

## Testimony For SB0016, with Amendments

Please vote for SB0016, with amendments.

At first glance, everything in the bill makes sense except who decides what should be done with any remaining money should the draftee choose not to run.

For example, if asked, I would donate money to draft Governor Ehrlich to run for Congress. If after the committee presented its research about the viability of his election, he declined the opportunity, then proposed section 13-107 (I)(2) on pages 5-6, lines 20-30 and lines 1-8 would take effect.

There is no stated mechanism as to who decides which of the 6 choices for disbursing the funds should be selected. One must assume the draft committee would decide what to do with any remaining funds.

Rather than allow the draft committee to decide, I believe the bill should be amended so that the draft committee MUST contact the donors and ask them if they want their pro rata share of the remaining money returned to them (Section 13-07 (I)(2)(1) on page 5, lines 20-22). I believe that the bill should be amended to describe the process the draft committee should take to contact the donors once the candidate has agreed to run, declined to run or did not decide by the deadline for filing (Section 13-107 (I)(1) on page 5, lines 8-17). The process should describe how many committee members are needed for a quorum, how many attempts to contact a donor should be made, and if a donor is deemed not reachable, how to vote on which return method. With multiple choices, will a plurality be sufficient, or must voting continue until a majority decision is reached.

If the contacted donor does not want a refund, the bill should be amended to require the draft committee ask the donors where they want their pro rata share of funds to go:

- The State Central Committee for that party (Section 13-07 (I)(2)(II)(1)(A) on page 5, lines 23-28
- The Local Central Committee for that party (Section 13-07 (I)(2)(II)(1)(B) on page 5, lines 23-28
- The drafted candidate's authorized campaign committee (Section 13-07 (I)(2)(II)(2) on page 6, lines 1-4)
- A non-profit organization exempt from federal taxation (Section 13-07 (I)(2)(II)(3) on page 6, lines 5-6); or
- The Fair Campaign Financing Fund (Section 13-07 (I)(2)(II)(4) on page 6, lines 7-8)

If a donor cannot be contacted, then the draft committee members should vote as to which option should be used to return that donor's pro rata share.

I am concerned that there are no donation limits placed on draft or exploratory committees (Section 13-107 (J) on Page 6, lines 9-10). I believe the bill should be amended to restrict donations to the same limits imposed on a candidate's authorized campaign committee.

## Testimony For SB0016, with Amendments

Without my proposed amendments, this bill looks like a vehicle for central committees to fund raise by drafting popular figures that the public would support, but who the organizers expect to decline. This would allow organizers to funnel leftover funds to the central committees since the bill does not require the drafting committee to refund left over funds to the donors.

Alan Lang  
242 Armstrong Lane  
Pasadena, MD 21122  
410-336-9745  
[Alanlang1@verizon.net](mailto:Alanlang1@verizon.net)