

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
First Reader

House Bill 759  
Ways and Means

(Delegate Sydnor)

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**Election Law – Campaign Finance Entities – Limit on Cash Contributions**

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This bill increases an existing limit on cash contributions to campaign finance entities in a four-year election cycle from \$100 to \$400. **The bill takes effect June 1, 2018.**

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill does not affect State finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Unless otherwise expressly authorized by law, all campaign finance activity for an election under the Election Law Article of the Annotated Code must be conducted through a campaign finance entity (defined as a political committee established under Title 13 of the Election Law Article). An individual may not file a certificate of candidacy or a declaration of intent until the individual establishes, or causes to be established, an authorized candidate campaign committee (a campaign finance entity authorized by the candidate to promote the candidate's candidacy).

A contribution of money to a campaign finance entity may be made only by (1) check; (2) credit card; (3) cash, if the contribution does not exceed \$100 in an election cycle; and (4) an electronic method that the State Board of Elections authorizes by regulation.

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## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** State Board of Elections; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 9, 2018  
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