

# HOUSE BILL 1380

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By: **Delegate Heller**

Introduced and read first time: March 5, 2007

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Campaign Account – Debit Card Disbursements**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a campaign finance entity to use a debit card to make  
4 a disbursement from a certain campaign account; authorizing a campaign  
5 finance entity to use a debit card to reimburse a certain person for certain  
6 expenses; authorizing a campaign finance entity to use a debit card to replenish  
7 a petty cash fund; and generally relating to the use of a debit card by a  
8 campaign finance entity.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article – Election Law  
11 Section 13–220  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2003 Volume and 2006 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Election Law**

17 13–220.

18 (a) (1) Each campaign finance entity shall designate one or more  
19 campaign accounts.

20 (2) Each designated campaign account shall:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (i) be in a financial institution; and

2 (ii) be registered in a manner that identifies it as the account of  
3 a campaign finance entity.

4 (3) A campaign finance entity shall deposit all funds received in a  
5 designated campaign account.

6 (b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection and subsection (c) of  
7 this section, a campaign finance entity may not directly or indirectly make a  
8 disbursement except by check **OR DEBIT CARD** from a campaign account designated  
9 under subsection (a) of this section.

10 (2) A campaign finance entity, or a person authorized by the campaign  
11 finance entity, may pay an expense of the campaign finance entity from funds other  
12 than a campaign account if:

13 (i) the expense is supported by a receipt that is provided to the  
14 campaign finance entity; and

15 (ii) the campaign finance entity reimburses the person who paid  
16 the expense by check **OR DEBIT CARD** from the campaign account and reports the  
17 expense as an expenditure of the campaign finance entity in accordance with Subtitle  
18 3 of this title.

19 (c) (1) A campaign finance entity may maintain a petty cash fund.

20 (2) The campaign finance entity shall maintain a separate account  
21 book for the petty cash fund.

22 (3) The petty cash fund:

23 (i) may not exceed \$250 at any time; and

24 (ii) may be replenished only by check **OR DEBIT CARD** from a  
25 campaign account designated under subsection (a) of this section.

26 (4) Not more than \$25 may be disbursed from the petty cash fund in a  
27 primary or general election to a single recipient.

1                   (5) Each petty cash expenditure shall be supported by a receipt and  
2 reported by category on the appropriate campaign finance report.

3                   (6) This subsection does not authorize an expenditure that otherwise  
4 is unlawful under this article.

5                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
6 July 1, 2007.