
By: Senator Della

Introduced and read first time: February 27, 1997

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law - Campaign Contributions by Lobbyists**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting certain lobbyists from making certain campaign
4 contributions to members or candidates for election to the General Assembly;
5 clarifying that lobbyists are not prohibited from making certain independent
6 expenditures; and generally relating to campaign contributions by lobbyists.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article 33 - Election Code
9 Section 26-3(a)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (1997 Replacement Volume)

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 26-3.

16 (a) (1) (i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, each
17 candidate for nomination for, or election to, public or party office, upon or before, and as
18 a condition precedent to qualifying as candidate, shall appoint one campaign treasurer
19 and shall file the name and address of the campaign treasurer with the board or with the
20 State Administrative Board of Election Laws as provided in subsection (c) of this section.
21 Every treasurer so appointed shall accept the appointment, in writing, prior to the filing
22 of his name as treasurer. The board or the State Administrative Board of Election Laws
23 may not accept any certificate of candidacy, either finally or conditionally, unless the
24 name of the treasurer has previously been filed with it as provided in this subsection. The
25 candidate and treasurer shall file campaign fund reports in accordance with § 26-11.

26 (ii) A candidate for whom an authorized candidate campaign
27 committee has been established is exempt from the campaign treasurer requirement of
28 subparagraph (i) of this subsection.

29 (2) A treasurer who resigns shall do so on a form prescribed by the State
30 Administrative Board of Election Laws signed by him, filed with the board or with the
31 State Administrative Board of Election Laws where the original appointment was filed.

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1 The candidate immediately shall appoint and file a new treasurer in accordance with this
2 section.

3 (3) A member of the State Administrative Board of Election Laws, or a
4 member of any board, or any permanent, part-time, or temporary employee of either may
5 not be a candidate or campaign manager or treasurer or subtreasurer of any candidate,
6 combination of candidates, or political committee during any part of his tenure in office
7 or employment.

8 (4) (i) 1. In this paragraph "lobbyist" means a regulated lobbyist who
9 is described in § 15-701(a)(1), (2), or (3) of the State Government Article.

10 2. A lobbyist, or a person acting on behalf of a lobbyist, may not
11 organize or establish a political committee for the purpose of soliciting or transmitting
12 contributions or transfers from any person to a member or candidate for election to the
13 General Assembly.

14 3. A LOBBYIST MAY NOT MAKE A PERSONAL CONTRIBUTION
15 TO A MEMBER OR CANDIDATE FOR ELECTION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

16 (ii) This paragraph may not be construed to prohibit a lobbyist from:

17 1. Being a candidate; or

18 2. Making [a personal contribution within the limitations
19 established under Article 33 of the Code] AN INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE UNDER §
20 26-9.2 OF THIS ARTICLE.

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