

HOUSE BILL 153

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8lr1592

By: **Delegates Barve, Gilchrist, and Simmons**

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 2008

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Campaign Finance – Slate – Disbursements**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the chairman, in addition to the treasurer, of a slate to
4 make disbursements from that campaign finance entity's campaign account;
5 and generally relating to the authority of the chairman to make a disbursement
6 from the campaign account of a slate.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Election Law
9 Section 13–218
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2003 Volume and 2007 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
13 Article – Election Law
14 Section 13–219(a) and 13–220(b) and (c)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2003 Volume and 2007 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Election Law**

20 13–218.

21 (a) All assets received by or on behalf of a campaign finance entity shall be:

22 (1) delivered to the treasurer; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) maintained by the treasurer for the purposes of the campaign
2 finance entity.

3 (b) (1) Assets of a campaign finance entity may be disbursed only:

4 (i) if they have passed through the hands of the treasurer; and

5 (ii) in accordance with the purposes of the entity.

6 (2) Subject to § 13–220(b)(2) and (c) of this subtitle, the treasurer, **OR**
7 **IN THE CASE OF A SLATE, THE TREASURER OR CHAIRMAN**, shall make all
8 disbursements for the campaign finance entity.

9 (c) The treasurer of a State or county central committee of a political party
10 may not make any disbursement of the central committee's assets, or incur any
11 liability on its behalf, without authority and direction from the chairman of the central
12 committee.

13 13–219.

14 (a) A subtreasurer shall:

15 (1) deposit, disburse, and account for funds in the same manner as,
16 and under the authority of, the treasurer;

17 (2) submit a campaign finance report under oath to the treasurer on a
18 form that the State Board prescribes; and

19 (3) include with the report a copy of each campaign contribution
20 receipt issued.

21 13–220.

22 (b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection and subsection (c) of
23 this section, a campaign finance entity may not directly or indirectly make a
24 disbursement except by check from a campaign account designated under subsection
25 (a) of this section.

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

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

1 (ii) the campaign finance entity reimburses the person who paid
2 the expense by check from the campaign account and reports the expense as an
3 expenditure of the campaign finance entity in accordance with Subtitle 3 of this title.

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

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

7 (3) The petty cash fund:

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

9 (ii) may be replenished only by check from a campaign account
10 designated under subsection (a) of this section.

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

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

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

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2008.