
By: Delegates Hurson, Shriver, B. Hughes, Conroy, Goldwater, Billings, Hubbard, Dembrow, Turner, Pitkin, Genn, Menes, Howard, McIntosh, Holt, Leopold, Heller, Mandel, Hecht, Elliott, Crumlin, M. Burns, Bobo, Love, Mossburg, R. Baker, Conway, Perry, Fry, Franchot, Pendergrass, and Rosapepe

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 1997

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law - Fair Campaign Financing Fund - Designation of Income Tax Payments by**
3 **Individuals**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Comptroller to establish a system that allows certain
5 individual taxpayers to designate that certain income tax revenues be distributed to
6 the Fair Campaign Financing Fund; and generally relating to a system that allows
7 certain individual taxpayers to designate that certain income tax revenues be
8 distributed to the Fair Campaign Financing Fund.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
10 Article 33 - Election Code
11 Section 31-4(a)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article 33 - Election Code
16 Section 31-9
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (1993 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
20 Article - Tax - General
21 Section 2-609
22 Annotated Code of Maryland
23 (1988 Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

2

1 **Article 33 - Election Code**

2 31-4.

3 (a) (1) There is established the "Fair Campaign Financing Fund" which shall be
4 administered by the Comptroller in accordance with the provisions of § 31-9 of this
5 subtitle.

6 (2) The Comptroller shall credit to the Fund all money collected pursuant to
7 these provisions.

8 31-9.

9 (a) (1) For the taxable year beginning January 1, 1995 and each taxable year
10 thereafter, for every individual other than a nonresident alien filing a personal State
11 income tax return, the Comptroller shall establish a tax add-on system that allows
12 contributions to the Fair Campaign Financing Fund not to exceed \$500 per tax filer.

13 (2) In accordance with the provisions of this subtitle, the Comptroller shall:

14 (i) Credit to the Fund all money collected pursuant to these
15 provisions; and

16 (ii) Make disbursements from the Fund promptly upon receipt of an
17 authorized request from the State Administrative Board of Election Laws.

18 (B) IN ADDITION TO THE TAX ADD-ON SYSTEM ESTABLISHED UNDER
19 SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, FOR THE TAXABLE YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1,
20 1997 AND EACH TAXABLE YEAR THEREAFTER, THE COMPTROLLER SHALL
21 ESTABLISH A SYSTEM THAT ALLOWS:

22 (1) EVERY INDIVIDUAL, OTHER THAN A NONRESIDENT ALIEN, WHOSE
23 INCOME TAX LIABILITY FOR THE TAXABLE YEAR IS \$3 OR MORE TO DESIGNATE
24 THAT \$3 OF THE INCOME TAX REVENUE FROM INDIVIDUALS SHALL BE
25 DISTRIBUTED TO THE FUND; AND

26 (2) IN THE CASE OF A JOINT RETURN OF A HUSBAND AND WIFE HAVING
27 AN INCOME TAX LIABILITY OF \$6 OR MORE, EACH SPOUSE TO DESIGNATE THAT \$3
28 OF THE INCOME TAX REVENUE FROM INDIVIDUALS SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE
29 FUND.

30 [(b)] (C) The Comptroller shall administer the Fund and invest the money in the
31 Fund, subject to the usual investing procedures for State funds.

32 **Article - Tax - General**

33 2-609.

34 After making the distributions required under §§ 2-604 through 2-608.1 of this
35 subtitle, the Comptroller shall distribute:

36 (1) THE AMOUNTS DESIGNATED UNDER ARTICLE 33, § 31-9(B) OF THE
37 CODE TO THE FAIR CAMPAIGN FINANCING FUND; AND

3

1 (2) [the] THE remaining income tax revenue from individuals to the
2 General Fund of the State.

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