

HOUSE BILL 951

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1999 Regular Session  
9r0591

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By: **Delegate Bobo**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 1999

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 18, 1999

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2                                   **Election Law - Political Action Committees - Transfers to Candidates -**  
3                                   **Check Identification**

4 FOR the purpose of providing that a political action committee that makes a transfer  
5 to the treasurer or political committee of a candidate or a slate of candidates  
6 shall display its official name, as filed with the State Election Board, and a  
7 reference that the entity is a political action committee, in a prominent place on  
8 the face of the check by which the funds are transferred; defining a certain term;  
9 and generally relating to the identification of a political action committee by  
10 name on the face of the check by which the political action committee makes a  
11 transfer.

12 BY renumbering  
13 Article 33 - Election Code  
14 Section 1-101(y) through (pp), respectively  
15 to be Section 1-101(z) through (qq), respectively  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

18 BY adding to  
19 Article 33 - Election Code  
20 Section 1-101(y)  
21 Annotated Code of Maryland  
22 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

23 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

1 Article 33 - Election Code  
2 Section 13-213  
3 Annotated Code of Maryland  
4 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

5 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
6 MARYLAND, That Section(s) 1-101(y) through (pp), respectively, of Article 33 -  
7 Election Code of the Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s)  
8 1-101(z) through (qq), respectively.

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland  
10 read as follows:

11 **Article 33 - Election Code**

12 1-101.

13 (Y) "POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE" MEANS A POLITICAL COMMITTEE THAT  
14 IS NOT:

15 (1) A POLITICAL PARTY;

16 (2) A CENTRAL COMMITTEE;

17 (3) A SLATE;

18 (4) A POLITICAL COMMITTEE ORGANIZED AND OPERATED SOLELY TO  
19 SUPPORT OR OPPOSE A SINGLE CANDIDATE; OR

20 (5) A POLITICAL COMMITTEE ORGANIZED AND OPERATED SOLELY TO  
21 SUPPORT OR OPPOSE A BALLOT ISSUE.

22 13-213.

23 (a) In this subsection, "political committee" includes a political committee  
24 registered under § 13-202 of this subtitle and an out-of-state political committee.

25 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, during a 4-year  
26 election cycle the treasurer of a political committee or the treasurer of a candidate  
27 may not directly or indirectly transfer any money greater than \$6,000 to the treasurer  
28 or political committee of a candidate or any other political committee.

29 (c) The limitations on transfers and the provisions on affiliations set forth in  
30 this subsection may not apply to:

31 (1) Transfers between and among political committees that are State or  
32 local committees of the same political party;

33 (2) Transfers between and among a slate and its candidate members;  
34 and

1           (3)       Transfers between a campaign committee authorized by a candidate  
2 and that candidate's treasurer.

3       (d)       In applying the limitations of this subsection, all affiliated political  
4 committees are treated as a single transferor. Political committees are "affiliated" if  
5 they are organized and operated in coordination and cooperation with each other or  
6 otherwise conduct their operations and make their contribution decisions under the  
7 control of the same individual or entity.

8       (e)       The limitations on transfers to the treasurer or political committee of a  
9 candidate set forth in subsection (b) of this section shall apply to the individual  
10 regardless of the number of offices for which that individual files a certificate of  
11 candidacy within a 4-year election cycle.

12       (f)       (1)       No transfer of any kind, in any amount, is permitted if it is intended  
13 to conceal the true identity of the actual contributor or the identity of the intended  
14 recipient.

15           (2)       A POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE THAT MAKES A TRANSFER TO THE  
16 TREASURER OR POLITICAL COMMITTEE OF A CANDIDATE OR A SLATE OF  
17 CANDIDATES UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL:

18                   (I)       DISPLAY ITS OFFICIAL NAME, AS FILED WITH THE STATE  
19 BOARD UNDER § 13-202 OF THIS SUBTITLE, IN A PROMINENT PLACE ON THE FACE OF  
20 THE CHECK BY WHICH THE FUNDS ARE TRANSFERRED; AND

21                   (II)       INCLUDE IN A PROMINENT PLACE ON THE FACE OF THE CHECK  
22 THE WORDS "POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE" OR THE NOTATION "PAC" TO INDICATE  
23 THAT THE ENTITY IS A POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE.

24       SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
25 October 1, 1999.