

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE  
Revised

House Bill 1006 (Delegate Pitkin)

Commerce & Government Matters

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**Election Laws - Continuing Political Committees - Time Limit for Disposition of  
Surplus Campaign Funds**

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This bill provides that an individual who is not an office holder or a candidate for public or party office, or continuing political committee affiliated with the individual, must file a final report to close out campaign accounts. The report must be filed within eight years following the latter (sic) of: (1) the end of the individual's most recent term of office; (2) the date of the election in which the individual last was a candidate; or (3) the payment of all outstanding campaign obligations.

Prior to filing a final report, any excess campaign funds must be disposed of in accordance with current law for political committees which are in existence for a four-year election cycle only. Thus, individuals and continuing political committees are required to dispose of any remaining campaign funds through distribution to: (1) contributors, pro rata; (2) the State central committee; (3) the local central committee; (4) a local school board or non-profit; or (5) a public or private institution of higher learning. An individual or continuing political committee which has excess funds on the effective date of this bill is required to comply with the bill's provisions by December 31, 2006.

The bill is effective January 1, 1999.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. Requiring individuals and continuing political committees to file a final report and dispose of excess campaign contributions within eight years after the end of a term of office, an election, or after campaign obligations have been paid would not affect State operations or finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Information Source(s):** State Board of Elections, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 9, 1998  
ncs Revised - House Third Reader - March 24, 1998

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