

# HOUSE BILL 378

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HB 413/09 – W&M

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By: **Delegates Kaiser, Ali, Barkley, Barnes, Bates, Bobo, Bronrott, Carr, Feldman, Frick, Frush, Gilchrist, Gutierrez, Hecht, Holmes, Howard, Hubbard, Hucker, Ivey, Jennings, Jones, Lafferty, Lee, Manno, Montgomery, Morhaim, Murphy, Olszewski, Pena–Melnik, Reznik, Rice, Riley, Rosenberg, Ross, Schuler, Simmons, Stukes, and Walker**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2010

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Ballot Issue Committee – Additional Campaign Finance**  
3 **Report**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring a ballot issue committee to file a campaign finance  
5 report on or before a certain date preceding a general election; and generally  
6 relating to the filing of an additional campaign finance report by a ballot issue  
7 committee.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article – Election Law  
10 Section 13–309  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2003 Volume and 2009 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
14 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Election Law**

16 13–309.

17 (a) Subject to other provisions of this subtitle, a campaign finance entity  
18 shall file campaign finance reports as follows:

19 (1) except for a ballot issue committee, on or before the fourth Tuesday  
20 immediately preceding each primary election except a presidential primary election;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           (2)     except for a ballot issue committee, on or before the second Friday  
2 immediately preceding a primary election;

3           **(3)     FOR A BALLOT ISSUE COMMITTEE ONLY, ON OR BEFORE THE**  
4 **FOURTH FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING A GENERAL ELECTION;**

5           ~~[(3)]~~ (4)     on or before the second Friday immediately preceding a  
6 general election; and

7           ~~[(4)]~~ (5)     on or before the third Tuesday after a general election.

8           (b)     (1)     A campaign finance entity is subject to subsection (a) of this  
9 section and this subsection only as to the election in which the entity designates that it  
10 will participate.

11           (2)     In addition to the campaign finance reports required under  
12 subsection (a) of this section, but subject to paragraph (4) of this subsection, a  
13 campaign finance entity shall file campaign finance reports on the third Wednesday in  
14 January.

15           (3)     (i)     If subsequent to the filing of its declaration under §  
16 13–208(c)(3) of this title, a campaign finance entity participates in an election in which  
17 it was not designated to participate, the campaign finance entity shall file all  
18 campaign reports prescribed under subsection (a) of this section for that election.

19                     (ii)    A violation of subparagraph (i) of this paragraph constitutes  
20 a failure to file by the campaign finance entity, and the responsible officer is guilty of a  
21 misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to the penalties prescribed under Part VII of  
22 this subtitle.

23           (4)     If a campaign finance entity has neither a cash balance nor an  
24 outstanding obligation at the end of a reporting period, a campaign finance report for  
25 that period, clearly marked as “final”, shall be filed on or before the due date, and no  
26 further report is required.

27           (c)     In addition to the campaign reports required under subsection (a) of this  
28 section, a continuing political committee shall file a campaign finance report on the  
29 third Wednesday in January of each year the committee is in existence.

30           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
31 July 1, 2010.