

SENATE BILL 750

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1999 Regular Session
9r2523
CF HB 976

By: **Senator Roesser**
Introduced and read first time: February 26, 1999
Assigned to: Rules
Re-referred to: Economic and Environmental Affairs, March 3, 1999

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: March 23, 1999

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Campaign Finance Reports - Use of Electronic Medium for Submission**

3 FOR the purpose of specifying that certain campaign finance reports required to be
4 filed with the State Board of Elections be submitted on a diskette; allowing
5 those campaign finance reports, beginning with a certain date, to be filed with
6 the State Board of Elections using any electronic medium approved by the State
7 Board; and generally relating to the submission of campaign finance reports.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article 33 - Election Code
10 Section 13-402(d), (e), and (f)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

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

15 **Article 33 - Election Code**

16 13-402.

17 (d) (1) (I) ~~Beginning with the campaign finance report due in November~~
18 ~~1999, all campaign finance reports~~ ALL CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS DUE BEFORE
19 NOVEMBER 1, 2000, AS required under § 13-401 of this subtitle ~~which must,~~ SHALL be
20 filed with the State Board ~~shall be submitted~~ ON A DISKETTE and maintained by the
21 State Board in an electronic storage format.

1 (II) BEGINNING WITH THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORT DUE IN
2 NOVEMBER 2000, ALL CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS REQUIRED UNDER § 13-401 OF
3 THIS SUBTITLE WHICH MUST BE FILED WITH THE STATE BOARD MAY BE SUBMITTED
4 USING ANY ELECTRONIC MEDIUM APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD.

5 (2) Beginning in November 1999, upon request, the State Board shall
6 supply to a person who is required to file reports [in an electronic storage format]
7 USING AN ELECTRONIC MEDIUM the computer software and the disks or other media
8 on which the campaign finance information is to be entered.

9 (3) Beginning in November 1999, the State Board shall make the
10 campaign finance information that is filed with and maintained by the State Board in
11 an electronic storage format widely and easily accessible to the public, utilizing any
12 existing public or private systems for data dissemination, and on terms that the State
13 Board considers consistent with the purposes and requirements of this article.

14 (e) The State Board may:

15 (1) Refuse to accept or process any campaign finance report that is
16 incomplete or not submitted in accordance with the requirements of this section; and

17 (2) Exempt candidates, personal treasurer accounts, and political
18 committees with de minimis financial activity from submitting campaign finance
19 reports [in an electronic storage format] USING AN ELECTRONIC MEDIUM.

20 (f) The State Board shall:

21 (1) Develop specifications for [the submission of] SUBMITTING
22 campaign finance reports [in an electronic storage format] USING AN ELECTRONIC
23 MEDIUM; and

24 (2) Adopt regulations necessary to implement the requirements of this
25 section.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
27 October 1, 1999.