

Highlights of Campaign Finance Changes - 2018 Legislative Session

Bills below are effective May 8, 2018.

S.B. 26 - Campaign Finance Amendments - Sen. Wayne Harper

- Changes the contribution reporting deadline from 30 days to 31 days for most entities, including:
 - Political action committees
 - Political issues committees
 - State office candidates
 - Legislative candidates
 - State school board candidates
 - Officeholders

* As a reminder: when candidates are contested in convention, the primary, or the general election their window shortens and they must report each contribution within 3 business days.

- Changes the deadline to disburse anonymous contributions to appropriate entities. An entity now has 31 days (previously 30) to disburse an anonymous contribution greater than \$50 to a city, the state, or a 501(c)(3) charity. This affects:
 - Political action committees
 - Political issues committees
 - State office candidates
 - Legislative candidates
 - State school board candidates
 - Officeholders

- Increases the expenditure threshold that requires county political parties and PACs to file disclosure reports (now \$750, previously \$50) (i.e., a county political party or a PAC is not required to file financial disclosure reports until the entity receives \$750 or spends \$750 in a calendar year).

- Changes fines for county political parties:
 - Decreases a fine for failure to file a report by the deadline (now \$100, previously \$1,000).
 - Changes the fine structure for county political parties which fail to file or amend a report after receiving notice from Lieutenant Governor's Office (previously \$1,000, now the lesser of: 10% of the total contributions during the reporting period, or \$1,000).

- Establishes how a corporation may file a notice of intent to cease making expenditures.

- Establishes where a PIC may expend remaining funds in order to close (i.e., return to donors, or give to charity).

H.B. 20 (Sub 1) - Political Activities And Elections - Rep. Jeremy Peterson

- Aligns state school board disclosure report penalties with other candidates.
- This bill gives state school board candidates a 24-hour window to file a report after a report deadline without being disqualified. A candidate is still subject to a fine for failure to file a report by the deadline.

H.B. 320 - Campaign Finance Modifications - Rep. Mark Wheatley

- Expands the list of those who may not receive campaign contributions while the legislature is convened in annual general session, veto override session, or special session.
- Previously, this list included legislators, the governor, and PACs controlled by them. The following individuals (and PACs they control) are now also included:
 - Lieutenant Governor
 - Attorney General
 - State Auditor
 - State Treasurer

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