

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2008 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 153
Ways and Means

(Delegate Barve, *et al.*)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Campaign Finance - Slate - Disbursements

This bill specifies that with respect to a campaign finance entity representing a slate of candidates, the chairman, in addition to the treasurer, has the authority to make all disbursements for the slate, except if the chairman is a candidate, in which case the chairman may not make disbursements.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill would not affect State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A “slate” is a campaign finance entity of two or more candidates who join together to conduct and pay for joint campaign activities.

Assets received by or on behalf of a campaign finance entity must be delivered to and maintained by the treasurer for the purposes of the campaign finance entity. Assets may be disbursed only if they have passed through the hands of the treasurer and only in accordance with the purposes of the entity. The treasurer has to make all disbursements for the campaign finance entity. The treasurer of a campaign finance entity has to keep detailed records of assets received, expenditures made, and obligations incurred by or on

behalf of the entity. A candidate may not act as the treasurer or subtreasurer of a campaign finance entity.

The chairman and treasurer of a campaign finance entity are jointly and severally responsible for filing all campaign finance reports in full and accurate detail and for all other actions of the entity.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): State Board of Elections, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 12, 2008
ncs/ljm Revised - House Third Reader - March 25, 2008

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