubernatorial inaugural fundraising event or events in the aggregate in excess of [\$250.00] \$500.00. With respect to
- gubernatorial inaugural fundraising events held in connection with the inauguration of persons elected to the office of
- Governor in 1989 and every fourth year thereafter, the amount of the maximum contribution which may made for the purpose
- of such events shall be the adjusted amount.
- b. For the purposes of the limitation in subsection a. of thissection the term "gubernatorial inaugural fundraising event"

means any event or events held between the date of the general

39 election for the office of Governor and a date 15 days after the

- date of the inauguration of the Governor, whether the event is sponsored by the inaugural committee, the State political party
- 3 committee representing the party of the Governor-elect, or any other person or persons, and at which the Governor-elect is a
- 5 prominent participant or for which solicitations of contributions include the name of the Governor-elect in prominent display;
- except that this definition shall not apply to an event sponsored by a religious, charitable, benevolent, scientific, artistic or
- 9 educational nonprofit institution as long as any proceeds from the event will not be controlled by the Governor-elect or any
- political committee or political party committee, and the proceeds will not be contributed to the Governor-elect, the
- candidacy of the Governor-elect, a political committee or political party committee.
- 15 c. The person or committee sponsoring the event shall make a full report of all contributions and expenditures with respect to
- the event within 45 days following the event in accordance with the provisions of this act.
- 19 5. Section 19 of P.L. 1973, c. 83 (C. 19:44A-19) is amended to read as follows:
- 21 19. a. No person shall conduct any public solicitation as defined in this act except (1) upon written authorization of the
- campaign or organizational treasurer of the candidate, political committee or continuing political committee on whose behalf
- such solicitation is conducted, or (2) in accordance with the provisions of subsection c. of this section. A person with such
- written authorization may employ and accept the services of others as solicitors, and shall be responsible for reporting to the
- treasurer the information required under subsection b. of this section and for delivery to the treasurer the net proceeds of
- such solicitation in compliance with sections 11 and 14 of this act. A contribution made through donation or purchase in
- response to a public solicitation conducted pursuant to written authorization of a treasurer shall be deemed to have been made
- 35 through such treasurer.
- b. Whenever a public solicitation has been authorized by a treasurer during a period covered by a report required to be filed under sections 8 and 16 of this act, there shall be filed with
- 39 such report and, as a part thereof an itemized report on any

- such solicitation of which the net proceeds exceed \$100.00, in such form and detail as required by the rules of the Election Law Enforcement Commission, which report shall include:
 - (1) The name <u>and mailing address</u> of the person authorized to conduct such solicitation, [and] the method of solicitation <u>and</u>, <u>where the person is an individual</u>, the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of his employer;

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- (2) The gross receipts and expenses involved in the solicitation including, the actual amount paid for any items purchased for resale in connection with the solicitation or, if such items or any portion of the cost thereof was donated, the estimated actual value thereof and the actual amount paid therefor and the names and addresses of any such donors. If it is not practicable for such itemized report to be completed in time to be included with the report due under sections 8 and 16 of this act for the period during which such solicitation was held, then such itemized report may be omitted from said report and if so omitted shall be included in the report for the next succeeding period.
- c. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection b. of this 21 section, it shall be lawful for any natural person, not acting in concert with any other person or group, to make personally a 23 public solicitation the entire proceeds of which, without deduction for the expenses of solicitation, are to be expended by 25 him personally or under his personal direction to finance any lawful activity in support of or opposition to any candidate or 27 public question or to provide political information on any candidate or public question or to seek to influence the content, 29 introduction, passage or defeat of legislation; provided, however, that any individual making such solicitation who receives gross contributions exceeding \$100.00 in respect to 31 activities relating to any one election shall be required to make 33 a report stating (1) the amount so collected, (2) the method of solicitation [and], (3) the purpose or purposes for which the funds 35 so collected were expended and the amount expended for each such purpose and (4) his name and mailing address, his 37 occupation and the name and mailing address of his employer. Such report shall be made either:

- 1 (1) To the treasurer of the candidate, political committee or continuing political committee on whose behalf such funds were
- collected and expenditures made, or to his deputy, who shall cause the same to be included in his report to the Election Law
- 5 Enforcement Commission subject to the provisions of sections 8 and 16 of this act; or
- 7 (2) Directly to the Election Law Enforcement Commission at the same time and in the same manner as a political committee or continuing political committee subject to the provisions of
- section 8 of this act.
- d. Contributions or purchases made in response to a public solicitation conducted in conformity with the requirements and conditions of this act shall not be deemed anonymous within the
- meaning of sections 11, 14 and 20 of this act.
- e. No person contributing in good faith to a public solicitation not duly authorized in compliance with the provisions of this act
- shall be liable to any penalty under this act by reason of having made such contribution.
- 19 6. Section 2 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-27) is amended to read as follows:
- 2. It is hereby declared to the a compelling public interest and to be the policy of this State that primary and general
- election campaigns for the office of Governor shall be financed with public support pursuant to the provisions of this act, and
- 25 <u>that such public support shall be structured so as to encourage</u> <u>candidates to solicit and obtain contributions of moderate</u>
- 27 <u>amounts from a broad range of individuals whose purpose in</u> making those contributions is limited to the furtherance of good
- 29 government. It is the intention of this act that such financing be adequate in amount so that candidates for election to the
- office of Governor may conduct their campaigns free from improper influence and so that persons of limited financial
- means may seek election to the State's highest office.
- 7. Section 4 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-29) is amended to read as follows:
- 4. a. Except in the case of a candidate, as provided in subsection g. of this section, no person or political committee, otherwise eligible to make political contributions, shall make

any contribution or contributions to a candidate, his campaign 1 treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer, a State committee, county committee or municipal committee of any political 3 party, or to any other person or committee, in aid of the 5 candidacy of or in behalf of a candidate for nomination for election or for election to the office of Governor in any primary or general election in the aggregate in excess of [\$800.00] 7 \$1,200.00. No candidate for nomination for election or for election to the office of Governor in any primary or general 9 election and no campaign treasurer or deputy campaign 11 treasurer of such candidate shall knowingly accept from any person, candidate or political committee any contribution or contributions in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of such 13 candidate in the aggregate in excess of [\$800.00] \$1,200.00 in any primary or general election. No provision of this act shall 15 be construed to prohibit a contribution or contributions in the aggregate not in excess of [\$800.00] \$1,200.00 in aid of the **17** candidacy of or in behalf of any candidate for nomination for election to the office of Governor in a primary election and 19 another contribution or contributions in the aggregate not in excess of [\$800.00] \$1,200.00 in the aid of the candidacy of or in 21 behalf of any candidate for election to the office of Governor in 23 a general election. With respect to gubernatorial elections held in 1989 and every fourth year thereafter, the amount of the maximum aggregate contributions which may be made under this 25 subsection to, or in aid or on behalf of, a candidate for nomination for election or for election to the office of 27 Governor, or which may be accepted by or for such a candidate, shall be the adjusted amount. 29

b. (Deleted by amendment, P.L. 1980, c. 74.)

c. The spouse of any contributor may make a contribution or contributions of up to [\$800.00] \$1,200.00 in the aggregate in aid
of the candidacy of or in behalf of a candidate for election to the office of Governor in a general election. With respect to gubernatorial elections held in 1989 and every fourth year thereafter, the amount of the maximum aggregate contributions
by the spouse of a contributor which may be made in aid or on behalf of a candidate for election to the office of Governor shall be the adjusted amount.

1 d. [No State committee of any political party shall knowingly accept from any person or political committee, any contribution or contributions in the aggregate in excess of \$800.00 in aid of 3 the candidacy of or in behalf of a candidate for election to the office of Governor in a general election. A State committee 5 may allocate a contribution of up to \$800.00, and up to \$800.00 of a contribution in excess of \$800.00 in aid of the candidacy of 7 or in behalf of such candidate. A State committee shall create 9 an account in a National or State bank in behalf of any candidate the committee intends to or does assist for election to the office of Governor in a general election, shall deposit in 11 such account and report to the Election Law Enforcement Commission the name of the contributor of all moneys accepted 13 or allocated in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of such candidate, and may make a contribution or contributions from 15 such account in any amount in aid of the candidacy of or in 17 behalf of such candidate. No State committee may make any contribution or contributions in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of such candidate of moneys not deposited in a bank 19 account pursuant to this subsection, and no State committee 21 may make a contribution or contributions in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of such candidate of it, moneys or other thing of 23 value pledged or received in a calendar year in which no gubernatorial election was held.] (Deleted by amendment, P.L. . 25 <u>. . . , c. . . .)</u>

e. The county committees and municipal committees of any political party may make an expenditure or expenditures in the aggregate of \$100,000.00 in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of any candidate for election to the office of Governor in a general election; except the county committee and municipal committees in the same county may not make an expenditure or expenditures in the aggregate in excess of \$10,000.00 in aid of the candidacy or in behalf of any such candidate. With respect to gubernatorial election held in 1989 and every fourth year thereafter, the amount of the maximum aggregate expenditure or expenditures in aid or on behalf of a candidate for election to the office of Governor which a county or municipal committee of a political party may make under this subsection shall be

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- the adjusted amount. No county committee or municipal committee may transfer or contribute any funds to any such
- 3 candidate or to such candidate's campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer, or to any political committee supporting
- 5 such candidate. A candidate or his campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer shall determine the exact amount
- that individual county committees or municipal committees may contribute in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of such
- candidate, and shall file a report of such determination with the Election Law Enforcement Commission no later than the
- seventh day prior to the general election being funded.
 - f. [Communications on any subject by a corporation to its stockholders and their families, and nonpartisan registration and
- stockholders and their families, and nonpartisan registration and get-out-the-vote campaigns by a corporation aimed at its
- stockholders and their families, or by a labor organization aimed
- at its members and their families, shall not be construed to be in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of a candidate for election
- to the office of Governor in any primary or general election.]
- The following shall not be construed to be in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of a candidate for nomination for
- 21 <u>election or for election to the office of Governor in any primary</u>
- or general election:

 (1) Communications on any subject which are: (a) not made
- with the cooperation or prior consent of, or in consultation with
- or at the request or suggestion of, a candidate or any person or committee acting on behalf of a candidate; or (b) made by a
- 27 corporation to its stockholders and their families, or by a labor
- organization or other membership organization to the members
- of the organization and their families, which communications appear in an official written publication or organization
- published regularly and not less frequently than once in each calendar quarter, and which do not occupy more than 25% of the
- space available for copy in any edition of that publication in
- which such communications appear; and
- 35 (2) Any nonpartisan registration and get-out-the-vote campaigns which are: (a) not made with the cooperation or prior
- 37 consent of, or in consultation with or at the request or suggestion of, a candidate or any person or committee acting on

- behalf of a candidate, and (b) made by a corporation aimed at its stockholders and their families, or by a labor organization or
 other membership organization aimed at the members of the
- organization and their families.
- Any payment or reimbursement of, or any undertaking to pay or reimburse, the cost of communications under paragraph (a) of
- paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be a contribution for the purpose of those provisions of this act concerning the reporting
- 9 of contributions.

- g. No candidate receiving public funds may make expenditures from his own funds, including any contributions from his own funds, in aid of his candidacy for nomination or
- election to the office of Governor in excess of \$25,000.00 for the primary election and \$25,000.00 for the general election.
- 15 With respect to gubernatorial elections held in 1989 and every fourth year thereafter, the amount of the maximum
- expenditures under this subsection which a candidate may make from his own funds in aid of his candidacy for nomination for
- election or for election to the office of Governor shall be the adjusted amount.
- As used in this subsection "own funds" means funds to which the candidate is legally and beneficially entitled, but shall not
- 23 include funds as to which he is a trustee, or funds given or otherwise transferred to the candidate by any person other than
- 25 the spouse of the candidate for use in aid of his candidacy.
 - 8. Section 7 of 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-32) is amended to read as follows:
 - 7. a. Each candidate in the primary election to the office of
- 29 Governor, shall, with the approval of the Election Law Enforcement Commission, create a bank account in a National
- or State bank. The candidate, his campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer shall deposit promptly into the account all
- moneys received pursuant to [section] <u>sections</u> 4 <u>and 19</u> of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-29 <u>and 19:44A-44</u>) and sections 11 and 12
- 35 of P.L. 1973, c. 83 (C. 19:44A-11 and 19:44A-12).
- b. Each candidate in the general election to the office of 37 Governor shall, with the approval of the Election Law Enforcement Commission, create an account in a National or

- State bank. The candidate, his campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer shall deposit promptly into the account all
- moneys received [for the purpose of the election, provided that the moneys are received] pursuant to [section] sections 4 and 19
- of P.L. 1974 c. 26 (C. 19:44A-29 and 19:44A-44) and sections 11 and 12 of P.L. 1973, c. 83 (C. 19:44A-11 and 19:44A-12).
- 7 c. Immediately after deposit in the bank account the candidate or his campaign treasurer or deputy campaign
- 9 treasurer may transfer or expend the moneys, except that no moneys deposited in a candidate's bank account for the primary
- election may be expended for any candidate's general election expenses, and except that no moneys deposited in a candidate's
- bank account for the general election may be transferred or expended until the day following the primary election or may be
- expended for primary election expenses.
 - d. No State or National bank which acts as a depository for
- election funds as provided in this act shall be held accountable for the proper application of funds withdrawn, transferred or
- expended from such accounts by the person or persons in whose name or names the accounts are opened or maintained, nor shall
- the State or National bank be under any duty to determine whether the funds deposited in the account are withdrawn,
- transferred or expended for the purposes and at the time or times prescribed by law, or are received from sources and in
- amounts prescribed or limited by law.
- 9. Section 8 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-33) is amended to read as follows:
 - 8. a. The campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer
- of any qualified candidate for nomination for election to the office of Governor in a primary election upon application to the
- commission shall promptly receive in behalf of the qualified candidate from the fund for election campaign expenses, but not
- prior to January 1 of the year of the election, moneys in an amount equal to twice the amount of no more than [\$800.00]
- \$500.00 of each contribution from an individual deposited in the qualified candidate's primary election bank account described in
- section 7 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-32) and be eligible to be considered under subsection m. of section 3 of P.L. 1973, c. 83
- 39 (C. 19:44A-3) in calculating whether the candidate was a

- qualified candidate, except that no payment shall be made from the fund to any candidate for the first [\$50,000.00] \$25,000.00
- deposited in the qualified candidate's bank account.

 Applications for payments and payments under this subsection
- following the date on which a candidate is determined to be a qualified candidate shall be made only on the basis of successive
- 7 <u>increments of \$12,500.00 of such contributions.</u> The maximum amount which any qualified candidate for nomination for
- election to the office of Governor in a primary election may receive from the fund for election campaign expenses shall not
- exceed [\$0.20 for each voter who voted in New Jersey in the last preceding general election in a presidential year] \$500,000.00.
- b. The campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer of any qualified candidate for election to the office of Governor in
- a general election upon application to the commission shall promptly receive in behalf of such qualified candidate from the
- fund for election campaign expenses, but not prior to the primary election, moneys in an amount equal to twice the
- amount of no more than [\$800.00] \$500.00 for each contribution from an individual deposited in such qualified candidate's bank
- account described in section 7 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-32) and eligible to be considered under subsection m. of section 3 of
- P.L. 1973, c. 83 (C. 19:44A-3) in calculating whether the candidate was a qualified candidate, except that no payment
- shall be made from the fund to any candidate for the first [\$50,000.00] \$25,000.00 deposited in such qualified candidate's
- bank account. Applications for payments and payments under this subsection following the date on which a candidate is
- determined to be a qualified candidate shall be made only on the basis of successive increment of \$12,500.00 of such
- 31 contributions.

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The maximum amount which any qualified candidate for election to the office of Governor in a general election may receive from the fund for election campaign expenses shall not exceed [\$0.40 for each voter who voted in New Jersey in the last preceding general election in a presidential year] \$1,000,000.00.

37 c. Commencing December 31, 1992 and every fourth year thereafter, the amount of contributions from an individual for

- which payments from the fund may be made under this subsection and the maximum amount which a candidate for
- nomination for election or for election to the office of Governor may receive under this subsection shall be adjusted amounts.
- 5 10. Section 10 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C.19:44A-35) is amended to read as follows:
- 7 10. a. All expenditures from the fund for election campaign expenses shall be made pursuant to rules and regulations of the
- 9 Election Law Enforcement Commission and shall be strictly limited to the following purposes:
- 11 (1) Purchase of time on radio and television stations;

- (2) Purchase of rental space on outdoor signs or billboards;
- (3) Purchase of advertising space in newspapers and regularly published magazines and periodicals;
- (4) Payment of the cost of producing the material aired or displayed on radio, television, outdoor signs or billboards, and in newspapers, regularly published magazines and periodicals;
 - (5) Payment of the cost of printing and mailing campaign literature and brochures distributed under the name of any qualified candidate;
- 21 (6) Payment of the cost of legal and accounting expenses incurred in complying with the public financing regulations of the Election Law Enforcement Commission and with the public financing provisions of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-27 et seq.);
- 25 (7) Payment of the cost of telephone deposits, and installation charges and monthly billings in excess of deposits.
- Within [6] <u>nine</u> months after the primary and general elections, respectively, a candidate shall return to the fund the amount of
- any public funds used to pay such telephone deposits which are later returned.
- b. The limitations in subsection a. of this section upon expenditures from the fund for election campaign expenses shall
- not apply to expenditures of private contributions, whether or not such private contributions were deposited in a candidate's
- bank accounts pursuant to section 7 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-32).
- 37 c. Moneys received by a qualified candidate from the fund for election campaign expenses may be retained for a period not
 39 exceeding [6] nine months after the election for which such

- moneys were received in order to liquidate all obligations to pay expenses for the purposes permitted by this section which were
- incurred during the election campaign. All obligations having been liquidated, all moneys remaining available to any qualified
- candidate, whether or not received from the fund, shall be paid into the fund, except that no candidate shall paying into the
- fund moneys in excess of moneys received from the fund.
- 11. Section 19 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-44) is amended to read as follows:
- 19. Notwithstanding any provision of this act any candidate in
- a primary election for the office of Governor, or his campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer, or any candidate in a
- general election for the office of Governor, or his campaign treasurer or deputy treasurer may borrow funds from any
- National or State bank. No person or political committee other than the candidate [himself or the State committee of any
- political party in a general election], may in any way endorse or
- guarantee such loan in an amount in the aggregate in excess of
- 19 [\$800.00] <u>\$1,200.00</u>. The endorsement shall constitute a contribution for so long as the loan is outstanding. The amount
- borrowed by any such candidate or his campaign treasure or deputy campaign treasurer shall in the aggregate not exceed
- \$50,000.00 and must be repaid in full by such candidate or his campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer from moneys
- accepted or allocated pursuant to section 4 of P.L. 1974, c. 26
- (C. 19:44A-29) 20 days prior to the date of the primary or general election for which the loan was made, and certification
- of such repayment shall be made by the borrower to the Election
- Law Enforcement Commission in accordance with commission regulations. With respect to gubernatorial elections held in 1989
- and every fourth year thereafter, the maximum aggregate amount of loans which a person or political committee may
- endorse or guarantee under this subsection and the maximum aggregate amount which a candidate, campaign treasurer or
- deputy campaign treasurer may borrow hereunder shall be the
- adjusted amount.
 Upon the failure of the borrower to repay the full amount borrowed on or before the twentieth day prior to the date of the
- 39 primary or general election for the office of Governor, or to

- certify such repayment to the Election Law Enforcement Commission as required herein, all payments of moneys to such
- 3 candidate from the fund for election campaign expenses pursuant to section 8 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-33) shall
- 5 promptly cease; and the Election Law Enforcement Commission shall forthwith seek and may obtain in a summary action in the
- Superior Court an injunction prohibiting the expenditure by any such candidate of any moneys received by him at any time from
- 9 the fund for election campaign expenses pursuant to said section 8 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-33), and any other moneys
- received by him in aid of or in behalf of his candidacy in said election.
- 13 12. Section 11 of P.L. 1973, c. 83 (C. 19:44A-11) is amended to read as follows:
- 15 11. No contribution of money or other thing of value, nor obligation therefor, including but not limited to contributions,
- loans or obligations of a candidate himself or of his family, shall be made or received, and no expenditure of money or other thing
- of value, nor obligation therefor, including expenditures, loans or obligations of a candidate himself or of his family, shall be
- 21 made or incurred, directly or indirectly, to support or defeat a candidate in any election, or to aid the passage or defeat of any
- public question, except through:

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- a. The duly appointed campaign treasurer, or deputy campaign treasurers of the candidate;
- b. The duly appointed organizational treasurer or deputy organizational treasurers of a political party committee or other continuing political committee;
- c. The duly appointed campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurers of a political committee.
- It shall be lawful however, for any person, not acting in concert with any other person or group and not with the
- cooperation or prior consent of, or in consultation with or at the request or suggestion of a candidate or any person or committee
- acting on his behalf, to expend personally from his own funds a sum which is not to be repaid to him for any purpose not
- prohibited by law, or to contribute his own personal services and personal traveling expenses, to support or defeat a candidate or
- to aid the passage or defeat of a public question; provided, however, that any person making such expenditure shall be

- required to report his name, mailing address and occupation, the name and mailing address of his employer, and all such
- expenditures and expenses, except personal traveling expenses, if the total of the money so expended, exclusive of such
- 5 traveling expenses, exceeds \$100.00, either:

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- a. To the campaign treasurer of the candidate, political party committee or political committee on whose behalf such expenditure or contribution was made, or to his deputy, who
- 9 shall cause the same to be included in his report to the Election Law Enforcement Commission subject to the provisions of 11 sections 8 and 9 of this act; or
- b. Directly to the Election Law Enforcement Commission at
 the same time and in the same manner as a political committee
 subject to the provisions of section 8 of this act.
- No contribution of money shall be made in currency, except contributions in response to a public solicitation, provided that
- cumulative currency contributions of up to \$100.00 may be made to a candidate, political committee or continuing political
- committee if the contributor submits with the currency contribution a written statement [of] in a form as prescribed by
- the commission, indicating his name [and], mailing address and occupation, and the amount of his contribution, [and] including
- 23 his signature, and the name and mailing address of his employer.

donor is found, the contribution shall escheat to the State.

Any anonymous contribution received by a campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer shall not be used or expended, but shall be returned to the, donor, if his identity is known, and if no

Any State, county or municipal committee of any political party, after a primary election, but not prior thereto, may receive and expend funds to be spent in furtherance and in aid of

the candidacy of all the candidates of such party, or of any one or more of such candidates, in accordance with the provisions of this act.

- 13. Section 12 of P.L. 1973, c. 83 (C. 19:44A-12) is amended to read as follows:
- 12. An organizational or campaign treasurer or deputy
 37 organizational or campaign treasurer of a candidate, of a political committee, or of a continuing political committee shall
 39 make a written record of all funds which he receives as

contributions to the candidate, political committee 1 continuing political committee, including in that record the 3 name and mailing address of the contributor, the amount and date of the contribution, and where the contributor is an 5 individual, the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of his employer. The campaign treasurer shall 7 retain that record for a period of not less than four years. All funds so received shall be deposited by the campaign or organizational treasurer or deputy campaign or organizational 9 treasurer in a campaign depository of the candidate, continuing political committee or political committee, in an account 11 "Campaign Fund of (name of candidate or 13 committee)" no later than the 10th calendar day following receipt of such funds; except that any such treasurer or deputy treasurer may, when authorized by the candidate or committee 15 of which he is the campaign treasurer or deputy campaign 17 treasurer, transfer any such funds to the duly designated campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer of another candidate or committee, for inclusion in the campaign fund 19 thereof, without first so depositing them; provided, however, 21 that a record of all nondeposited funds so transferred shall be attached to the statement required under this section, 23 identifying them as to source and amount in the same manner as deposited funds.

25 14. (New section) a. The Department of the Treasury shall establish and shall maintain on a current basis a cumulative list of all firms, businesses and individuals doing business with the 27 State, or which during the preceding year have done business 29 with the State pursuant to a waiver of advertising for competitive binds, or pursuant to any contract involving 31 potential billings of \$25,000.00 or greater and a separate such list of all firms, businesses and individuals which during the preceding year have bid on contracts for work for the State 33 involving potential billings of \$25,000.00 or greater or have 35 negotiated any contract involving a waiver of competitive bidding. The Department shall likewise so establish and 37 maintain separate such lists for each instrumentality and political subdivision of the State with respect to firms, 39 businesses and individuals doing or having done such business or

- having bid on or negotiated such contracts with those instrumentalities and political subdivisions. Any list prepared
- under this subsection shall identify as an individual doing such business or having bid on or negotiated such contracts any
- 5 director or officer of any corporation; any partner of any partnership; and any individual holding, directly or indirectly, a
- 7 legal or beneficial interest of 10% or greater in any corporation, association or other concern, the name of which corporation,
- 9 partnership, association or concern is included on such list. For the purposes of each such list, a firm, business or individual shall
- be considered to be doing business with the State or an instrumentality or political subdivision thereof for one year
- following the completion of its work for the State, instrumentality or political subdivision. The State Treasurer is
- authorized to promulgate any rules and regulations as may be necessary for the establishment and maintenance of any list
- 17 under this subsection.

subsection.

- On or before the 10th day of each month, the State Treasurer
 shall transmit to the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement
 Commission a copy of each cumulative list, current as of the
 first day of that month, required to be prepared under this
- b. On or before the 20th day of each month, the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission shall, on the basis of the
- reports of contributions and expenditures filed with the commission during that month and the preceding 24 months
- 27 under "The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act," P.L. 1973, c. 83 (C. 19:44A-1 et
- seq.) and entered into its data processing system, prepare a separate report of the name of any person, group or organization
- appearing on the cumulative list transmitted to the commission that month under subsection a, of this section who or which has,
- during the period covered by those contributions and expenditure reports, made cumulative contributions of \$500.00 or more to
- any candidate or campaign treasurer of a candidate, or to any political committee or any continuing political committee in aid
- 37 or on behalf of a candidate.
 - 15. (New section) Notwithstanding any other law, rule, or

- 1 regulation to the contrary, any campaign literature, advertisements, or notices of any kind (1) which are paid for by a candidate for any office other than the office of the Governor 3 or by a political committee other than a committee organized 5 for the promotion of a candidate for nomination for election or for election to the office of Governor, and (2) which contain references to, comments on or by, photographs of, or an appeal 7 or solicitation to vote for, a candidate for nomination for 9 election or for election to the office of Governor, shall not be deemed to be in aid of the candidacy of or in behalf of that candidate gubernatorial
- gubernatorial candidate whether or not the literature, advertisements or notices are authorized by or coordinated with
- that gubernatorial candidate or a political committee organized on behalf of that candidate, provided that, in the case of an
- appeal or solicitation to vote for a gubernatorial candidate that appeal or solicitation shall not be the predominant theme of the
- 17 literature, advertisements or notices.
 - 16. Section 7 of P.L. 1973, c. 83 (C. 19:44A-7), section 9 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-34), section 11 of P.L. 1974, c. 26 (C. 19:44A-36) and section 19 of P.L. 1980, c. 74 (C. 19:44A-7.1)
 - 17. This act shall take effect on the 120th day following the date of enactment.

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STATEMENT

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This bill amends existing law concerning the reporting of political contribution and the program under which gubernatorial campaigns receive public financing. Among the changes are the following:

A. RECORD-KEEPING AND REPORTING

- Reports of contributions are to include the occupation of the contributor and the name and mailing address of the contributor's employer.
- The State Treasurer is required to maintain lists of business that do or recently have done business with the State or any of its subdivisions or instrumentalities under a waiver of competitive bidding or a contract of \$25,000.00 or more.

| 1 | B. GUBERNATORIAL CAMPAIGN FINANCING |
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| | 1. The dollar limit on contributions is increased from \$800.00 |
| 3 | to \$1,200.00. |
| | 2. The limit on contributions for gubernatorial inaugural |
| 5 | fundraising events is increased from \$250.00 to \$500.00. |
| | 3. The limitation on spending by gubernatorial candidates is |
| 7 | repealed. |
| | 4. The amount to be counted in determining if a sufficient |
| 9 | amount has been raised to qualify for public matching funds is |
| | limited to the first \$500.00 of individual contributions. |
| 11 | 5. The full amount of contributions from individuals is not |
| | eligible for matching funds, just the first \$500.00, \$25,000.00 of |
| 13 | the first \$50,000.00 is eligible for matching funds; none of that |
| | amount is eligible to be matched under existing law. |
| 15 | 6. The amounts of aggregate public funds for which |
| | candidates may be eligible are placed at \$500,000.00 for |
| 17 | primaries and \$1,000,000.00 for general elections. |
| | 7. The various monetary thresholds and limits are to be |
| 19 | adjusted in the future on the basis of inflation. |
| | 8. The deadline for the return of unused campaign funds is |
| 21 | extended from six to nine months following elections. |
| | 9. Applications for matching funds for contributions in excess |
| 23 | of the first \$50,000.00 deposited in a qualified candidate's bank |
| | account shall be made only in successive increments of |
| 25 | \$12,500.00. |
| | 10. The requirement that proceeds of loans or contributions |
| 27 | by a county or municipal party committee and certain other |
| | funds not be deposited in a candidate's bank account is repealed. |
| 29 | 11. Current provisions protecting corporation-to-shareholder |
| | and labor union-to-member communications from being |
| 31 | construed as aiding a gubernatorial candidate are narrowed to |
| | apply only to a limited volume of communications appearing in |
| 33 | regularly issued written publications; new provisions protect all |
| | communications made independently of a gubernatorial |
| 35 | candidate and of any person or committee acting on his behalf. |
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ELECTIONS

Ethics and Financial Disclosure

41 Makes certain changes in the law governing gubernatorial campaign contributions and expenditures.

ASSEMBLY STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, Nos. 1705 and 2250

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 12, 1988

The Assembly State Government Committee reports favorably an Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly, Nos. 1705 and 2250.

This bill makes various changes in the law governing gubernatorial campaign contributions and expenditures and the public funding of gubernatorial campaigns. The bill:

- (1) Increases the dollar limit on contributions and loan guarantees to the primary and general election campaigns of candidates for nomination or for election to the office of Governor who accept public financing from \$800 to \$1,500. The limit on contributions to gubernatorial candidates who do not accept such financing is to remain \$800;
- (2) Eliminates the current \$100,000 limit, applicable State-wide, on aggregate expenditures by each political party's county and municipal committees in aid of that party's gubernatorial candidate. The effect of this change will be to leave the existing \$10,000 limit applicable to such expenditures by the local political party committees of each county as the only limit thereon, so that the maximum permissible amount of such spending State-wide would be \$210,000;
- (3) Increases the threshold of private-source contributions which a candidate must raise in order to qualify for public funding from the present level of \$50,000, none of which is eligible to be matched with public funds, to \$150,000, of which \$100,000 will be eligible for such matching funds;
- (4) Imposes a new requirement that applications for and payments of matching funds are to be made only on the basis of amounts of \$12,500 or more;
- (5) Revises the limits on total spending by a gubernatorial candidate (a) in a primary election, from \$.35 per voter in the preceding Presidential election to \$1.75 million, and (b) in a general election, from \$.70 per voter in the preceding Presidential election to \$5 million;

- (6) Reduces the matching ratio, i.e., the amount of public funds which each private-source contribution up to the maximum permissible amount will qualify a gubernatorial candidate to receive, in the primary election from \$2.00 for each \$1.00 to \$1.50 for each \$1.00. The ratio applicable in the general election is to remain \$2.00 for each \$1.00;
- (7) Revises the statutory limits on the amount of public funds which a candidate could receive in the primary and general elections from \$.20 and \$.40, respectively, for each voter in the last preceding general election in a presidential year to \$1,020,000 and \$3,300,000, respectively; and
- (8) Increases from \$250 to \$500 the limit on contributions to any gubernatorial inaugural fund-raising events.

The bill also enacts a new provision, applicable to prospective candidates in any election covered by the provisions of the "New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act," exempting funds received and payments made solely for the purpose of determining whether an individual should become a candidate from being considered as contributions and expenditures subject to the requirements and limitations of the Act. This exemption for so-called "testing-the-waters activities" would not apply to funds received and payments made for general public political advertising or for activities undertaken for the purpose of amassing campaign funds to be spent after the individual becomes a candidate. If the individual does later become a candidate, any funds and payments theretofore exempted would become contributions and expenditures for all purposes of the Act.

Finally, the bill requires candidates for nomination for election to the office of Governor who accept public funding for their primary election campaigns to participate in two gubernatorial primary debates to be held among candidates for the nomination. Likewise, a candidate for election to that office who accepts public funding for the general election campaign is to be required to participate in two gubernatorial election debates. Candidates in either election who meet the threshold requirements to qualify for public funding of their campaigns, but who nonetheless decline such funding, could elect to participate or not at their option. The debates would be under the sponsorship and management of the Election Law Enforcement Commission, except that the commission could delegate these responsibilities to a suitable private organization which is unconnected with any party or candidate for public office.

SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT, FEDERAL AND INTERSTATE RELATIONS AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, Nos. 1705 and 2250

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 19, 1988

The Senate State Government, Federal and Interstate Relations and Veterans' Affairs Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments the Assembly Committee Substitute for Assembly, Nos. 1705 and 2250.

This bill makes various changes in the law governing gubernatorial campaign contributions and expenditures and the public funding of gubernatorial campaigns. The bill:

- (1) increases the dollar limit on contributions and loan guarantees to the primary and general election campaigns of candidates for nomination or for election to the office of Governor from \$800 to \$1,500;
- (2) eliminates the current \$100,000 limit, applicable Statewide, on aggregate expenditures by each political party's county and municipal committees in aid of that party's gubernatorial candidate. The effect of this change will be to leave the existing \$10,000 limit applicable to such expenditures by the local political party committees of each county as the only limit thereon, so that the maximum permissible amount of such spending Statewide would be \$210,000;
- (3) increases the threshold of private-source contributions which a candidate must raise in order to qualify for public funding from the present level of \$50,000, none of which is eligible to be matched with public funds, to \$150,000, of which \$100,000 will be eligible for such matching funds;
- (4) imposes a new requirement that applications for and payments of matching funds are to be made only on the basis of amounts of \$12,500 or more;
- (5) revises the limits on total spending by a gubernatorial candidate (a) in a primary election, from \$.35 per voter in the preceding Presidential election to \$2.3 million, and (b) in a general

election, from \$.70 per voter in the preceding Presidential election to \$5 million;

- (6) revises the statutory limits on the amount of public funds which a candidate could receive in the primary and general elections from \$.20 and \$.40, respectively, for each voter in the last preceding general election in a presidential year to \$1,450,000 and \$3,300,000, respectively;
- (7) increases from \$250 to \$500 the limit on contributions to a gubernatorial inaugural fund-raising event; and
- (8) allows the Election Law Enforcement Commission to adjust the limits on campaign contributions, expenditures, and matching public funds beginning with the 1993 gubernatorial election.

The bill also enacts a new provision, applicable to prospective candidates in any election covered by the provisions of the "New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act," exempting funds received and payments made solely for the purpose of determining whether an individual should become a candidate from being considered as contributions and expenditures subject to the requirements and limitations of the Act. This exemption for so-called "testing-the-waters activities" would not apply to funds received and payments made for general public political advertising or for activities undertaken for the purpose of amassing campaign funds to be spent after the individual becomes a candidate. If the individual does later become a candidate, any funds and payments theretofore exempted would become contributions and expenditures for all purposes of the Act.

The bill requires candidates for nomination for election to the office of Governor who accept public funding for their primary election campaigns to participate in two gubernatorial primary debates to be held among candidates for the nomination. Likewise, a candidate for election to that office who accepts public funding for the general election campaign is to be required to participate in two gubernatorial election debates. Candidates in either election who meet the threshold requirements to qualify for public funding of their campaigns, but who nonetheless decline such funding, could elect to participate or not at their option. Private organizations not affiliated with any political party or candidate, to be selected by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, shall sponsor the primary and general election debates.

The bill also makes provision for candidates who receive moneys from the fund on or after January 1, 1989 and prior to the effective date of this act.

This act shall take effect immediately and, except for section 3, shall be retroactive to January 1, 1989.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the Assembly Committee Substitute to:

- (1) eliminate the \$800 limit on contributions to gubernatorial candidates who do not accept public financing;
- (2) increase the limits on total spending by a gubernatorial candidate in a primary election from \$1.75 million to \$2.3 million;
- (3) restore the matching ratio in the primary election to \$2.00, instead of \$1.50, for each \$1.00;
- (4) increase from \$1,020,000 to \$1,450,000 the amount of public funds which a candidate could receive in a primary election;
- (5) allow the Election Law Enforcement Commission to adjust the limits on campaign contributions, expenditures and matching public funds for primary and general elections to the office of Governor according to an index reflecting the overall costs of election campaigning during the four-year period ending with the year of the gubernatorial election;
- (6) remove the requirement that the Election Law Enforcement Commission shall sponsor and have responsibility for the gubernatorial primary and general election debates and to allow private organizations not affiliated with any political party or candidate to sponsor the debates;
- (7) allow the Election Law Enforcement Commission to adopt rules and to take administrative action to effectuate the purposes of this 1988 amendatory and supplementary act and to excuse the commission from strict compliance with the "Administrative Procedure Act" if necessary for timely implementation; and
- (8) make provision for candidates who receive moneys from the fund on or after January 1, 1989 and prior to the effective date of this act.

ASSEMBLY, No. 1705

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: December 23, 1988

Assembly Bill 1705 of 1988 amends the statutes concerning campaign financing in the following manner:

- 1. Increases the maximum contribution which can be made to any candidate from \$800.00 to \$1,200.00, but limits the amount which can be counted toward the \$50,000.00 qualification threshold and additional match to the first \$500.00 of each individual contribution.
- 2. Provides for a maximum match of \$500,000.00 per qualifying primary election candidate, and \$1,000,000.00 per general election candidate.
- 3. Provides for distribution of matching funds only after continuing incremental expenditure thresholds have been met.
- 4. Eliminates the candidates' overall expenditure limits.
- 5. Provides for automatic increases for inflation in the contribution caps and threshold requirements.
- 6. Requires the Department of Treasury to develop and update monthly a list of vendors doing business with the State or having done business with the State or having done business with the State during the preceding year involving bid waivers or potential billings of \$25,000.00 or greater, and a list of vendors which have bond or negotiated contracts involving bid waivers or potential billings of \$25,000.00 or more during that past year; and to develop similarly a list of such vendors doing or having done business with or bid on or negotiated such contracts with instrumentalities and political subdivisions of the State.
- 7. Requires the Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC) to extract from the Department of Treasury vendor lists a separate list of those vendors which have contributed \$500.00 or more to any candidate, political committee or continuing political committee.

The ELEC and the Office of Management and Budget have failed to provide a fiscal analysis for this bill. However, they did provide an estimate for an identical bill, Assembly Bill No. 2996 of 1986. ELEC estimated that enactment of this bill would require the addition of two temporary positions to conduct the match

determination and contribution verification process at a cost of \$33,000.00. These temporary positions would be required the year before and after the election process, and thus the costs incurred would occur two out of every four years. An additional position costing \$15,000.00 annually would be required for the entry of information about State vendors into ELEC's computer system. ELEC further estimates that a one-time software cost of \$25,000.00 is required to develop a program to match State vendors with political contributors. An ongoing annual cost of \$20,000.00 for program maintenance would then be incurred by ELEC for a total annual cost of \$35,000.00.

The Office of Legislative Services notes that ELEC received a general fund appropriation of \$362,000 in FY 1989 for the Gubernatorial Public Finance Program. This appropriation might be sufficient to defray some of the additional administrative costs imposed by this bill.

The Department of the Treasury, which is charged with the responsibility of providing the vendor list to ELEC on a monthly basis, estimates its first-year cost of complying with the provisions of this bill at \$575,000. This amount includes \$400,000 for hiring 10 to 12 staff, \$125,000 for computer programming and data processing and \$50,000 for collection of required information from local entities.

Counterbalancing the costs of this legislation are the savings which would be accrued to the Gubernatorial Elections Fund. Based on the 1985 gubernatorial election, ELEC estimates that his bill would save approximately \$1,800,000.00 for the Fund.

The Office of Legislative Services notes that the 1985 Gubernatorial election was unusual in that the Republican candidate ran unopposed in the primary election, and therefore the overall cost to the Gubernatorial Elections Fund was lower than normal. If more Republican candidates had run for office during that primary, the cost to the Fund would have been higher. However, due to the reduced funding cap promulgated by this bill the savings generated per candidate would be somewhat greater, by about \$144,000.00 per candidate who qualifies for maximum public funding.

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67.

774,461



Governor Thomas H. Kean TRENTON, N.J. 08625 Belease:

CN-001

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CARL GOLDEN

609-292-8956 OR 609-292-6000 EXT. 207

MON., 1/23/89

Legislation making substantial changes in New Jersey's system of public financing for gubernatorial election campaigns was signed into law on Saturday by Governor Thomas H. Kean.

The bill, an Assembly Committee Substitute, was sponsored by Assemblyman Robert Martin, R-Morris; Anthony Cimino, D-Mercer, and Byron Baer, D-Bergen. It was signed by the Governor upon his return from Washington, D.C. on Saturday.

"With these changes, New Jersey now has a public financing law which clearly recognizes the costs of modern day campaigning," Kean said. "It recognizes, further, that adequate spending limits are necessary to keep undue influences and special interests at arms length."

The Governor suggested that the Legislature turn its attention to developing a system of public financing for legislative elections as well.

Kean recommended that course of action in his State of the State address to the Legislature on January 10.

"Concerns over the cost of legislative campaigning and the involvement of special interests in the process have been expressed more and more frequently," Kean said. "It is certainly in the Legislature's best interest, as well the interest of the people of New Jersey, that steps be taken toward a system free of such influences."

January 23, 1989

The bill signed by the Governor Saturday has as its major provisions:

*An increase in the threshold to qualify for public funds to \$150,000 from the original \$50,000.

*A spending limit in the primary election of \$2.2 million.

*A spending limit in the General Election of \$5 million.

*An increase in the maximum allowable contribution to \$1,500 from the original \$800. The limit on contributions applies to individuals, as well as political committee.

*Permits the Election Law Enforcement Commission to adjust the limits on contributions, expenditures, and matching funds to reflect increases in the cost of campaigning, beginning with the 1993 election cycle.

*Requires candidates who accept public funds to debate twice in the primary and twice in the general election campaigns.

Two other bills were signed by Kean today. They are:

A-433, sponsored by Assemblyman Thomas Deverin, D-Middlesex, to appropriate \$25,000 to the Division of Developmental Disabilities for a grant to the Association for the Advancement of Mentally Handicapped.

A-3108, sponsored by Assemblywoman Clare Farragher, R-Monmouth, and Assemblyman William Haines, R-Burlington, to provide the State Health Benefits Commission with greater flexibility in selecting carriers.

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