

HOUSE BILL 645

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HB 951/99 - CGM

2000 Regular Session
0lr2004

By: **Delegate Bronrott**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2000
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

Committee Report: Favorable
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 10, 2000

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 Board of Elections, 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 1999 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 1999 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 1999 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 THAT TRANSFERS THE FUNDS; 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, 2000.