

HOUSE BILL 153

G1

8lr1592

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

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 2008

Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 11, 2008

CHAPTER _____

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~~ the slate's campaign
5 account; prohibiting the chairman of a slate from making disbursements for the
6 slate if the chairman is a candidate; and generally relating to the authority of
7 the chairman to make a disbursement from the campaign account of a slate.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Election Law
10 Section 13–218
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2003 Volume and 2007 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
14 Article – Election Law
15 Section 13–219(a) and 13–220(b) and (c)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2003 Volume and 2007 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Election Law**

21 13–218.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



- 1 (a) All assets received by or on behalf of a campaign finance entity shall be:
- 2 (1) delivered to the treasurer; and
- 3 (2) maintained by the treasurer for the purposes of the campaign
4 finance entity.

- 5 (b) (1) Assets of a campaign finance entity may be disbursed only:
- 6 (i) if they have passed through the hands of the treasurer; and
- 7 (ii) in accordance with the purposes of the entity.
- 8 (2) Subject to **PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION AND §**
9 **13-220(b)(2) and (c) of this subtitle, the treasurer, ~~OR IN THE CASE OF A SLATE, THE~~**
10 **~~TREASURER OR CHAIRMAN,~~** shall make all disbursements for the campaign finance
11 entity.

12 **(3) (I) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS**
13 **PARAGRAPH, THE CHAIRMAN OR TREASURER OF A SLATE ESTABLISHED UNDER**
14 **THIS TITLE SHALL MAKE ALL DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE SLATE.**

15 **(II) THE CHAIRMAN OF A SLATE MAY NOT MAKE**
16 **DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE SLATE IF THE CHAIRMAN IS A CANDIDATE.**

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

21 13-219.

- 22 (a) A subtreasurer shall:
- 23 (1) deposit, disburse, and account for funds in the same manner as,
24 and under the authority of, the treasurer;
- 25 (2) submit a campaign finance report under oath to the treasurer on a
26 form that the State Board prescribes; and
- 27 (3) include with the report a copy of each campaign contribution
28 receipt issued.

29 13-220.

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

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

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

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

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

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

16 (3) The petty cash fund:

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

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

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

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

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

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