
By: **Senators Teitelbaum, Blount, Collins, DeGrange, Forehand, Hafer,
Jimeno, Kelley, and Sfikas**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2001

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Elections - Campaign Finance Reports - Periods Covered by Reports**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the periods covered for the information contained on
4 certain campaign finance reports; and generally relating to the periods covered
5 by certain campaign finance reports that are filed by certain persons under the
6 Election Code.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article 33 - Election Code
9 Section 13-401(a)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (1997 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

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

14 **Article 33 - Election Code**

15 13-401.

16 (a) A candidate for nomination or election to public or party office, including
17 write-in candidates, and the treasurer designated by that candidate shall file the
18 report or statement of contributions and expenditures as prescribed in accordance
19 with § 13-402 of this subtitle with the board at which the candidate filed his
20 certificate of candidacy. All reports or statements of contributions and expenditures
21 shall be filed in duplicate except those filed with the State Board. Election reports as
22 specified below are required by all candidates for public or party office whether or not
23 the candidate's name appears on the primary ballot, or the candidate withdraws
24 subsequent to filing his certificate of candidacy, or the candidate is unsuccessful in
25 the election. Each report filed shall contain all contributions received and
26 expenditures made in furtherance of the candidate's nomination or election by the
27 candidate himself or, with the knowledge of the candidate, by any other person or
28 groups of persons, which shall be complete, except as otherwise provided in this
29 section through and including the [seventh] TENTH day immediately preceding the

1 day by which that report is to be filed. The initial report filed shall contain all
2 contributions so received and expenditures so made since the date of the last
3 preceding election to fill the office for which he is a candidate. Each subsequent report
4 shall contain all contributions so received and expenditures so made since the end of
5 the period for which the last preceding report is filed. Even if no contributions or
6 expenditures have been made since the end of the period for which the last preceding
7 report was filed, a statement to that effect must be filed on the forms prescribed
8 pursuant to § 13-402 of this subtitle under the circumstances and at the times
9 specified in this section. The initial and subsequent reports shall be consecutively
10 filed as follows:

11 (1) No later than the fourth Tuesday immediately preceding any primary
12 election; and

13 (2) No later than the second Friday immediately preceding any election
14 which shall be complete through and including the SECOND preceding [Sunday]
15 TUESDAY; and

16 (3) No later than the third Tuesday after the general election; and

17 (4) If a cash balance exists or if any unpaid bills or deficits remain to be
18 paid as of the end of the period for which the report or statement in paragraph (3) of
19 this subsection is filed, six months after the general election; and

20 (5) If a cash balance exists or if any unpaid bills or deficits remain to be
21 paid as of the end of the period for which the report or statement in paragraph (4) of
22 this subsection is filed, one year after the general election; and

23 (6) If a cash balance exists or if any unpaid bills or deficits remain to be
24 paid as of the end of the period for which the report or statement in paragraph (5) of
25 this subsection or any subsequent report or statement is filed, annually on the
26 anniversary of the general election until no cash balance, unpaid bill, or deficit
27 remains; and

28 (7) If a cash balance or outstanding debts or deficits were reflected on
29 the last preceding report, but have all been eliminated by the date on which the next
30 report is due, then a report clearly marked as "final" shall be filed on or before such
31 date showing all transactions since the last report; and

32 (8) If a candidate does not intend to receive contributions or make
33 expenditures of \$1,000 or more, exclusive of his filing fee, he and his treasurer may
34 jointly execute an affidavit to that effect on a form prescribed by the State Board. If
35 he does not in fact receive contributions or make expenditures of \$1,000 or more, no
36 further reports need be filed pursuant to this section. The affidavit shall be filed not
37 later than the date by which the first report is due. If at any time the cumulative
38 contributions to or expenditures by a candidate who has filed such an affidavit equal
39 or exceed \$1,000, he and his treasurer shall thereafter file all reports required by this
40 section and failure to do so constitutes a failure to file and the commission of a
41 misdemeanor subject to the penalties prescribed in § 13-603 of this title.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 October 1, 2001.