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**By: Delegates Pendergrass, Pitkin, and Turner**

Requested: July 6, 1996

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 1997

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Laws - "Quasi-Contributions" - Reporting Requirements**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the definitions of "contribution" and "expenditure" in the  
4 Election Code to require that certain candidates include in their campaign finance  
5 reports contributions and expenditures associated with a campaign for election to  
6 office of certain nonpartisan organizations.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article 33 - Election Code  
9 Section 1-1(a)(4), (5), and (7)  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

14 **Article 33 - Election Code**

15 1-1.

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

18 (4) (i) "Candidate" means any person who files a certificate of candidacy  
19 for any public or party office.

20 (ii) "Candidate" includes, for purposes of the fair election practices  
21 subtitle, an incumbent judge of the Court of Appeals or Court of Special Appeals at an  
22 election for continuance in office.

23 (III) "CANDIDATE" ALSO INCLUDES, FOR PURPOSES OF THE FAIR  
24 ELECTION PRACTICES SUBTITLE, AN ELECTED OFFICIAL OF THE STATE OR OF A  
25 POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE WHO SEEKS ELECTION AS AN OFFICER OF A  
26 NONPARTISAN ORGANIZATION.

27 [(iii)] (IV) "Candidate" also includes an individual, prior to that  
28 individual filing a certificate of candidacy, if a filing under § 26-3 or § 26-4 of this article  
29 has been made on behalf of that individual.

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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 THE GIFT, TRANSFER OR PROMISE  
7 OF GIFT OR TRANSFER OF MONEY OR OTHER THING OF VALUE TO A CANDIDATE  
8 WHO SEEKS ELECTION AS AN OFFICER OF A NONPARTISAN ORGANIZATION.

9                   [(ii)] (III) "Contribution" ALSO includes proceeds from the sale of  
10 tickets to a campaign fund-raising event.

11                   (7) "Expenditure" means any gift, transfer, disbursement or promise of  
12 money or valuable thing by any candidate, treasurer, or other agent of the candidate,  
13 political party or partisan organization to:

14                   (i) Promote or assist in the promotion of the success or defeat of any  
15 candidate, political party, principle or proposition submitted to a vote at any election;  
16 [or]

17                   (II) PROMOTE OR ASSIST IN THE PROMOTION OF THE SUCCESS OR  
18 DEFEAT OF ANY CANDIDATE WHO SEEKS ELECTION AS AN OFFICER OF A  
19 NONPARTISAN ORGANIZATION; OR

20                   [(ii)] (III) Pay for the publication expense of a legislative newsletter  
21 under § 26-18.1 of this article.

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