# 19:44A-11.8

#### LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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**LAWS OF:** 2004 **CHAPTER:** 28

**NJSA:** 19:44A-11.8 (Campaign contributions to be reported to ELEC)

BILL NO: A5 (Substituted for S5)

SPONSOR(S): Voss and others

**DATE INTRODUCED:** May 17, 2004

COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY: State Government

SENATE: ----

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: May 24, 2004

**SENATE:** June 10, 2004

**DATE OF APPROVAL:** June 16, 2004

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (1st reprint enacted)

**A5** 

**SPONSOR'S STATEMENT**: (Begins on page 19 original bill)

Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: <u>ASSEMBLY</u>: <u>Yes</u>

SENATE: No

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

**S5** 

**SPONSOR'S STATEMENT**: (Begins on page 19 of bill) Yes

Bill and Sponsors Statement identical to A5

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: No

**SENATE**: Yes

Identical Assembly Statement to A5

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING:
Yes

#### **FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:**

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REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: Yes

For clippings see legislative history of 2004 c.19

# P.L. 2004, CHAPTER 28, approved June 16, 2004 Assembly, No. 5 (First Reprint)

AN ACT concerning the reporting requirements for campaign contributions, amending and supplementing P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et seq.) and amending P.L.1993, c.65.

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

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8 1. (New section) Any candidate, candidate committee, joint 9 candidates committee, political committee, continuing political 10 committee, political party committee, legislative leadership committee, 11 or other person or group required to report a contribution to the 12 commission pursuant to P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et seq.) shall, in addition to the reporting requirements set forth in that act, unless 13 14 specifically required in another provision of that act, file a report with 15 the commission on any contribution accepted in currency, regardless of the amount of that contribution. The report shall be in the manner 16 required by the commission. Such report shall include the name and 17 18 mailing address of each contributor, the occupation of the contributor and the amount of the currency contribution, <sup>1</sup>[including the 19 contributor's signature] and the name and mailing address of the 20 contributor's employer. If the currency is contributed in response to 21 22 a public solicitation, such report shall also include the name and mailing address of each individual that contributed currency to the 23 24 solicitation, the occupation of the individual and the amount of the contribution, <sup>1</sup>[including the individual's signature] <sup>1</sup> and the name and 25 mailing address of the individual's employer. 26

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- 28 2. Section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2) is amended to read as follows:
- 30 22. a. Not later than December 1 of each year preceding any year 31 in which a general election is to be held to fill the office of Governor 32 for a four-year term, the Election Law Enforcement Commission shall 33 adjust the amounts, set forth in subsection b. of this section, which shall be applicable under P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et al.) to primary 34 and general elections for any public office other than the office of 35 36 Governor, to limitations on contributions to and from political committees, continuing political committees, candidate committees, 37 joint candidates committees, political party committees and legislative 38

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

leadership committees and to other amounts, at a percentage which

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Assembly ASG committee amendments adopted May 20, 2004.

- 1 shall be the same as the percentage of change that the commission 2 applies to the amounts used for the primary and general elections for 3 the office of Governor held in the third year preceding the year in
- 4 which that December 1 occurs, pursuant to section 19 of P.L.1980,
- 5 c.74 (C.19:44A-7.1), and any amount so adjusted shall be rounded in 6 the same manner as provided in that section.

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- b. The amounts subject to adjustment as provided under this 8 section shall be:
- 9 (1) the minimum amount raised or expended by any two or more 10 persons acting jointly who qualify as a political committee and the 11 minimum amount contributed or expected to be contributed in any 12 calendar year by any group of two or more persons acting jointly who 13 qualify as a continuing political committee as defined in section 3 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-3); 14
- 15 [the minimum amount of a contribution to a political committee, continuing political committee, legislative leadership 16 17 committee or political party committee which triggers an obligation to 18 report that contribution to the commission pursuant to section 8 of 19 P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-8), and the minimum amount of a 20 contribution to a candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates 21 committee which triggers an obligation to report that contribution to 22 the commission pursuant to section 16 of P.L.1973, c.83 23 (C.19:44A-16)] (deleted by amendment, P.L., c.) (now pending 24 before the Legislature as this bill);
  - (3) the minimum amount of a contribution to a political committee, continuing political committee, legislative leadership committee or a political party committee received during the period between the 13th day prior to the election and the date of the election, the minimum amount of an expenditure by a political committee during that period, and the minimum amount of an expenditure by a continuing political committee during the period beginning after March 31 and ending on the date of the primary election and the period beginning after September 30 and ending on the date of the general election which triggers an obligation to report that contribution to the commission pursuant to section 8 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-8), and the minimum amount of a contribution to a candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates committee received during the period between the 13th day prior to the election and the date of the election which triggers an obligation to report that contribution to the commission pursuant to section 16 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-16);
- 41 (4) the maximum amount which may be expended by the campaign 42 organizations of two or more candidates forming a joint candidates 43 committee without being required to file contribution reports, pursuant 44 to section 8 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-8);
- 45 (5) the maximum amount that a person, not acting in concert with 46 any other person or group, may spend to support or defeat a candidate

or to aid the passage or defeat of a public question without being 1 2

required to report all such expenditures and expenses to the

- 3 commission pursuant to section 11 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-11)
- 4 and the maximum amount that a person, not acting in concert with any
- other person or group, may raise through a public solicitation and 5
- 6 expend to finance any lawful activity in support of or in opposition to 7
- any candidate or public question or to seek to influence the content, 8
- introduction, passage or defeat of legislation pursuant to section 19 of
- 9 P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-19);

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- (6) the maximum amount that may be expended, in the aggregate, on behalf of a candidate without requiring that candidate to file contribution reports with the commission and the maximum amount that may be expended, in the aggregate, on behalf of a candidate seeking election to a public office of a school district, without requiring that candidate to file contribution reports with the commission pursuant to section 16 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-16);
- (7) the maximum amount of penalty which may be imposed by the commission on any person who fails to comply with the regulatory provisions of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et al.) for a first offense or a second and subsequent offenses, pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-22);
- (8) the maximum amount of penalty which may be imposed by the commission on any corporation or labor organization which provides any of its employees any additional increment of salary for the express purpose of making a contribution to a candidate, candidate committee, joint candidates committee, political party committee, legislative leadership committee, political committee or continuing political committee for a first or a second and subsequent offenses, pursuant to section 15 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-20.1);
- (9) the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made by an individual, a corporation or labor organization to a candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates committee, the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made by a political committee or a continuing political committee to a candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates committee other than the committee of a candidate for nomination or election to the office of Governor and the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made by one candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates committee, other than the committee of a candidate for nomination or election to the office of Governor, to another candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates committee other than the committee of a candidate for nomination or election to the office of Governor pursuant to section 18 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-11.3);
- 44 (10) the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made 45 by an individual, corporation, labor organization, political committee, continuing political committee, candidate committee or joint 46

candidates committee or any other group to any political party committee or any legislative leadership committee pursuant to section 19 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-11.4);

- (11) the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made by a candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates committee to a political committee or a continuing political committee and the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made by one political committee or continuing political committee to another political committee or continuing political committee pursuant to section 20 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-11.5).
- (12) the amount of filing fees which may be collected from a candidate committee, a joint candidates committee, a continuing political committee, a political party committee, a legislative leadership committee, or any other person pursuant to section 6 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-6) (as that section shall have been amended by P.L.1983, c.579).
- 17 c. Not later than December 15 of each year preceding any year in 18 which a general election is to be held to fill the office of Governor for 19 a four-year term, the commission shall report to the Legislature and 20 make public its adjustment of limits in accordance with the provisions 21 of this section. Whenever, following the transmittal of that report, the 22 commission shall have notice that a person has declared as a candidate 23 for nomination for election or for election to any public office in a 24 forthcoming primary or general election, it shall promptly notify that 25 candidate of the amounts of those adjusted limits.

26 (cf. P.L.1993, c.65, s.22)

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3. Section 8 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-8) is amended to read as follows:

30 8. a. (1) Each political committee shall make a full cumulative report, upon a form prescribed by the Election Law Enforcement 31 Commission, of all contributions in the form of moneys, loans, paid 32 personal services, or other things of value made to it and all 33 34 expenditures made, incurred, or authorized by it in furtherance of the 35 nomination, election or defeat of any candidate, or in aid of the 36 passage or defeat of any public question, or to provide political 37 information on any candidate or public question, during the period 38 ending 48 hours preceding the date of the report and beginning on the 39 date on which the first of those contributions was received or the first 40 of those expenditures was made, whichever occurred first. The 41 cumulative report, except as hereinafter provided, shall contain the 42 name and mailing address of each person or group from whom 43 moneys, loans, paid personal services or other things of value have 44 been contributed since 48 hours preceding the date on which the 45 previous such report was made and the amount contributed by each person or group, and where the contributor is an individual, the report 46

1 shall indicate the occupation of the individual and the name and 2 mailing address of the individual's employer. In the case of any loan 3 reported pursuant to this subsection, the report shall contain the name 4 and mailing address of each person who has cosigned such loan since 5 48 hours preceding the date on which the previous such report was 6 made, and where an individual has cosigned such loans, the report 7 shall indicate the occupation of the individual and the name and 8 mailing address of the individual's employer. The cumulative report 9 shall also contain the name and address of each person, firm or 10 organization to whom expenditures have been paid since 48 hours 11 preceding the date on which the previous such report was made and 12 the amount and purpose of each such expenditure. The cumulative 13 report shall be filed with the Election Law Enforcement Commission 14 on the dates designated in section 16 hereof.

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

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17 Each campaign treasurer of a political committee shall file written 18 notice with the commission of a contribution in excess of \$500 19 received during the period between the 13th day prior to the election 20 and the date of the election, and of an expenditure of money or other 21 thing of value in excess of \$500 made, incurred or authorized by the 22 political committee to support or defeat a candidate in an election, or 23 to aid the passage or defeat of any public question, during the period 24 between the 13th day prior to the election and the date of the election. 25 The notice of a contribution shall be filed in writing or by telegram 26 within 48 hours of the receipt of the contribution and shall set forth 27 the amount and date of the contribution, the name and mailing address of the contributor, and where the contributor is an individual, the 28 29 individual's occupation and the name and mailing address of the 30 individual's employer. The notice of an expenditure shall be filed in writing or by telegram within 48 hours of the making, incurring or 31 32 authorization of the expenditure and shall set forth the name and 33 mailing address of the person, firm or organization to whom or which 34 the expenditure was paid and the amount and purpose of the expenditure. 35

- (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 corporation, partnership, or any other incorporated or unincorporated 42 association including a political club, political action committee, civic 43 association or other organization, which in any calendar year 44 contributes or expects to contribute at least \$2,500.00 to the aid or promotion of the candidacy of an individual, or of the candidacies of individuals, for elective public office or the passage or defeat of a 46

public question or public questions and which expects to make 2 contributions toward such aid or promotion, or toward such passage 3 or defeat, during a subsequent election shall certify that fact to the 4 commission, and the commission, upon receiving that certification and on the basis of any information as it may require of the group, 5 6 corporation, partnership, association or other organization, shall 7 determine whether the group, corporation, partnership, association or 8 other organization is a continuing political committee for the purposes 9 of this act. If the commission determines that the group, corporation, 10 partnership, association or other organization is a continuing political 11 committee, it shall so notify that continuing political committee.

No person serving as the chairman of a political party committee or a legislative leadership committee shall be eligible to be appointed or to serve as the chairman of a continuing political committee.

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(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, a cumulative quarterly report of all moneys, loans, paid personal services or other things of value contributed to it during the period ending on the 15th day preceding that date and commencing on January 1 of that calendar year or, in the case of the cumulative quarterly report to be filed not later than January 15, of the previous calendar year, and all expenditures 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 of the passage or defeat of any public question or to provide information on any candidate or public question.

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 the individual's employer. In the case of any loan reported pursuant to this subsection, 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 indicate the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of the individual's 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 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 \$500 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, the individual's occupation and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer. If any continuing political committee makes or authorizes an expenditure of money or other thing of value in excess of \$500, or incurs any obligation therefor, to support or defeat a candidate in an election, or to aid the passage or defeat of any public question, after March 31 and on or before the day of the primary election, or after September 30 and on or before the day of the general election, it shall, in writing or by telegram, report that expenditure to the commission within 48 hours of the making, authorizing or incurring thereof. 

A continuing political committee which ceases 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. Each political party committee and each legislative leadership 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, a cumulative quarterly report of all moneys, loans, paid personal services or other things of value contributed to it during the period ending on the 15th day preceding that date and commencing on January 1 of that calendar year or, in the case of the cumulative quarterly report to be filed not later than January 15, of the previous calendar year, and all expenditures 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 of the passage or defeat of any public question or to provide information on any candidate or public question.

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

1 individual has made such contributions, the report shall indicate the 2 occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of the 3 individual's employer. In the case of any loan reported pursuant to this 4 subsection, the report shall contain the name and address of each 5 person who cosigns such loan, and where an individual has cosigned 6 such loans, the report shall indicate the occupation of the individual 7 and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer. The 8 report shall also contain the name and address of each person, firm or 9 organization to whom expenditures have been paid and the amount and 10 purpose of each such expenditure. The treasurer of the political party 11 committee or legislative leadership committee reporting shall certify 12 to the correctness of each cumulative quarterly report.

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If a political party committee or a legislative leadership committee submitting cumulative quarterly reports as provided under this subsection receives a contribution from a single source of more than \$500 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, the individual's occupation and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer.

d. In any report filed pursuant to the provisions of this section the organization or committee reporting may exclude from the report the name of and other information relating to any contributor whose contributions during the period covered by the report did not exceed <sup>1</sup>[\$200] <u>\$300</u><sup>1</sup>, provided, however, that (1) such exclusion is unlawful if any person responsible for the preparation or filing of the report knew that it was made with respect to any person whose contributions relating to the same election or issue and made to the reporting organization or committee aggregate, in combination with the contribution in respect of which such exclusion is made, more than <sup>1</sup>[\$200] <u>\$300</u><sup>1</sup> 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, dates or other circumstantial data regarding contributions made to any other organization or political committee, political party committee 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 include the name and mailing address of
each contributor in excess of <sup>1</sup>[\$200] \$300<sup>1</sup> 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 the individual's employer; the expenses incurred; and the
disposition of the proceeds of such testimonial affair.

<sup>1</sup>[Adjustments to the \$200 limits established in this subsection which have been made by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the effective date of P.L. , c. (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) are rescinded.] <sup>1</sup> The <sup>1</sup>[\$200] \$300<sup>1</sup> limits established in this subsection shall remain as stated in this subsection without further adjustment by the commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

15 e. A political committee shall be exempt from any requirement to file reports pursuant to this section of contributions received or 16 17 expenditures made in behalf of two or more joint candidates in any 18 election if the committee files with the Election Law Enforcement 19 Commission a sworn statement to the effect that the total amount to 20 be expended on behalf of their candidacies shall not exceed \$4,000.00; 21 provided, that if a committee which has filed such a sworn statement 22 receives contributions from any one source aggregating more than 23 <sup>1</sup>[\$200.00] <u>\$300</u><sup>1</sup>, it shall forthwith report that fact, including the name and mailing address of the source; where the source is an 24 25 individual, the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing 26 address of the individual's employer; and the aggregate total of 27 contributions from the source to the commission. Any sworn statement 28 under this subsection may be filed with the notice of designation by a 29 political committee of a campaign treasurer and campaign depository under section 10 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-10), if that committee 30 31 knows or has reason to believe, at the time when the notice of 32 designation is given, that the total amount to be so expended shall not 33 exceed \$4,000.00.

<sup>1</sup>[Adjustments to the \$200 limit established in this subsection which have been made by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the effective date of P.L., c. (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) are rescinded.] <sup>1</sup> The <sup>1</sup>[\$200] \$300<sup>1</sup> limit established in this subsection shall remain as stated in this subsection without further adjustment by the commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

42 (cf: P.L.1993, c.65, s.3)

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44 4. Section 11 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-11) is amended to read 45 as follows:

11. No contribution of money or other thing of value, nor

- 1 obligation therefor, including but not limited to contributions, loans or 2 obligations of a candidate himself or of his family, shall be made or 3 received, and no expenditure of money or other thing of value, nor 4 obligation therefor, including expenditures, loans or obligations of a 5 candidate himself or of his family, shall be made or incurred, directly
- 6 or indirectly, to support or defeat a candidate in any election, or to aid the passage or defeat of any public question, except through: 7

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- a. The duly appointed campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurers of the candidate committee or joint candidates committee;
- 10 The duly appointed organizational treasurer or deputy organizational treasurers of a political party committee or a continuing 12 political committee;
  - c. The duly appointed campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurers of a political committee; or
  - The duly appointed organizational treasurer or deputy organizational treasurer of a legislative leadership committee.

It shall be lawful, however, for any person, not acting in concert with any other person or group, 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 or her name and mailing address and the amount of all such expenditures and expenses, except personal traveling expenses, if the total of the money so expended, exclusive of such traveling expenses, exceeds \$500, and also, where the person is an individual, to report the individual's occupation and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer, 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.

32 No contribution of money shall be made in currency, except contributions in response to a public solicitation, provided that 33 34 cumulative currency contributions of up to \$200 may be made to a candidate committee or joint candidates committee, a political 35 36 committee, a continuing political committee, a legislative leadership 37 committee or a political party committee if the contributor submits 38 with the currency contribution a written statement of a form as 39 prescribed by the commission, indicating the contributor's name, 40 mailing address and occupation and the amount of the contribution, 41 including the contributor's signature and the name and mailing address 42 of the contributor's employer. Adjustments to the \$200 limit 43 established in this paragraph which have been made by the Election 44 Law Enforcement Commission, pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, 45 c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the effective date of P.L., c. (now 46 pending before the Legislature as this bill) are rescinded. The \$200

1 limit established in this paragraph shall remain as stated in this 2 paragraph without further adjustment by the commission in the manner 3 prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

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

8 No person, partnership or association, either directly or through an 9 agent, shall make any loan or advance, the proceeds of which that 10 person, partnership or association knows or has reason to know or 11 believe are intended to be used by the recipient thereof to make a contribution or expenditure, except by check or money order 12 13 identifying the name, mailing address and occupation or business of 14 the maker of the loan, and, if the maker is an individual, the name and 15 mailing address of that individual's employer; provided, however, that such loans or advances to a single individual, up to a cumulative 16 amount of \$50 in any calendar year, may be made in currency. 17 18

(cf: P.L.1995, c.391, s.3)

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

22 16. a. The campaign treasurer of each candidate committee and 23 joint candidates committee shall make a full cumulative report, upon 24 a form prescribed by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, of 25 all contributions in the form of moneys, loans, paid personal services 26 or other things of value, made to him or to the deputy campaign 27 treasurers of the candidate committee or joint candidates committee, 28 and all expenditures paid out of the election fund of the candidate or 29 candidates, during the period ending with the second day preceding the 30 date of the cumulative report and beginning on the date of the first of 31 those contributions, the date of the first of those expenditures, or the 32 date of the appointment of the campaign treasurer, whichever occurred 33 first. The report shall also contain the name and mailing address of 34 each person or group from whom moneys, loans, paid personal 35 services or other things of value were contributed after the second day 36 preceding the date of the previous cumulative report and the amount 37 contributed by each person or group, and where an individual has 38 made such contributions, the report shall indicate the occupation of the 39 individual and the name and mailing address of the individual's 40 employer. In the case of any loan reported pursuant to this section, 41 the report shall further contain the name and mailing address of each 42 person who cosigns such loan, the occupation of the person and the 43 name and mailing address of the person's employer. If no moneys, 44 loans, paid personal services or other things of value were contributed, 45 the report shall so indicate, and if no expenditures were paid or incurred, the report shall likewise so indicate. The campaign treasurer 46

and the candidate or several candidates shall certify the correctness of
 the report.

b. During the period between the appointment of the 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) on the 29th day preceding the election, and (2) on the 11th day preceding the election; and after the election he shall file his report on the 20th day following such election. Concurrent with the report filed on the 20th day following an election, or at any time thereafter, the campaign treasurer of a candidate committee or joint candidates committee may certify to the Election Law Enforcement Commission that the election fund of such candidate committee or joint candidates committee has wound up its business and been dissolved, or that business regarding the late election has been wound up but the candidate committee or joint candidates committee will continue for the deposit and use of contributions in accordance with section 17 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-11.2). Certification shall be accompanied by a final accounting of such election 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 the candidate committee or joint candidates committee is dissolved, each such treasurer shall continue to file reports in the form and manner herein prescribed.

The Election Law Enforcement Commission shall promulgate regulations providing for the termination of post-election campaign reporting requirements applicable to political committees, candidate committees and joint candidates committees. The requirements to file quarterly reports after the first post-election report may be waived by the commission, notwithstanding that the certification has not been filed, if the commission determines under any regulations so promulgated that the outstanding obligations of the political committee, candidate committee or joint candidates committee do not exceed 10% of the expenditures of the campaign fund with respect to the election or \$1,000.00, whichever is less, or are likely to be discharged or forgiven.

A candidate committee or joint candidates committee shall file with the Election Law Enforcement Commission, not later than April 15, July 15, October 15 of each calendar year in which the candidate or candidates in control of the committee does or do not run for election or reelection and January 15 of each calendar year in which the candidate or candidates does or do run for election or reelection, a cumulative quarterly report of all moneys, loans, paid personal services or other things of value contributed to it or to the candidate or candidates during the period ending on the 15th day preceding that

1 date and commencing on January 1 of that calendar year or, in the case 2 of the cumulative quarterly report to be filed not later than January 15, 3 of the previous calendar year, and all expenditures made, incurred, or 4 authorized by it or the candidate or candidates during the period, 5 whether or not such expenditures were made, incurred or authorized 6 in furtherance of the election or defeat of any candidate, or in aid of 7 the passage or defeat of any public question or to provide information 8 on any candidate or public question. The commission may by 9 regulation require any such candidate committee or joint candidates 10 committee to file during any calendar year one or more additional 11 cumulative reports of such contributions received and expenditures 12 made as may be necessary to ensure that no more than five months shall elapse between the last day of a period covered by one such 13 14 report and the last day of the period covered by the next such report.

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The commission, on any form it shall prescribe for the reporting of expenditures by a candidate committee or joint candidates committee, shall provide for the grouping together of all expenditures under the category of "campaign expenses" under paragraph (1) of subsection a. of section 17 of P.L.1993, c.65, identified as such, and for the grouping together, separately, of all other expenditures under the categories prescribed by paragraphs (2) through (6) of that subsection. The cumulative quarterly report due on April 15 in a year immediately after the year in which the candidate or candidates does or do run for election or reelection shall contain a report of all of the contributions received and expenditures made by the candidate or candidates since the 18th day after that election.

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 the individual's 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 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 candidate committee or joint candidates committee and the candidate or candidates shall certify to the correctness of each cumulative quarterly report.

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.

4 d. There shall be no obligation to file the reports required by this 5 section on behalf of a candidate if such candidate files with the 6 Election Law Enforcement Commission a sworn statement to the 7 effect that the total amount to be expended in behalf of his candidacy 8 by the candidate committee, by any political party committee, by any 9 political committee, or by any person shall not in the aggregate exceed 10 \$2,000.00 or \$4,000 for any joint candidates committee containing two candidates or \$6,000 for any joint candidates committee 11 12 containing three or more candidates. The sworn statement may be 13 submitted at the time when the name and address of the campaign 14 treasurer and depository is filed with the Election Law Enforcement 15 Commission, provided that in any case the sworn statement is filed no later than the 29th day before an election. If a candidate who has filed 16 such a sworn statement receives contributions from any one source 17 aggregating more than <sup>1</sup>[\$200] <u>\$300</u><sup>1</sup> he shall forthwith make report 18 of the same, including the name and mailing address of the source and 19 20 the aggregate total of contributions therefrom, and where the source 21 is an individual, the occupation of the individual and the name and 22 mailing address of the individual's employer, to the Election Law <sup>1</sup>[Adjustments to the \$200 limit 23 Enforcement Commission. established in this subsection which have been made by the Election 24 25 Law Enforcement Commission, pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, 26 c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the effective date of P.L., c. (now 27 pending before the Legislature as this bill) are rescinded.]<sup>1</sup> The <sup>1</sup>[\$200] \$300<sup>1</sup> limit established in this subsection shall remain as 28 stated in this subsection without further adjustment by the commission 29 in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 30 31 (C.19:44A-7.2).

32 e. There shall be no obligation imposed upon a candidate seeking 33 election to a public office of a school district to file either the reports 34 required under subsection b. of this section or the sworn statement 35 referred to in subsection d. of this section, if the total amount expended and to be expended in behalf of his candidacy by the 36 37 candidate committee, any political committee, any continuing political 38 committee, or a political party committee or by any person, does not 39 in the aggregate exceed \$2,000.00 per election or \$4,000 for any joint 40 candidates committee containing two candidates or \$6,000 for any 41 joint candidates committee containing three or more candidates; 42 provided, that if such candidate receives contributions from any one source aggregating more than <sup>1</sup>[\$200] <u>\$300</u><sup>1</sup>, he shall forthwith make 43 a report of the same, including the name and mailing address of the 44 45 source, the aggregate total of contributions therefrom, and where the 46 source is an individual, the occupation of the individual and the name

1 and mailing address of the individual's employer, to the commission.

2 <sup>1</sup>[Adjustments to the \$200 limit established in this subsection which 3 have been made by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, 4 pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the 5 effective date of P.L., c. (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) are rescinded.] <sup>1</sup> The <sup>1</sup>[\$200] \$300<sup>1</sup> limit established in this 6 subsection shall remain as stated in this subsection without further 7 8 adjustment by the commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 9 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

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f. In any report filed pursuant to the provisions of this section, the names and addresses of contributors whose contributions during the period covered by the report did not exceed <sup>1</sup>[\$200]\$300<sup>1</sup> may be excluded; provided, however, that (1) such exclusion is unlawful if any person responsible for the preparation or filing of the report knew that such exclusion was made with respect to any person whose total contributions relating to the same election and made to the reporting 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 <sup>1</sup>[\$200] <u>\$300</u><sup>1</sup>, and (2) any person who knowingly prepares, assists in preparing, files or acquiesces in the filing of any report from which the identity of any 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 candidate committee or joint candidates committee reporting pursuant to this act to report the amounts, dates or other circumstantial data regarding contributions made to any other candidate committee, joint candidates committee, political committee, continuing political committee, political party committee or legislative leadership committee.

<sup>1</sup>[Adjustments to the \$200 limit established in this subsection which have been made by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the effective date of P.L., c. (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) are rescinded.] <sup>1</sup> The <sup>1</sup>[\$200] \$300 limit established in this subsection shall remain as stated in this subsection without further adjustment by the commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

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 <sup>1</sup>[\$200] \$300<sup>1</sup> to such testimonial affair and the amount contributed by each; in the case of any individual contributor, the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer; the expenses incurred; and the disposition of the proceeds of such testimonial affair. <sup>1</sup>[Adjustments

- 1 to the \$200 limit established in this subsection which have been made
- 2 by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, pursuant to section 22
- 3 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the effective date of P.L.,
- 4 c. (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) are rescinded.]<sup>1</sup>
- 5 The <sup>1</sup>[\$200] \$300<sup>1</sup> limit established in this subsection shall remain as
- 6 stated in this subsection without further adjustment by the commission
- 7 in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65
- 8 (C.19:44A-7.2).
- 9 h. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1993, c.65.)
- 10 i. Each campaign treasurer of a candidate committee or joint candidates committee shall file written notice with the commission of 11 12 a contribution in excess of \$500 received during the period between 13 the 13th day prior to the election and the date of the election. The 14 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 15 the contribution, the name and mailing address of the contributor, and 16 17 where the contributor is an individual, the occupation of the individual 18 and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer.
- 19 (cf: P.L.1993, c.65, s.9)

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- 21 6. Section 19 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-19) is amended to read 22 as follows:
- 23 19. a. No person shall conduct any public solicitation as defined 24 in this act except (1) upon written authorization of the campaign or 25 organizational treasurer of the candidate committee or joint candidates committee, political committee, continuing political committee, 26 27 political party committee or legislative leadership committee on whose behalf such solicitation is conducted, or (2) in accordance with the 28 provisions of subsection c. of this section. A person with such written 29 30 authorization may employ and accept the services of others as 31 solicitors, and shall be responsible for reporting to the treasurer the 32 information required under subsection b. of this section and for 33 delivery to the treasurer the net proceeds of such solicitation in 34 compliance with section 11 of this act. A contribution made through 35 donation or purchase in response to a public solicitation conducted pursuant to written authorization of a treasurer shall be deemed to 36 37 have been made 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 such report and as a part thereof an itemized report on any such solicitation of which the net proceeds exceed \$200, in such form and detail as required by the rules of the Election Law Enforcement Commission, which report shall include:
- 45 (1) The name and mailing address of the person authorized to 46 conduct such solicitation, the method of solicitation and, where the

person is an individual, the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer;

3 (2) The gross receipts and expenses involved in the solicitation 4 including the actual amount paid for any items purchased for resale in 5 connection with the solicitation, or, if such items or any portion of the 6 cost thereof was donated, the estimated actual value thereof and the 7 actual amount paid therefor, and the names and addresses of any such 8 donors. If it is not practicable for such itemized report to be 9 completed in time to be included with the report due under sections 8 10 and 16 of this act for the period during which such solicitation was 11 held, then such itemized report may be omitted from said report and 12 if so omitted shall be included in the report for the next succeeding 13 period.

Adjustments to the \$200 limit established in this subsection which have been made by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the effective date of P.L., c. (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) are rescinded. The \$200 limit established in this subsection shall remain as stated in this subsection without further adjustment by the commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

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22 c. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection b. of this section, 23 it shall be lawful for any natural person, not acting in concert with any 24 other person or group, to make personally a public solicitation the 25 entire proceeds of which, without deduction for the expenses of 26 solicitation, are to be expended by him personally or under his 27 personal direction to finance any lawful activity in support of or 28 opposition to any candidate or public question or to provide political 29 information on any candidate or public question or to seek to influence 30 the content, introduction, passage or defeat of legislation; provided, 31 however, that any individual making such solicitation who receives 32 gross contributions exceeding \$200 in respect to activities relating to 33 any one election shall be required to make a report stating (1) the 34 amount so collected, (2) the method of solicitation, (3) the purpose or 35 purposes for which the funds so collected were expended and the 36 amount expended for each such purpose and (4) the individual's name 37 and mailing address, the individual's occupation and the name and 38 mailing address of the individual's employer. Adjustments to the \$200 39 limit established in this subsection which have been made by the 40 Election Law Enforcement Commission, pursuant to section 22 of 41 P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the effective date of P.L. 42 c. (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) are rescinded. 43 The \$200 limit established in this subsection shall remain as stated in 44 this subsection without further adjustment by the commission in the 45 manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2). 46 Such report shall be made to the Election Law Enforcement

# **A5** [1R] 18

1	Commission at the same time and in the same manner as a political
2	committee, continuing political committee, political party committee
3	or a legislative leadership committee subject to the provisions of
4	section 8 of this act.
5	d. Contributions or purchases made in response to a public
6	solicitation conducted in conformity with the requirements and
7	conditions of this act shall not be deemed anonymous within the
8	meaning of sections 11 and 20 of this act.
9	e. No person contributing in good faith to a public solicitation not
10	duly authorized in compliance with the provisions of this act shall be
11	liable to any penalty under this act by reason of having made such
12	contribution.
13	(cf: P.L.1993, c.65, s.10)
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15	7. This act shall take effect on January 1 following enactment.
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20	Changes minimum amount of campaign contribution which triggers
21	obligation to report that contribution to ELEC to \$300; requires

22 reporting of all cash contributions.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 5

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY 211th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 17, 2004

Sponsored by: Assemblywoman JOAN VOSS District 38 (Bergen)

### **SYNOPSIS**

Changes minimum amount of campaign contribution which triggers obligation to report that contribution to ELEC to \$200; requires reporting of all cash contributions.

## **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



AN ACT concerning the reporting requirements for campaign contributions, amending and supplementing P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et seq.) and amending P.L.1993, c.65.

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

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1. (New section) Any candidate, candidate committee, joint candidates committee, political committee, continuing political committee, political party committee, legislative leadership committee, or other person or group required to report a contribution to the commission pursuant to P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et seq.) shall, in addition to the reporting requirements set forth in that act, unless specifically required in another provision of that act, file a report with the commission on any contribution accepted in currency, regardless of the amount of that contribution. The report shall be in the manner required by the commission. Such report shall include the name and mailing address of each contributor, the occupation of the contributor and the amount of the currency contribution, including the contributor's signature and the name and mailing address of the contributor's employer. If the currency is contributed in response to a public solicitation, such report shall also include the name and mailing address of each individual that contributed currency to the solicitation, the occupation of the individual and the amount of the contribution, including the individual's signature and the name and

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2. Section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2) is amended to read as follows:

mailing address of the individual's employer.

29 30 22. a. Not later than December 1 of each year preceding any year 31 in which a general election is to be held to fill the office of Governor 32 for a four-year term, the Election Law Enforcement Commission shall adjust the amounts, set forth in subsection b. of this section, which 33 34 shall be applicable under P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et al.) to primary 35 and general elections for any public office other than the office of 36 Governor, to limitations on contributions to and from political 37 committees, continuing political committees, candidate committees, joint candidates committees, political party committees and legislative 38 39 leadership committees and to other amounts, at a percentage which 40 shall be the same as the percentage of change that the commission 41 applies to the amounts used for the primary and general elections for 42 the office of Governor held in the third year preceding the year in 43 which that December 1 occurs, pursuant to section 19 of P.L.1980,

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

- 1 c.74 (C.19:44A-7.1), and any amount so adjusted shall be rounded in 2 the same manner as provided in that section.
- b. The amounts subject to adjustment as provided under this section shall be:

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- (1) the minimum amount raised or expended by any two or more persons acting jointly who qualify as a political committee and the minimum amount contributed or expected to be contributed in any calendar year by any group of two or more persons acting jointly who qualify as a continuing political committee as defined in section 3 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-3);
- 11 [the minimum amount of a contribution to a political committee, continuing political committee, legislative leadership 12 13 committee or political party committee which triggers an obligation to 14 report that contribution to the commission pursuant to section 8 of 15 P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-8), and the minimum amount of a contribution to a candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates 16 17 committee which triggers an obligation to report that contribution to 18 the commission pursuant to section 16 of P.L.1973, c.83 19 (C.19:44A-16)] (deleted by amendment, P.L., c. )(now pending 20 before the Legislature as this bill);
  - (3) the minimum amount of a contribution to a political committee, continuing political committee, legislative leadership committee or a political party committee received during the period between the 13th day prior to the election and the date of the election, the minimum amount of an expenditure by a political committee during that period, and the minimum amount of an expenditure by a continuing political committee during the period beginning after March 31 and ending on the date of the primary election and the period beginning after September 30 and ending on the date of the general election which triggers an obligation to report that contribution to the commission pursuant to section 8 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-8), and the minimum amount of a contribution to a candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates committee received during the period between the 13th day prior to the election and the date of the election which triggers an obligation to report that contribution to the commission pursuant to section 16 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-16);
  - (4) the maximum amount which may be expended by the campaign organizations of two or more candidates forming a joint candidates committee without being required to file contribution reports, pursuant to section 8 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-8);
- 41 (5) the maximum amount that a person, not acting in concert with 42 any other person or group, may spend to support or defeat a candidate 43 or to aid the passage or defeat of a public question without being 44 required to report all such expenditures and expenses to the 45 commission pursuant to section 11 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-11) 46 and the maximum amount that a person, not acting in concert with any

other person or group, may raise through a public solicitation and expend to finance any lawful activity in support of or in opposition to any candidate or public question or to seek to influence the content, introduction, passage or defeat of legislation pursuant to section 19 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-19);

- (6) the maximum amount that may be expended, in the aggregate, on behalf of a candidate without requiring that candidate to file contribution reports with the commission and the maximum amount that may be expended, in the aggregate, on behalf of a candidate seeking election to a public office of a school district, without requiring that candidate to file contribution reports with the commission pursuant to section 16 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-16);
- 13 (7) the maximum amount of penalty which may be imposed by the 14 commission on any person who fails to comply with the regulatory 15 provisions of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et al.) for a first offense or 16 a second and subsequent offenses, pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1973, 17 c.83 (C.19:44A-22);
  - (8) the maximum amount of penalty which may be imposed by the commission on any corporation or labor organization which provides any of its employees any additional increment of salary for the express purpose of making a contribution to a candidate, candidate committee, joint candidates committee, political party committee, legislative leadership committee, political committee or continuing political committee for a first or a second and subsequent offenses, pursuant to section 15 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-20.1);
  - (9) the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made by an individual, a corporation or labor organization to a candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates committee, the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made by a political committee or a continuing political committee to a candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates committee other than the committee of a candidate for nomination or election to the office of Governor and the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made by one candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates committee, other than the committee of a candidate for nomination or election to the office of Governor, to another candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates committee other than the committee of a candidate for nomination or election to the office of Governor pursuant to section 18 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-11.3);
- 40 (10) the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made 41 by an individual, corporation, labor organization, political committee, 42 continuing political committee, candidate committee or joint 43 candidates committee or any other group to any political party 44 committee or any legislative leadership committee pursuant to section 45 19 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-11.4);
- 46 (11) the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made

by a candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates committee to a political committee or a continuing political committee and the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made by one political committee or continuing political committee to another political committee or continuing political committee pursuant to section 20 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-11.5).

(12) the amount of filing fees which may be collected from a candidate committee, a joint candidates committee, a continuing political committee, a political party committee, a legislative leadership committee, or any other person pursuant to section 6 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-6) (as that section shall have been amended by P.L.1983, c.579).

c. 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 and make public its adjustment of limits in accordance with the provisions of this section. Whenever, following the transmittal of that report, the commission shall have notice that a person has declared as a candidate for nomination for election or for election to any public office in a forthcoming primary or general election, it shall promptly notify that candidate of the amounts of those adjusted limits.

(cf. P.L.1993, c.65, s.22)

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3. Section 8 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-8) is amended to read as follows:

8. a. (1) Each political committee 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 made to it and all expenditures made, incurred, or authorized by 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 public question, during the period ending 48 hours preceding the date of the report and beginning on the date on which the first of those contributions was received or the first of those expenditures was made, whichever occurred first. The cumulative report, except as hereinafter provided, 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 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 is an individual, the report shall indicate the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer. In the case of any loan reported pursuant to this subsection, the report shall contain the name and mailing address of each person who has cosigned such loan since

1 48 hours preceding the date on which the previous such report was 2 made, and where an individual has cosigned such loans, the report 3 shall indicate the occupation of the individual and the name and 4 mailing address of the individual's employer. The cumulative report shall also contain the name and address of each person, firm or 5 6 organization to whom expenditures have been paid since 48 hours 7 preceding the date on which the previous such report was made and 8 the amount and purpose of each such expenditure. The cumulative 9 report shall be filed with the Election Law Enforcement Commission 10 on the dates designated in section 16 hereof.

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 13 14 notice with the commission of a contribution in excess of \$500 15 received during the period between the 13th day prior to the election and the date of the election, and of an expenditure of money or other 16 thing of value in excess of \$500 made, incurred or authorized by the 17 18 political committee to support or defeat a candidate in an election, or 19 to aid the passage or defeat of any public question, during the period 20 between the 13th day prior to the election and the date of the election. 21 The notice of a contribution shall be filed in writing or by telegram 22 within 48 hours of the receipt of the contribution and shall set forth 23 the amount and date of the contribution, the name and mailing address 24 of the contributor, and where the contributor is an individual, the 25 individual's occupation and the name and mailing address of the 26 individual's employer. The notice of an expenditure shall be filed in 27 writing or by telegram within 48 hours of the making, incurring or 28 authorization of the expenditure and shall set forth the name and 29 mailing address of the person, firm or organization to whom or which 30 the expenditure was paid and the amount and purpose of the 31 expenditure.

- (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 corporation, partnership, or any other incorporated or 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 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 expects to make contributions toward such aid or promotion, or toward such passage or defeat, during a subsequent election shall certify that fact to the commission, and the commission, upon receiving that certification and

- 1 on the basis of any information as it may require of the group,
- 2 corporation, partnership, association or other organization, shall
- 3 determine whether the group, corporation, partnership, association or
- 4 other organization is a continuing political committee for the purposes
- 5 of this act. If the commission determines that the group, corporation,
- 6 partnership, association or other organization is a continuing political
- 7 committee, it shall so notify that continuing political committee.

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No person serving as the chairman of a political party committee or a legislative leadership committee shall be eligible to be appointed or to serve as the chairman of a continuing political committee.

(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, a cumulative quarterly report of all moneys, loans, paid personal services or other things of value contributed to it during the period ending on the 15th day preceding that date and commencing on January 1 of that calendar year or, in the case of the cumulative quarterly report to be filed not later than January 15, of the previous calendar year, and all expenditures 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 of the passage or defeat of any public question or to provide information on any candidate or public question.

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 the individual's employer. In the case of any loan reported pursuant to this subsection, 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 indicate the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of the individual's 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 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 \$500 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, the individual's occupation and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer. If any continuing political committee makes or authorizes an expenditure of money or other thing of value in excess of \$500, or incurs any obligation therefor, to support or defeat a candidate in an election, or to aid the passage or defeat of any public question, after March 31 and on or before the day of the primary election, or after September 30 and on or before the day of the general election, it shall, in writing or by telegram, report that expenditure to the commission within 48 hours of the making, authorizing or incurring thereof.

A continuing political committee which ceases 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. Each political party committee and each legislative leadership 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, a cumulative quarterly report of all moneys, loans, paid personal services or other things of value contributed to it during the period ending on the 15th day preceding that date and commencing on January 1 of that calendar year or, in the case of the cumulative quarterly report to be filed not later than January 15, of the previous calendar year, and all expenditures 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 of the passage or defeat of any public question or to provide information on any candidate or public question.

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 the individual's employer. In the case of any loan reported pursuant to this subsection, the report shall contain the name and address of each

1 person who cosigns such loan, and where an individual has cosigned 2 such loans, the report shall indicate the occupation of the individual 3 and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer. The 4 report shall also contain the name and address of each person, firm or 5 organization to whom expenditures have been paid and the amount and 6 purpose of each such expenditure. The treasurer of the political party committee or legislative leadership committee reporting shall certify 7 8 to the correctness of each cumulative quarterly report.

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If a political party committee or a legislative leadership committee submitting cumulative quarterly reports as provided under this subsection receives a contribution from a single source of more than \$500 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, the individual's occupation and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer.

d. In any report filed pursuant to the provisions of this section the organization or committee reporting may exclude from the report the name of and other information relating to any contributor whose contributions during the period covered by the report did not exceed \$200, provided, however, that (1) such exclusion is unlawful if any person responsible for the preparation or filing of the report knew that it was made with respect to any person whose contributions relating to the same election or issue and made to the reporting organization or committee aggregate, in combination with the contribution in respect of which such exclusion is made, more than \$200 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, dates or other circumstantial data regarding contributions made to any other organization or political committee, political party committee 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 include the name and mailing address of each contributor in excess of \$200 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

the individual's employer; the expenses incurred; and the disposition
of the proceeds of such testimonial affair.

Adjustments to the \$200 limits established in this subsection which 3 4 have been made by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the 5 6 effective date of P.L., c. (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) are rescinded. The \$200 limits established in this subsection 7 8 shall remain as stated in this subsection without further adjustment by 9 the commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993, 10 c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

11 e. A political committee shall be exempt from any requirement to 12 file reports pursuant to this section of contributions received or 13 expenditures made in behalf of two or more joint candidates in any 14 election if the committee files with the Election Law Enforcement 15 Commission a sworn statement to the effect that the total amount to be expended on behalf of their candidacies shall not exceed \$4,000.00; 16 provided, that if a committee which has filed such a sworn statement 17 receives contributions from any one source aggregating more than 18 19 \$200.00, it shall forthwith report that fact, including the name and 20 mailing address of the source; where the source is an individual, the 21 occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of the 22 individual's employer; and the aggregate total of contributions from 23 the source to the commission. Any sworn statement under this 24 subsection may be filed with the notice of designation by a political 25 committee of a campaign treasurer and campaign depository under 26 section 10 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-10), if that committee knows 27 or has reason to believe, at the time when the notice of designation is given, that the total amount to be so expended shall not exceed 28 29 \$4,000.00.

30 Adjustments to the \$200 limit established in this subsection which 31 have been made by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, 32 pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the effective date of P.L., c. (now pending before the Legislature as 33 34 this bill) are rescinded. The \$200 limit established in this subsection 35 shall remain as stated in this subsection without further adjustment by 36 the commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993, 37 c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

38 (cf: P.L.1993, c.65, s.3)

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40 4. Section 11 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-11) is amended to read 41 as follows:

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 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 committee or joint candidates committee;
- b. The duly appointed organizational treasurer or deputy
   organizational treasurers of a political party committee or a continuing
   political committee;
  - c. The duly appointed campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurers of a political committee; or
  - d. The duly appointed organizational treasurer or deputy organizational treasurer of a legislative leadership committee.

13 It shall be lawful, however, for any person, not acting in concert 14 with any other person or group, to expend personally from his own 15 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 16 personal traveling expenses, to support or defeat a candidate or to aid 17 18 the passage or defeat of a public question; provided, however, that any 19 person making such expenditure shall be required to report his or her 20 name and mailing address and the amount of all such expenditures and 21 expenses, except personal traveling expenses, if the total of the money 22 so expended, exclusive of such traveling expenses, exceeds \$500, and 23 also, where the person is an individual, to report the individual's occupation and the name and mailing address of the individual's 24 25 employer, to the Election Law Enforcement Commission at the same 26 time and in the same manner as a political committee subject to the 27 provisions of section 8 of this act.

28 No contribution of money shall be made in currency, except 29 contributions in response to a public solicitation, provided that 30 cumulative currency contributions of up to \$200 may be made to a 31 candidate committee or joint candidates committee, a political 32 committee, a continuing political committee, a legislative leadership 33 committee or a political party committee if the contributor submits 34 with the currency contribution a written statement of a form as prescribed by the commission, indicating the contributor's name, 35 mailing address and occupation and the amount of the contribution, 36 37 including the contributor's signature and the name and mailing address 38 of the contributor's employer. Adjustments to the \$200 limit 39 established in this paragraph which have been made by the Election 40 Law Enforcement Commission, pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, 41 c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the effective date of P.L., c. (now 42 pending before the Legislature as this bill) are rescinded. The \$200 43 limit established in this paragraph shall remain as stated in this 44 paragraph without further adjustment by the commission in the manner 45 prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

Any anonymous contribution received by a campaign treasurer or

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1 deputy campaign treasurer shall not be used or expended, but shall be 2 returned to the donor, if his identity is known, and if no donor is 3 found, the contribution shall escheat to the State.

4 No person, partnership or association, either directly or through an 5 agent, shall make any loan or advance, the proceeds of which that 6 person, partnership or association knows or has reason to know or 7 believe are intended to be used by the recipient thereof to make a 8 contribution or expenditure, except by check or money order 9 identifying the name, mailing address and occupation or business of 10 the maker of the loan, and, if the maker is an individual, the name and 11 mailing address of that individual's employer; provided, however, that 12 such loans or advances to a single individual, up to a cumulative 13 amount of \$50 in any calendar year, may be made in currency. 14

(cf: P.L.1995, c.391, s.3)

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

18 16. a. The campaign treasurer of each candidate committee and 19 joint candidates committee shall make a full cumulative report, upon 20 a form prescribed by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, of 21 all contributions in the form of moneys, loans, paid personal services or other things of value, made to him or to the deputy campaign 22 23 treasurers of the candidate committee or joint candidates committee, and all expenditures paid out of the election fund of the candidate or 24 25 candidates, during the period ending with the second day preceding the 26 date of the cumulative report and beginning on the date of the first of 27 those contributions, the date of the first of those expenditures, or the 28 date of the appointment of the campaign treasurer, whichever occurred 29 first. The report shall also contain the name and mailing address of 30 each person or group from whom moneys, loans, paid personal 31 services or other things of value were contributed after the second day 32 preceding the date of the previous cumulative report and the amount 33 contributed by each person or group, and where an individual has 34 made such contributions, the report shall indicate the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of the individual's 35 36 employer. In the case of any loan reported pursuant to this section, 37 the report shall further contain the name and mailing address of each 38 person who cosigns such loan, the occupation of the person and the 39 name and mailing address of the person's employer. If no moneys, 40 loans, paid personal services or other things of value were contributed, the report shall so indicate, and if no expenditures were paid or 41 42 incurred, the report shall likewise so indicate. The campaign treasurer 43 and the candidate or several candidates shall certify the correctness of 44 the report.

b. During the period between the appointment of the 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) on the 29th day preceding the election, and (2) on the 11th day preceding the election; and after the election he shall file his report on the 20th day following such election. Concurrent with the report filed on the 20th day following an election, or at any time thereafter, the campaign treasurer of a candidate committee or joint candidates committee may certify to the Election Law Enforcement Commission that the election fund of such candidate committee or joint candidates committee has wound up its business and been dissolved, or that business regarding the late election has been wound up but the candidate committee or joint candidates committee will continue for the deposit and use of contributions in accordance with section 17 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-11.2). Certification shall be accompanied by a final accounting of such election 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 Until the candidate committee or joint candidates committee is dissolved, each such treasurer shall continue to file reports in the form and manner herein prescribed.

The Election Law Enforcement Commission shall promulgate regulations providing for the termination of post-election campaign reporting requirements applicable to political committees, candidate committees and joint candidates committees. The requirements to file quarterly reports after the first post-election report may be waived by the commission, notwithstanding that the certification has not been filed, if the commission determines under any regulations so promulgated that the outstanding obligations of the political committee, candidate committee or joint candidates committee do not exceed 10% of the expenditures of the campaign fund with respect to the election or \$1,000.00, whichever is less, or are likely to be discharged or forgiven.

A candidate committee or joint candidates committee shall file with the Election Law Enforcement Commission, not later than April 15, July 15, October 15 of each calendar year in which the candidate or candidates in control of the committee does or do not run for election or reelection and January 15 of each calendar year in which the candidate or candidates does or do run for election or reelection, a cumulative quarterly report of all moneys, loans, paid personal services or other things of value contributed to it or to the candidate or candidates during the period ending on the 15th day preceding that date and commencing on January 1 of that calendar year or, in the case of the cumulative quarterly report to be filed not later than January 15, of the previous calendar year, and all expenditures made, incurred, or authorized by it or the candidate or candidates during the period,

1 whether or not such expenditures were made, incurred or authorized 2 in furtherance of the election or defeat of any candidate, or in aid of 3 the passage or defeat of any public question or to provide information 4 on any candidate or public question. The commission may by regulation require any such candidate committee or joint candidates 5 6 committee to file during any calendar year one or more additional 7 cumulative reports of such contributions received and expenditures 8 made as may be necessary to ensure that no more than five months 9 shall elapse between the last day of a period covered by one such 10 report and the last day of the period covered by the next such report.

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The commission, on any form it shall prescribe for the reporting of expenditures by a candidate committee or joint candidates committee, shall provide for the grouping together of all expenditures under the category of "campaign expenses" under paragraph (1) of subsection a. of section 17 of P.L.1993, c.65, identified as such, and for the grouping together, separately, of all other expenditures under the categories prescribed by paragraphs (2) through (6) of that subsection. The cumulative quarterly report due on April 15 in a year immediately after the year in which the candidate or candidates does or do run for election or reelection shall contain a report of all of the contributions received and expenditures made by the candidate or candidates since the 18th day after that election.

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 the individual's 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 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 candidate committee or joint candidates committee and the candidate or candidates shall certify to the correctness of each cumulative quarterly report.

- 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.
- d. There shall be no obligation to file the reports required by this

1 section on behalf of a candidate if such candidate files with the 2 Election Law Enforcement Commission a sworn statement to the 3 effect that the total amount to be expended in behalf of his candidacy 4 by the candidate committee, by any political party committee, by any political committee, or by any person shall not in the aggregate exceed 5 6 \$2,000.00 or \$4,000 for any joint candidates committee containing two candidates or \$6,000 for any joint candidates committee 7 8 containing three or more candidates. The sworn statement may be 9 submitted at the time when the name and address of the campaign 10 treasurer and depository is filed with the Election Law Enforcement 11 Commission, provided that in any case the sworn statement is filed no 12 later than the 29th day before an election. If a candidate who has filed 13 such a sworn statement receives contributions from any one source 14 aggregating more than \$200 he shall forthwith make report of the 15 same, including the name and mailing address of the source and the aggregate total of contributions therefrom, and where the source is an 16 17 individual, the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing 18 address of the individual's employer, to the Election Law Enforcement 19 Commission. Adjustments to the \$200 limit established in this 20 subsection which have been made by the Election Law Enforcement 21 Commission, pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), 22 prior to the effective date of P.L., c. (now pending before the 23 Legislature as this bill) are rescinded. The \$200 limit established in 24 this subsection shall remain as stated in this subsection without further 25 adjustment by the commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 26 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2). 27

e. 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 or the sworn statement referred to in subsection d. of this section, if the total amount expended and to be expended in behalf of his candidacy by the candidate committee, any political committee, any continuing political committee, or a political party committee or by any person, does not in the aggregate exceed \$2,000.00 per election or \$4,000 for any joint candidates committee containing two candidates or \$6,000 for any joint candidates committee containing three or more candidates; provided, that if such candidate receives contributions from any one source aggregating more than \$200, he shall forthwith make a report of the same, including the name and mailing address of the source, 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 the individual's employer, to the commission.

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Adjustments to the \$200 limit established in this subsection which have been made by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the effective date of P.L., c. (now pending before the Legislature as

1 this bill) are rescinded. The \$200 limit established in this subsection

2 shall remain as stated in this subsection without further adjustment by

3 the commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993,

4 c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

5 f. In any report filed pursuant to the provisions of this section, the 6 names and addresses of contributors whose contributions during the period covered by the report did not exceed \$200 may be excluded; 7 8 provided, however, that (1) such exclusion is unlawful if any person 9 responsible for the preparation or filing of the report knew that such 10 exclusion was made with respect to any person whose total 11 contributions relating to the same election and made to the reporting 12 candidate or to an allied campaign organization or organizations 13 aggregate, in combination with the total contributions in respect of 14 which such exclusion is made, more than \$200, and (2) any person 15 who knowingly prepares, assists in preparing, files or acquiesces in the filing of any report from which the identity of any contributor has been 16 excluded contrary to the provisions of this section is subject to the 17 18 provisions of section 21 of this act, but (3) nothing in this proviso shall 19 be construed as requiring any candidate committee or joint candidates 20 committee reporting pursuant to this act to report the amounts, dates 21 or other circumstantial data regarding contributions made to any other 22 candidate committee, joint candidates committee, political committee, 23 continuing political committee, political party committee or legislative 24 leadership committee.

25 Adjustments to the \$200 limit established in this subsection which 26 have been made by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, 27 pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the 28 effective date of P.L., c. (now pending before the Legislature as 29 this bill) are rescinded. The \$200 limit established in this subsection 30 shall remain as stated in this subsection without further adjustment by 31 the commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993, 32 c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

33 g. Any report filed pursuant to the provisions of this section shall 34 include an itemized accounting of all receipts and expenditures relative to any testimonial affair held since the date of the most recent report 35 filed, which accounting shall include the name and mailing address of 36 37 each contributor in excess of \$200 to such testimonial affair and the 38 amount contributed by each; in the case of any individual contributor, 39 the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of 40 the individual's employer; the expenses incurred; and the disposition 41 of the proceeds of such testimonial affair. Adjustments to the \$200 42 limit established in this subsection which have been made by the 43 Election Law Enforcement Commission, pursuant to section 22 of 44 P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the effective date of P.L. 45 c. (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) are rescinded.

- The \$200 limit established in this subsection shall remain as stated in 46

this subsection without further adjustment by the commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

- h. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1993, c.65.)
- i. Each campaign treasurer of a candidate committee or joint candidates committee shall file written notice with the commission of a contribution in excess of \$500 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, 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 the individual's employer.

13 (cf: P.L.1993, c.65, s.9)

- 6. Section 19 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-19) is amended to read as follows:
- 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 committee or joint candidates committee, political committee, continuing political committee, political party committee or legislative leadership 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 section 11 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 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 such report and as a part thereof an itemized report on any such solicitation of which the net proceeds exceed \$200, in such form and detail as required by the rules of the Election Law Enforcement Commission, which report shall include:
- (1) The name and mailing address of the person authorized to conduct such solicitation, the method of solicitation and, where the person is an individual, the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer;
- (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

1 actual amount paid therefor, and the names and addresses of any such

2 donors. If it is not practicable for such itemized report to be

3 completed in time to be included with the report due under sections 8

4 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 5

6 if so omitted shall be included in the report for the next succeeding period. 7

8 Adjustments to the \$200 limit established in this subsection which

have been made by the Election Law Enforcement Commission,

10 pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the

11 effective date of P.L., c. (now pending before the Legislature as

12 this bill) are rescinded. The \$200 limit established in this subsection

13 shall remain as stated in this subsection without further adjustment by

the commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993,

15 c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

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section 8 of this act.

c. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection b. of this section, 16 17 it shall be lawful for any natural person, not acting in concert with any 18 other person or group, to make personally a public solicitation the 19 entire proceeds of which, without deduction for the expenses of 20 solicitation, are to be expended by him personally or under his 21 personal direction to finance any lawful activity in support of or 22 opposition to any candidate or public question or to provide political 23 information on any candidate or public question or to seek to influence 24 the content, introduction, passage or defeat of legislation; provided, 25 however, that any individual making such solicitation who receives 26 gross contributions exceeding \$200 in respect to activities relating to 27 any one election shall be required to make a report stating (1) the 28 amount so collected, (2) the method of solicitation, (3) the purpose or 29 purposes for which the funds so collected were expended and the 30 amount expended for each such purpose and (4) the individual's name 31 and mailing address, the individual's occupation and the name and 32 mailing address of the individual's employer. Adjustments to the \$200 33 limit established in this subsection which have been made by the 34 Election Law Enforcement Commission, pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the effective date of P.L. 35 c. (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) are rescinded. 36 37 The \$200 limit established in this subsection shall remain as stated in 38 this subsection without further adjustment by the commission in the 39 manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2). 40 Such report shall be made to the Election Law Enforcement 41 Commission at the same time and in the same manner as a political 42 committee, continuing political committee, political party committee 43 or a legislative leadership committee subject to the provisions of

Contributions or purchases made in response to a public solicitation conducted in conformity with the requirements and 46

1 conditions of this act shall not be deemed anonymous within the 2 meaning of sections 11 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.

7 (cf: P.L.1993, c.65, s.10)

7. This act shall take effect on January 1 following enactment.

#### **STATEMENT**

Under current law, the minimum amount of a campaign contribution which triggers an obligation to report that contribution to the Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC) is adjusted by ELEC every four years. Currently, the minimum amount which triggers an obligation to report is \$400. This bill would instead set that amount at \$200 by rescinding all adjustments to increase that amount that have been made pursuant law, so that any contribution greater than \$200 would trigger an obligation to report that contribution to ELEC. The bill removes the authority of ELEC to increase this amount.

Additionally, the bill would change the amount of campaign contributions collected as a result of a public solicitation which trigger an obligation to report to ELEC to \$200.

The bill would also require the reporting of all cash contributions to ELEC, regardless of the amount of the contribution. The report would include the name and mailing address of each contributor, the occupation of the contributor and the amount of the cash contribution, including the contributor's signature and the name and mailing address of the contributor's employer. If the cash is contributed in response to a public solicitation, the report would also include the name and mailing address of each individual that contributed cash to the solicitation, the occupation of the individual and the amount of the contribution, including the individual's signature and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer.

## ASSEMBLY STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

#### STATEMENT TO

# ASSEMBLY, No. 5

with committee amendments

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 20, 2004

The Assembly State Government Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly, No. 5.

This bill changes the minimum amount of a campaign contribution which triggers an obligation to report that contribution to the Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC). Under current law, the minimum amount is adjusted by ELEC every four years; presently, it is \$400. The bill sets that minimum amount at \$300, and removes the authority of ELEC to increase the amount. The bill sets at \$200 the amount of campaign contributions collected as a result of a public solicitation which triggers an obligation to report to ELEC.

The bill requires the reporting of all cash contributions to ELEC, regardless of the amount of the contribution. Under the bill, the report will include the name and mailing address of each contributor, the occupation of the contributor and the amount of the cash contribution, and the name and mailing address of the contributor's employer. If the cash is contributed in response to a public solicitation, the report will include also the name and mailing address of each individual that contributed cash to the solicitation, the occupation of the individual and the amount of the contribution, and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer.

#### **COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS**

The committee amended the bill to (1) increase from \$200 to \$300 the minimum amount of a campaign contribution which triggers an obligation to report to ELEC and (2) eliminate the requirement for a contributor's signature in reports of cash contributions.

# SENATE, No. 5

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY 211th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 20, 2004

Sponsored by: Senator ELLEN KARCHER District 12 (Mercer and Monmouth)

#### **SYNOPSIS**

Changes minimum amount of campaign contribution which triggers obligation to report that contribution to ELEC to \$200; requires reporting of all cash contributions.

#### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



AN ACT concerning the reporting requirements for campaign contributions, amending and supplementing P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et seq.) and amending P.L.1993, c.65.

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

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8 1. (New section) Any candidate, candidate committee, joint 9 candidates committee, political committee, continuing political 10 committee, political party committee, legislative leadership committee, 11 or other person or group required to report a contribution to the commission pursuant to P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et seq.) shall, in 12 13 addition to the reporting requirements set forth in that act, unless 14 specifically required in another provision of that act, file a report with 15 the commission on any contribution accepted in currency, regardless 16 of the amount of that contribution. The report shall be in the manner 17 required by the commission. Such report shall include the name and 18 mailing address of each contributor, the occupation of the contributor 19 and the amount of the currency contribution, including the 20 contributor's signature and the name and mailing address of the contributor's employer. If the currency is contributed in response to 21 22 a public solicitation, such report shall also include the name and 23 mailing address of each individual that contributed currency to the 24 solicitation, the occupation of the individual and the amount of the 25 contribution, including the individual's signature and the name and 26 mailing address of the individual's employer.

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2. Section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2) is amended to read as follows:

30 22. a. Not later than December 1 of each year preceding any year 31 in which a general election is to be held to fill the office of Governor 32 for a four-year term, the Election Law Enforcement Commission shall adjust the amounts, set forth in subsection b. of this section, which 33 34 shall be applicable under P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et al.) to primary 35 and general elections for any public office other than the office of 36 Governor, to limitations on contributions to and from political 37 committees, continuing political committees, candidate committees, joint candidates committees, political party committees and legislative 38 39 leadership committees and to other amounts, at a percentage which 40 shall be the same as the percentage of change that the commission 41 applies to the amounts used for the primary and general elections for 42 the office of Governor held in the third year preceding the year in 43 which that December 1 occurs, pursuant to section 19 of P.L.1980,

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

- 1 c.74 (C.19:44A-7.1), and any amount so adjusted shall be rounded in 2 the same manner as provided in that section.
- b. The amounts subject to adjustment as provided under this section shall be:

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- (1) the minimum amount raised or expended by any two or more persons acting jointly who qualify as a political committee and the minimum amount contributed or expected to be contributed in any calendar year by any group of two or more persons acting jointly who qualify as a continuing political committee as defined in section 3 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-3);
- 11 [the minimum amount of a contribution to a political 12 committee, continuing political committee, legislative leadership 13 committee or political party committee which triggers an obligation to 14 report that contribution to the commission pursuant to section 8 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-8), and the minimum amount of a 15 contribution to a candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates 16 17 committee which triggers an obligation to report that contribution to 18 the commission pursuant to section 16 of P.L.1973, c.83 19 (C.19:44A-16)] (deleted by amendment, P.L., c. )(now pending 20 before the Legislature as this bill);
  - (3) the minimum amount of a contribution to a political committee, continuing political committee, legislative leadership committee or a political party committee received during the period between the 13th day prior to the election and the date of the election, the minimum amount of an expenditure by a political committee during that period, and the minimum amount of an expenditure by a continuing political committee during the period beginning after March 31 and ending on the date of the primary election and the period beginning after September 30 and ending on the date of the general election which triggers an obligation to report that contribution to the commission pursuant to section 8 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-8), and the minimum amount of a contribution to a candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates committee received during the period between the 13th day prior to the election and the date of the election which triggers an obligation to report that contribution to the commission pursuant to section 16 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-16);
  - (4) the maximum amount which may be expended by the campaign organizations of two or more candidates forming a joint candidates committee without being required to file contribution reports, pursuant to section 8 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-8);
- 41 (5) the maximum amount that a person, not acting in concert with 42 any other person or group, may spend to support or defeat a candidate 43 or to aid the passage or defeat of a public question without being 44 required to report all such expenditures and expenses to the 45 commission pursuant to section 11 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-11)

- 1 and the maximum amount that a person, not acting in concert with any
- 2 other person or group, may raise through a public solicitation and
- 3 expend to finance any lawful activity in support of or in opposition to
- 4 any candidate or public question or to seek to influence the content,
- introduction, passage or defeat of legislation pursuant to section 19 of 5
- 6 P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-19);

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- (6) the maximum amount that may be expended, in the aggregate, on behalf of a candidate without requiring that candidate to file contribution reports with the commission and the maximum amount 10 that may be expended, in the aggregate, on behalf of a candidate seeking election to a public office of a school district, without requiring that candidate to file contribution reports with the 12 commission pursuant to section 16 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-16);
  - (7) the maximum amount of penalty which may be imposed by the commission on any person who fails to comply with the regulatory provisions of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et al.) for a first offense or a second and subsequent offenses, pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-22);
  - (8) the maximum amount of penalty which may be imposed by the commission on any corporation or labor organization which provides any of its employees any additional increment of salary for the express purpose of making a contribution to a candidate, candidate committee, joint candidates committee, political party committee, legislative leadership committee, political committee or continuing political committee for a first or a second and subsequent offenses, pursuant to section 15 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-20.1);
  - (9) the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made by an individual, a corporation or labor organization to a candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates committee, the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made by a political committee or a continuing political committee to a candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates committee other than the committee of a candidate for nomination or election to the office of Governor and the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made by one candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates committee, other than the committee of a candidate for nomination or election to the office of Governor, to another candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates committee other than the committee of a candidate for nomination or election to the office of Governor pursuant to section 18 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-11.3);
- 40 41 (10) the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made 42 by an individual, corporation, labor organization, political committee, 43 continuing political committee, candidate committee or joint 44 candidates committee or any other group to any political party 45 committee or any legislative leadership committee pursuant to section 19 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-11.4); 46

1 (11) the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made 2 by a candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates committee to 3 a political committee or a continuing political committee and the 4 maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made by one 5 political committee or continuing political committee to another 6 political committee or continuing political committee pursuant to 7 section 20 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-11.5).

(12) the amount of filing fees which may be collected from a candidate committee, a joint candidates committee, a continuing political committee, a political party committee, a legislative leadership committee, or any other person pursuant to section 6 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-6) (as that section shall have been amended by P.L.1983, c.579).

c. 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 and make public its adjustment of limits in accordance with the provisions of this section. Whenever, following the transmittal of that report, the commission shall have notice that a person has declared as a candidate for nomination for election or for election to any public office in a forthcoming primary or general election, it shall promptly notify that candidate of the amounts of those adjusted limits.

23 (cf. P.L.1993, c.65, s.22)

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25 3. Section 8 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-8) is amended to read as 26 follows:

8. a. (1) Each political committee 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 made to it and all expenditures made, incurred, or authorized by 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 public question, during the period ending 48 hours preceding the date of the report and beginning on the date on which the first of those contributions was received or the first of those expenditures was made, whichever occurred first. The cumulative report, except as hereinafter provided, 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 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 is an individual, the report shall indicate the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer. In the case of any loan reported pursuant to this subsection, the report shall contain the name

and mailing address of each person who has cosigned such loan since
48 hours preceding the date on 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 the individual's employer. The cumulative report
shall also contain the name and address of each person, firm or
organization to whom expenditures have been paid since 48 hours
preceding the date on which the previous such report was made and

8 preceding the date on which the previous such report was made and 9 the amount and purpose of each such expenditure. The cumulative 10 report shall be filed with the Election Law Enforcement Commission

on the dates designated in section 16 hereof.

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

Each campaign treasurer of a political committee shall file written notice with the commission of a contribution in excess of \$500 received during the period between the 13th day prior to the election and the date of the election, and of an expenditure of money or other thing of value in excess of \$500 made, incurred or authorized by the political committee to support or defeat a candidate in an election, or to aid the passage or defeat of any public question, during the period between the 13th day prior to the election and the date of the election. The notice of a contribution 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, the name and mailing address of the contributor, and where the contributor is an individual, the individual's occupation and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer. The notice of an expenditure shall be filed in writing or by telegram within 48 hours of the making, incurring or authorization of the expenditure and shall set forth the name and mailing address of the person, firm or organization to whom or which the expenditure was paid and the amount and purpose of the expenditure.

- (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 corporation, partnership, or any other incorporated or 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 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 expects to make contributions toward such aid or promotion, or toward such passage or defeat, during a subsequent election shall certify that fact to the

1 commission, and the commission, upon receiving that certification and 2 on the basis of any information as it may require of the group, 3 corporation, partnership, association or other organization, shall 4 determine whether the group, corporation, partnership, association or 5 other organization is a continuing political committee for the purposes 6 of this act. If the commission determines that the group, corporation, 7 partnership, association or other organization is a continuing political 8 committee, it shall so notify that continuing political committee.

No person serving as the chairman of a political party committee or a legislative leadership committee shall be eligible to be appointed or to serve as the chairman of a continuing political committee.

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(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, a cumulative quarterly report of all moneys, loans, paid personal services or other things of value contributed to it during the period ending on the 15th day preceding that date and commencing on January 1 of that calendar year or, in the case of the cumulative quarterly report to be filed not later than January 15, of the previous calendar year, and all expenditures 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 of the passage or defeat of any public question or to provide information on any candidate or public question.

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 the individual's employer. In the case of any loan reported pursuant to this subsection, 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 indicate the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of the individual's 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 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 \$500 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, the individual's occupation and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer. If any continuing political committee makes or authorizes an expenditure of money or other thing of value in excess of \$500, or incurs any obligation therefor, to support or defeat a candidate in an election, or to aid the passage or defeat of any public question, after March 31 and on or before the day of the primary election, or after September 30 and on or before the day of the general election, it shall, in writing or by telegram, report that expenditure to the commission within 48 hours of the making, authorizing or incurring thereof. 

A continuing political committee which ceases 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. Each political party committee and each legislative leadership 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, a cumulative quarterly report of all moneys, loans, paid personal services or other things of value contributed to it during the period ending on the 15th day preceding that date and commencing on January 1 of that calendar year or, in the case of the cumulative quarterly report to be filed not later than January 15, of the previous calendar year, and all expenditures 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 of the passage or defeat of any public question or to provide information on any candidate or public question.

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 the individual's employer. In the case of any loan reported pursuant to this

1 subsection, the report shall contain the name and address of each 2 person who cosigns such loan, and where an individual has cosigned 3 such loans, the report shall indicate the occupation of the individual 4 and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer. The report shall also contain the name and address of each person, firm or 5 6 organization to whom expenditures have been paid and the amount and purpose of each such expenditure. The treasurer of the political party 7 8 committee or legislative leadership committee reporting shall certify 9 to the correctness of each cumulative quarterly report.

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If a political party committee or a legislative leadership committee submitting cumulative quarterly reports as provided under this subsection receives a contribution from a single source of more than \$500 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, the individual's occupation and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer.

d. In any report filed pursuant to the provisions of this section the organization or committee reporting may exclude from the report the name of and other information relating to any contributor whose contributions during the period covered by the report did not exceed \$200, provided, however, that (1) such exclusion is unlawful if any person responsible for the preparation or filing of the report knew that it was made with respect to any person whose contributions relating to the same election or issue and made to the reporting organization or committee aggregate, in combination with the contribution in respect of which such exclusion is made, more than \$200 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, dates or other circumstantial data regarding contributions made to any other organization or political committee, political party committee 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 include the name and mailing address of each contributor in excess of \$200 to such testimonial affair and the amount contributed by each; in the case of an individual contributor,

1 the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of 2 the individual's employer; the expenses incurred; and the disposition 3 of the proceeds of such testimonial affair.

4 Adjustments to the \$200 limits established in this subsection which 5 have been made by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, 6 pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the 7 effective date of P.L., c. (now pending before the Legislature as 8 this bill) are rescinded. The \$200 limits established in this subsection 9 shall remain as stated in this subsection without further adjustment by 10 the commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993, 11 c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

12 e. A political committee shall be exempt from any requirement to 13 file reports pursuant to this section of contributions received or 14 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 the total amount to 16 be expended on behalf of their candidacies shall not exceed \$4,000.00; provided, that if a committee which has filed such a sworn statement receives contributions from any one source aggregating more than 20 \$200.00, it shall forthwith report that fact, including the name and mailing address of the source; where the source is an individual, the 22 occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of the 23 individual's employer; and the aggregate total of contributions from the source to the commission. Any sworn statement under this subsection may be filed with the notice of designation by a political 26 committee of a campaign treasurer and campaign depository under section 10 of P.L.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 Adjustments to the \$200 limit established in this subsection which 32 have been made by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the 33 34 effective date of P.L., c. (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) are rescinded. The \$200 limit established in this subsection 35 36 shall remain as stated in this subsection without further adjustment by 37 the commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

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\$4,000.00.

39 (cf: P.L.1993, c.65, s.3)

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41 4. Section 11 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-11) is amended to read 42 as follows:

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 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:
  - a. The duly appointed campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurers of the candidate committee or joint candidates committee;

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- b. The duly appointed organizational treasurer or deputy
  organizational treasurers of a political party committee or a continuing
  political committee;
  - c. The duly appointed campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurers of a political committee; or
  - d. The duly appointed organizational treasurer or deputy organizational treasurer of a legislative leadership committee.

It shall be lawful, however, for any person, not acting in concert with any other person or group, 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 or her name and mailing address and the amount of all such expenditures and expenses, except personal traveling expenses, if the total of the money so expended, exclusive of such traveling expenses, exceeds \$500, and also, where the person is an individual, to report the individual's occupation and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer, 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.

29 No contribution of money shall be made in currency, except 30 contributions in response to a public solicitation, provided that cumulative currency contributions of up to \$200 may be made to a 31 32 candidate committee or joint candidates committee, a political 33 committee, a continuing political committee, a legislative leadership 34 committee or a political party committee if the contributor submits 35 with the currency contribution a written statement of a form as 36 prescribed by the commission, indicating the contributor's name, 37 mailing address and occupation and the amount of the contribution, 38 including the contributor's signature and the name and mailing address 39 of the contributor's employer. Adjustments to the \$200 limit 40 established in this paragraph which have been made by the Election 41 Law Enforcement Commission, pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, 42 c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the effective date of P.L., c. (now 43 pending before the Legislature as this bill) are rescinded. The \$200 44 limit established in this paragraph shall remain as stated in this 45 paragraph without further adjustment by the commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2). 46

Any anonymous contribution received by a campaign treasurer or 2 deputy campaign treasurer shall not be used or expended, but shall be 3 returned to the donor, if his identity is known, and if no donor is 4 found, the contribution shall escheat to the State.

No person, partnership or association, either directly or through an agent, shall make any loan or advance, the proceeds of which that person, partnership or association knows or has reason to know or believe are intended to be used by the recipient thereof to make a contribution or expenditure, except by check or money order identifying the name, mailing address and occupation or business of the maker of the loan, and, if the maker is an individual, the name and mailing address of that individual's employer; provided, however, that such loans or advances to a single individual, up to a cumulative amount of \$50 in any calendar year, may be made in currency.

15 (cf: P.L.1995, c.391, s.3)

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

16. a. The campaign treasurer of each candidate committee and joint candidates committee 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, made to him or to the deputy campaign treasurers of the candidate committee or joint candidates committee, and all expenditures paid out of the election fund of the candidate or candidates, during the period ending with the second day preceding the date of the cumulative report and beginning on 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 also contain the name and mailing address of each person or group from whom moneys, loans, paid personal services or other things of value were contributed after the second day preceding the date of the previous cumulative report 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 the individual's employer. In the case of any loan reported pursuant to this section, the report shall further contain the name and mailing address of each person who cosigns such loan, the occupation of the person and the name and mailing address of the person's employer. If no moneys, loans, paid personal services or other things of value were contributed, the report shall so indicate, and if no expenditures were paid or incurred, the report shall likewise so indicate. The campaign treasurer and the candidate or several candidates shall certify the correctness of the report.

b. During the period between the appointment of the 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) on the 29th day preceding the election, and (2) on the 11th day preceding the election; and after the election he shall file his report on the 20th day following such election. Concurrent with the report filed on the 20th day following an election, or at any time thereafter, the campaign treasurer of a candidate committee or joint candidates committee may certify to the Election Law Enforcement Commission that the election fund of such candidate committee or joint candidates committee has wound up its business and been dissolved, or that business regarding the late election has been wound up but the candidate committee or joint candidates committee will continue for the deposit and use of contributions in accordance with section 17 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-11.2). Certification shall be accompanied by a final accounting of such election 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 Until the candidate committee or joint candidates committee is dissolved, each such treasurer shall continue to file reports in the form and manner herein prescribed.

The Election Law Enforcement Commission shall promulgate regulations providing for the termination of post-election campaign reporting requirements applicable to political committees, candidate committees and joint candidates committees. The requirements to file quarterly reports after the first post-election report may be waived by the commission, notwithstanding that the certification has not been filed, if the commission determines under any regulations so promulgated that the outstanding obligations of the political committee, candidate committee or joint candidates committee do not exceed 10% of the expenditures of the campaign fund with respect to the election or \$1,000.00, whichever is less, or are likely to be discharged or forgiven.

A candidate committee or joint candidates committee shall file with the Election Law Enforcement Commission, not later than April 15, July 15, October 15 of each calendar year in which the candidate or candidates in control of the committee does or do not run for election or reelection and January 15 of each calendar year in which the candidate or candidates does or do run for election or reelection, a cumulative quarterly report of all moneys, loans, paid personal services or other things of value contributed to it or to the candidate or candidates during the period ending on the 15th day preceding that date and commencing on January 1 of that calendar year or, in the case of the cumulative quarterly report to be filed not later than January 15, of the previous calendar year, and all expenditures made, incurred, or

1 authorized by it or the candidate or candidates during the period, 2 whether or not such expenditures were made, incurred or authorized 3 in furtherance of the election or defeat of any candidate, or in aid of 4 the passage or defeat of any public question or to provide information on any candidate or public question. The commission may by 5 6 regulation require any such candidate committee or joint candidates 7 committee to file during any calendar year one or more additional 8 cumulative reports of such contributions received and expenditures 9 made as may be necessary to ensure that no more than five months 10 shall elapse between the last day of a period covered by one such 11 report and the last day of the period covered by the next such report.

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The commission, on any form it shall prescribe for the reporting of expenditures by a candidate committee or joint candidates committee, shall provide for the grouping together of all expenditures under the category of "campaign expenses" under paragraph (1) of subsection a. of section 17 of P.L.1993, c.65, identified as such, and for the grouping together, separately, of all other expenditures under the categories prescribed by paragraphs (2) through (6) of that subsection. The cumulative quarterly report due on April 15 in a year immediately after the year in which the candidate or candidates does or do run for election or reelection shall contain a report of all of the contributions received and expenditures made by the candidate or candidates since the 18th day after that election.

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 the individual's 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 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 candidate committee or joint candidates committee and the candidate or candidates shall certify to the correctness of each cumulative quarterly report.

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.

1 d. There shall be no obligation to file the reports required by this 2 section on behalf of a candidate if such candidate files with the 3 Election Law Enforcement Commission a sworn statement to the 4 effect that the total amount to be expended in behalf of his candidacy 5 by the candidate committee, by any political party committee, by any 6 political committee, or by any person shall not in the aggregate exceed \$2,000.00 or \$4,000 for any joint candidates committee containing 7 8 two candidates or \$6,000 for any joint candidates committee 9 containing three or more candidates. The sworn statement may be 10 submitted at the time when the name and address of the campaign 11 treasurer and depository is filed with the Election Law Enforcement 12 Commission, provided that in any case the sworn statement is filed no 13 later than the 29th day before an election. If a candidate who has filed 14 such a sworn statement receives contributions from any one source 15 aggregating more than \$200 he shall forthwith make report of the same, including the name and mailing address of the source and the 16 17 aggregate total of contributions therefrom, and where the source is an 18 individual, the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing 19 address of the individual's employer, to the Election Law Enforcement 20 Commission. Adjustments to the \$200 limit established in this 21 subsection which have been made by the Election Law Enforcement 22 Commission, pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), 23 prior to the effective date of P.L., c. (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) are rescinded. The \$200 limit established in 24 25 this subsection shall remain as stated in this subsection without further 26 adjustment by the commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 27 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2). 28

e. 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 or the sworn statement referred to in subsection d. of this section, if the total amount expended and to be expended in behalf of his candidacy by the candidate committee, any political committee, any continuing political committee, or a political party committee or by any person, does not in the aggregate exceed \$2,000.00 per election or \$4,000 for any joint candidates committee containing two candidates or \$6,000 for any joint candidates committee containing three or more candidates; provided, that if such candidate receives contributions from any one source aggregating more than \$200, he shall forthwith make a report of the same, including the name and mailing address of the source, 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 the individual's employer, to the commission.

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Adjustments to the \$200 limit established in this subsection which
have been made by the Election Law Enforcement Commission,
pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the

1 effective date of P.L., c. (now pending before the Legislature as

- 2 this bill) are rescinded. The \$200 limit established in this subsection
- 3 shall remain as stated in this subsection without further adjustment by
- 4 the commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993,
- 5 c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).
- 6 f. In any report filed pursuant to the provisions of this section, the 7 names and addresses of contributors whose contributions during the 8 period covered by the report did not exceed \$200 may be excluded; 9 provided, however, that (1) such exclusion is unlawful if any person 10 responsible for the preparation or filing of the report knew that such 11 exclusion was made with respect to any person whose total 12 contributions relating to the same election and made to the reporting 13 candidate or to an allied campaign organization or organizations 14 aggregate, in combination with the total contributions in respect of 15 which such exclusion is made, more than \$200, and (2) any person who knowingly prepares, assists in preparing, files or acquiesces in the 16 17 filing of any report from which the identity of any contributor has been 18 excluded contrary to the provisions of this section is subject to the 19 provisions of section 21 of this act, but (3) nothing in this proviso shall 20 be construed as requiring any candidate committee or joint candidates 21 committee reporting pursuant to this act to report the amounts, dates 22 or other circumstantial data regarding contributions made to any other 23 candidate committee, joint candidates committee, political committee, 24 continuing political committee, political party committee or legislative 25 leadership committee.

26 Adjustments to the \$200 limit established in this subsection which 27 have been made by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, 28 pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the 29 effective date of P.L., c. (now pending before the Legislature as 30 this bill) are rescinded. The \$200 limit established in this subsection 31 shall remain as stated in this subsection without further adjustment by 32 the commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993,

33 c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

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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 \$200 to such testimonial affair and the amount contributed by each; in the case of any individual contributor, the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer; the expenses incurred; and the disposition of the proceeds of such testimonial affair. Adjustments to the \$200 limit established in this subsection which have been made by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the effective date of P.L. c. (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) are rescinded. The

- \$200 limit established in this subsection shall remain as stated in this
   subsection without further adjustment by the commission in the
   manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).
  - h. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1993, c.65.)
- 5 i. Each campaign treasurer of a candidate committee or joint 6 candidates committee shall file written notice with the commission of 7 a contribution in excess of \$500 received during the period between 8 the 13th day prior to the election and the date of the election. The 9 notice shall be filed in writing or by telegram within 48 hours of the 10 receipt of the contribution and shall set forth the amount and date of 11 the contribution, the name and mailing address of the contributor, and 12 where the contributor is an individual, the occupation of the individual 13 and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer.

14 (cf: P.L.1993, c.65, s.9)

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- 6. Section 19 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-19) is amended to read as follows:
- 18 19. a. No person shall conduct any public solicitation as defined 19 in this act except (1) upon written authorization of the campaign or 20 organizational treasurer of the candidate committee or joint candidates 21 committee, political committee, continuing political committee, 22 political party committee or legislative leadership committee on whose 23 behalf such solicitation is conducted, or (2) in accordance with the 24 provisions of subsection c. of this section. A person with such written 25 authorization may employ and accept the services of others as 26 solicitors, and shall be responsible for reporting to the treasurer the 27 information required under subsection b. of this section and for delivery to the treasurer the net proceeds of such solicitation in 28 29 compliance with section 11 of this act. A contribution made through 30 donation or purchase in response to a public solicitation conducted pursuant to written authorization of a treasurer shall be deemed to 31 32 have been made 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 such report and as a part thereof an itemized report on any such solicitation of which the net proceeds exceed \$200, in such form and detail as required by the rules of the Election Law Enforcement Commission, which report shall include:
  - (1) The name and mailing address of the person authorized to conduct such solicitation, the method of solicitation and, where the person is an individual, the occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer;
  - (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

- 1 cost thereof was donated, the estimated actual value thereof and the
- 2 actual amount paid therefor, and the names and addresses of any such
- 3 If it is not practicable for such itemized report to be
- 4 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 5
- 6 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 7
- 8 period.

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- 9 Adjustments to the \$200 limit established in this subsection which
- 10 have been made by the Election Law Enforcement Commission,
- 11 pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the
- 12 effective date of P.L., c. (now pending before the Legislature as
- 13 this bill) are rescinded. The \$200 limit established in this subsection
- 14 shall remain as stated in this subsection without further adjustment by
- 15 the commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993,
- c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2). 16
- c. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection b. of this section, 17
- 18 it shall be lawful for any natural person, not acting in concert with any
- 19 other person or group, to make personally a public solicitation the
- 20 entire proceeds of which, without deduction for the expenses of
- 21 solicitation, are to be expended by him personally or under his
- 22 personal direction to finance any lawful activity in support of or
- 23 opposition to any candidate or public question or to provide political
- 24 information on any candidate or public question or to seek to influence
- 25 the content, introduction, passage or defeat of legislation; provided,
- 26 however, that any individual making such solicitation who receives
- 27 gross contributions exceeding \$200 in respect to activities relating to
- any one election shall be required to make a report stating (1) the 29 amount so collected, (2) the method of solicitation, (3) the purpose or
- 30 purposes for which the funds so collected were expended and the
- 31 amount expended for each such purpose and (4) the individual's name
- 32 and mailing address, the individual's occupation and the name and
- 33 mailing address of the individual's employer. Adjustments to the \$200
- 34 limit established in this subsection which have been made by the
- Election Law Enforcement Commission, pursuant to section 22 of 35
- P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the effective date of P.L. 36
- 37 c. (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) are rescinded.
- 38 The \$200 limit established in this subsection shall remain as stated in
- 39 this subsection without further adjustment by the commission in the
- 40 manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).
- 41 Such report shall be made to the Election Law Enforcement
- 42 Commission at the same time and in the same manner as a political
- 43 committee, continuing political committee, political party committee
- 44 or a legislative leadership committee subject to the provisions of
- 45 section 8 of this act.
- 46 Contributions or purchases made in response to a public

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solicitation conducted in conformity with the requirements and conditions of this act shall not be deemed anonymous within the meaning of sections 11 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.

8 (cf: P.L.1993, c.65, s.10)

7. This act shall take effect on January 1 following enactment.

#### STATEMENT

Under current law, the minimum amount of a campaign contribution which triggers an obligation to report that contribution to the Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC) is adjusted by ELEC every four years. Currently, the minimum amount which triggers an obligation to report is \$400. This bill would instead set that amount at \$200 by rescinding all adjustments to increase that amount that have been made pursuant law, so that any contribution greater than \$200 would trigger an obligation to report that contribution to ELEC. The bill removes the authority of ELEC to increase this amount.

Additionally, the bill would change the amount of campaign contributions collected as a result of a public solicitation which trigger an obligation to report to ELEC to \$200.

The bill would also require the reporting of all cash contributions to ELEC, regardless of the amount of the contribution. The report would include the name and mailing address of each contributor, the occupation of the contributor and the amount of the cash contribution, including the contributor's signature and the name and mailing address of the contributor's employer. If the cash is contributed in response to a public solicitation, the report would also include the name and mailing address of each individual that contributed cash to the solicitation, the occupation of the individual and the amount of the contribution, including the individual's signature and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer.

## SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

#### STATEMENT TO

## SENATE, No. 5

with committee amendments

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

**DATED: JUNE 3, 2004** 

The Senate State Government Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate, No. 5.

This bill changes the minimum amount of a campaign contribution which triggers an obligation to report that contribution to the Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC). Under current law, the minimum amount is adjusted by ELEC every four years; presently, it is \$400. The bill sets that minimum amount at \$300, and removes the authority of ELEC to increase the amount. The bill sets at \$200 the amount of campaign contributions collected as a result of a public solicitation which triggers an obligation to report to ELEC.

The bill requires the reporting of all cash contributions to ELEC, regardless of the amount of the contribution. Under the bill, the report will include the name and mailing address of each contributor, the occupation of the contributor and the amount of the cash contribution, and the name and mailing address of the contributor's employer. If the cash is contributed in response to a public solicitation, the report will include also the name and mailing address of each individual that contributed cash to the solicitation, the occupation of the individual and the amount of the contribution, and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer.

The committee amended the bill to (1) increase from \$200 to \$300 the minimum amount of a campaign contribution which triggers an obligation to report to ELEC and (2) eliminate the requirement for a contributor's signature in reports of cash contributions.

As amended, this bill is identical to Assembly, No. 5 (1R) of 2004.

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#### state of new jersey

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RELEASE: June 16, 2004

# Office of the Governor

**News Releases** 

**Previous Screen** 

#### McGreevey Signs Landmark Ethics Reform Legislation

#### Bills Provide A More Accountable and Transparent Government

(TRENTON) – Governor James E. McGreevey today signed into law the strongest ethics and campaign finance reform package in the history of New Jersey – and one of the strongest in the nation.

"Today is a good day for government and a victory for our citizens," said Governor McGreevey. "From the stronger penalties, to the increased disclosure, to the end of the influence of campaign contributions on no-bid contracts, this reform package provides a more accountable and more transparent government for all. I want to congratulate the citizens, the State Legislature, and the numerous advocacy groups who helped make these reforms a reality."

The legislation is the most comprehensive ethics and campaign finance reform initiative the State has embarked upon in more than 30 years and makes New Jersey only the fourth state in the entire country to enact a "pay-to-play" ban.

"The numerous positive achievements in this legislation clearly demonstrate how Democrats have seized the initiative on ethics reform," said Senate Majority Leader Bernard F. Kenny Jr. (D-Hudson). "As the Majority Party, Democrats have acted to put us in the right direction after years of inaction by the Republicans. The reforms enacted today are long overdue, but they mark the beginning - not the end - of our commitment to eliminate any perception that those who give the most to political campaigns get favored treatment in the form of lucrative State contracts."

Among the reforms the package are: prohibiting anyone who receives a no-bid contract from making certain political contributions; strengthening legislative ethics; enhancing reporting of legislators' financial disclosure requirements, hidden financial interests, and

conflicts of interests; increasing penalties for ethics and campaign finance violations and for illegally soliciting campaign contributions; and expanding the definition of lobbyist and legislative agent, ensuring that all parties who seeks to influence government are properly disclosed.

One of the main components of the ethics reform package is S-2/A-2, which prohibits state, county or local government officials from awarding no-bid contracts to their campaign contributors and prohibits no-bid contract holders from contributing to officials holding office at the government level in which the contract is in effect.

"This has been a long and winding journey, but today New Jersey sets an unprecedented standard for disclosure and transparency, and takes significant steps to reduce the influence of money in politics," said Governor McGreevey. "We should be proud of the example New Jersey has set for the rest of the nation, but we must also continue to work together to uphold the highest standards of ethical conduct."

The ethics reform package signed into law today includes:

- S-2 -- Prohibits campaign contributions by certain business entities performing State, county and local contracts, as well as prohibits certain contributions by county committee of political party.
- **S-4** -- Extends certain financial disclosure requirements to lobbying conducted through advertisements and direct mail to general public.
- A-5 -- Change the minimum contribution that needs to be reported to the Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC) from \$400 to \$300 and requires the reporting of all cash campaign contributions.
- **A-6** -- Requires professional campaign fundraisers to register and file quarterly reports with ELEC.
- A-7 -- Expands campaign communications require identification to include telephone calls featuring recorded messages made in regard to candidates and public questions. The message or call would clearly state the name of business or address of the committee, group or person that financed the communication.

"Just as voters have a right to know who is sending them campaign literature, New Jerseyans should see who is behind commercials or advertisements calling for action on a specific bill or regulation under consideration," said Assemblywoman Linda Greenstein (D-Mercer/Middlesex). "Issue ads are nothing more than thinly-veiled political campaign commercials, and all money spent on them should be publicly disclosed."

• **S-8** -- Prohibits the solicitation or making of political contributions on state property by state officeholders or their representatives.

- A-9 -- Requires Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC) to assess its Internet site and recommend improvements for the site's format and content. ELEC) would evaluate the presentation, accessibility, convenience, and usefulness of its Web site and recommend upgrades.
- S-10 -- Requires certain campaign and organizational treasurers to be trained by ELEC. It also requires ELEC to make the training program available over its Internet site within one year of the bill's enactment.
- A-11 -- Increases the maximum fines for violating campaign contribution and expenditure limit, reporting requirements and payment restrictions. The bill doubles the maximum fines that may be imposed for a variety of violations.
- A-12 -- Requires certain election committees/ joint candidates committees to file a report with ELEC within 48 hours of making certain expenditures in excess of \$800 during certain periods of an election cycle.
- A-14 -- Blocks legislators, Governor and department heads from lobbying activities for one year after leaving office.

"The strong link between government service and private lobbying creates - at a minimum - an appearance of impropriety in the eyes of the public," said Assemblyman Michael J. Panter (D-Monmouth/Mercer). "It also creates the very real possibility that the judgment of an elected or appointed official could be affected by their own financial concerns rather than the public's best interest. The signing of this bill today represents a new era in New Jersey politics, and a step in the right direction toward good government."

- A-15 Prohibits employment or assignment of relatives of certain employees of the
  Executive Branch, independent authorities, and interstate agencies to specific
  positions. Expands upon last year's nepotism ban by extending the definition of
  immediate family and including certain Executive Branch departments and
  commissions.
- S-16 Bans any member of the Legislature from acting on legislation in which they or their family member has a personal interest. The bill eliminates the option of filing a personal interest statement and instead prohibits the member from acting on legislation that they have a personal interest.
- S-17-- Changes memberships of Executive Commission on Ethical Standards and Joint Legislative Committee on Ethical Standards. The changes equalize the number of public and governmental official members.
- S-18 -- Increases monetary penalties for violations of "New Jersey Conflicts of Interest Law." The bill increases the fine for civil violations of the conflict of interest laws to between \$500 and \$10,000 for State officers and employees or

members of the Legislature.

- S-19-- Requires candidates seeking office of Governor or legislator to disclose prior conviction for criminal offense. Candidates would be required to file a form setting out whether they have been convicted of an indictable crime.
  - "As legislators, we often consider measures that would require members of the public to undergo criminal background checks or disclose criminal histories prior to consideration for employment," said Assemblyman Jeff Van Drew (D-Cape May). "However, current state law fails to require state elected officials to disclose similar backgrounds. This is more than a statutory anomaly. It is an error in need of immediate correction."
- S-22 -- Expands the definition of lobbyist and legislative agent to include those who influence the governmental process and actions in the Executive Branch, agency, or instrumentality.
- A-23 -- Requires ELEC to conduct random audits of records kept by legislative agents. Currently, ELEC has the authority to conduct such audits, but this bill would require them to do so.
- A-24 -- Directs ELEC to collect \$100 annual fee from legislative agents. The fee would be deposited in the general fund to be appropriated to ELEC. The fee would offset the costs of ELEC's new responsibilities.
- A-25 -- Prohibits legislative agents from accepting contingency fees to influence legislation or regulations. This bill amends the existing law by eliminating the ability of a legislative agent to enter into a contingency fee agreement with a client. The legislative agent's reimbursement could not be dependent upon the whether or not he or she was successful in trying to influence legislation or regulation.