
**By: Delegate Taylor and Chairman, Commerce and Government Matters Committee,
and Delegates Dewberry, Hurson, Arnick, Busch, Guns, Harrison, Hixson, Kopp,
Menes, Owings, Rawlings, and Vallario**

Requested: July 17, 1996

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 1997

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law - Fund-Raising During Legislative Session and Bill-Signing Period -**
3 **Prohibition**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General,
5 Comptroller, members of the General Assembly, or persons acting on behalf of any
6 of these individuals, from collecting contributions, conducting a fund-raising event,
7 or soliciting or selling tickets to an event, during certain periods of time; providing
8 certain exceptions; and generally relating to certain fund-raising activities by the
9 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller, members of the
10 General Assembly, or persons acting on their behalf.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
12 Article 33 - Election Code
13 Section 1-1(a)(5)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

16 BY adding to
17 Article 33 - Election Code
18 Section 26-10
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

23 **Article 33 - Election Code**

24 1-1.

25 (a) As used in this article the following terms shall have the meanings indicated
26 unless a contrary meaning is clearly intended from the context in which the term appears:

2

1 (5) (i) "Contribution" means the gift, transfer or promise of gift or
2 transfer of money or other thing of value to any candidate, or the candidate's
3 representative, or a representative of any political party or partisan organization to
4 promote or assist in the promotion of the success or defeat of any candidate, political
5 party, principle or proposition submitted to a vote at any election.

6 (ii) "Contribution" includes proceeds from the sale of tickets to a
7 campaign fund-raising event.

8 26-10.

9 (A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, DURING THE
10 PERIOD BEGINNING WITH THE CONVENING OF A REGULAR SESSION OF THE
11 GENERAL ASSEMBLY UNTIL 50 DAYS AFTER THE END OF A REGULAR SESSION, THE
12 GOVERNOR, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, ATTORNEY GENERAL, COMPTROLLER, OR A
13 PERSON ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNOR, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR,
14 ATTORNEY GENERAL, OR COMPTROLLER, MAY NOT:

15 (1) COLLECT CONTRIBUTIONS;

16 (2) CONDUCT ANY FUND-RAISING EVENT IN ORDER TO COLLECT
17 CONTRIBUTIONS; OR

18 (3) SOLICIT OR SELL A TICKET TO ANY FUND-RAISING EVENT.

19 (B) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, DURING A
20 REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, A MEMBER OF THE GENERAL
21 ASSEMBLY, OR A PERSON ACTING ON BEHALF OF A MEMBER, MAY NOT:

22 (1) COLLECT CONTRIBUTIONS;

23 (2) CONDUCT ANY FUND-RAISING EVENT IN ORDER TO COLLECT
24 CONTRIBUTIONS; OR

25 (3) SOLICIT OR SELL A TICKET TO ANY FUND-RAISING EVENT.

26 (C) (1) (I) THIS PARAGRAPH APPLIES TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS
27 SERVING AS GOVERNOR, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, ATTORNEY GENERAL,
28 COMPTROLLER, OR A MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND WHO HAS
29 PROPERLY FILED AS A CANDIDATE FOR AN ELECTIVE FEDERAL OR LOCAL
30 GOVERNMENT OFFICE.

31 (II) AN INDIVIDUAL SUBJECT TO THIS PARAGRAPH, OR A PERSON
32 ACTING ON BEHALF OF THAT INDIVIDUAL, MAY:

33 1. COLLECT CONTRIBUTIONS SOLELY FOR PURPOSES
34 RELATING TO THE ELECTION OF THE INDIVIDUAL TO A FEDERAL OR LOCAL
35 GOVERNMENT OFFICE;

36 2. CONDUCT A FUND-RAISING EVENT IN ORDER TO
37 COLLECT CONTRIBUTIONS SOLELY FOR PURPOSES RELATING TO THE ELECTION OF
38 THE INDIVIDUAL TO A FEDERAL OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICE; AND

3

1 3. SOLICIT OR SELL A TICKET TO A FUND-RAISING EVENT
2 SOLELY FOR PURPOSES RELATING TO THE ELECTION OF THE INDIVIDUAL TO A
3 FEDERAL OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICE.

4 (2) (I) THIS PARAGRAPH APPLIES TO AN ELIGIBLE CANDIDATE WHO
5 HAS APPLIED FOR AND ACCEPTS A PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION FROM THE FAIR
6 CAMPAIGN FINANCING FUND UNDER THE FAIR CAMPAIGN FINANCING ACT.

7 (II) DURING THE YEAR OF THE ELECTION ONLY, AN ELIGIBLE
8 CANDIDATE SUBJECT TO THIS PARAGRAPH MAY ACCEPT ELIGIBLE PRIVATE
9 CONTRIBUTIONS AND ANY DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS BY THE STATE
10 ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD OF ELECTION LAWS THAT ARE BASED ON THE ELIGIBLE
11 PRIVATE CONTRIBUTIONS.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 October 1, 1997.