

SENATE BILL 381

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HB 951/99 - CGM

2000 Regular Session
0lr2028

By: **Senators Frosh, Sfikas, Van Hollen, and Pinsky**
Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2000
Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

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,
24 Article 33 - Election Code
25 Section 13-213
26 Annotated Code of Maryland
27 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

28 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
29 MARYLAND, That Section(s) 1-101(y) through (pp), respectively, of Article 33 -

1 Election Code of the Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s)
2 1-101(z) through (qq), respectively.

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

5 **Article 33 - Election Code**

6 1-101.

7 (Y) "POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE" MEANS A POLITICAL COMMITTEE THAT
8 IS NOT:

9 (1) A POLITICAL PARTY;

10 (2) A CENTRAL COMMITTEE;

11 (3) A SLATE;

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

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

16 13-213.

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

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

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

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

27 (2) Transfers between and among a slate and its candidate members;
28 and

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

31 (d) In applying the limitations of this subsection, all affiliated political
32 committees are treated as a single transferor. Political committees are "affiliated" if
33 they are organized and operated in coordination and cooperation with each other or

1 otherwise conduct their operations and make their contribution decisions under the
2 control of the same individual or entity.

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

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

10 (2) A POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE THAT MAKES A TRANSFER TO THE
11 TREASURER OR POLITICAL COMMITTEE OF A CANDIDATE OR A SLATE OF
12 CANDIDATES UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL:

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

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

19 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
20 October 1, 2000.