

HOUSE BILL 102

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By: **Delegate Feldman**

Introduced and read first time: January 15, 2010

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Campaign Finance – Contributions by Minors**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring that a contribution by a dependent minor be reported in
4 the name of the minor but be considered as being made by the minor's custodial
5 parents or guardians for purposes of certain contribution limits; requiring that
6 the amount of a dependent minor's contribution be attributed to the minor's
7 custodial parents or guardians in a certain manner; and generally relating to
8 contributions by minors.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
10 Article – Election Law
11 Section 1–101(o)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2003 Volume and 2009 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article – Election Law
16 Section 13–226
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2003 Volume and 2009 Supplement)

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

21 **Article – Election Law**

22 1–101.

23 (o) (1) “Contribution” means the gift or transfer, or promise of gift or
24 transfer, of money or other thing of value to a campaign finance entity to promote or

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 assist in the promotion of the success or defeat of a candidate, political party, or
2 question.

3 (2) "Contribution" includes proceeds from the sale of tickets to a
4 campaign fund-raising event.

5 13-226.

6 (a) The limits on contributions in this section do not apply to:

7 (1) a contribution to a ballot issue committee; or

8 (2) those contributions defined as transfers.

9 (b) Subject to subsection (c) of this section, a person may not, either directly
10 or indirectly, in an election cycle make:

11 (1) aggregate contributions in excess of:

12 (i) \$4,000 to any one campaign finance entity; or

13 (ii) \$10,000 to all campaign finance entities; or

14 (2) a contribution of money in excess of \$100 except by check or credit
15 card.

16 (c) (1) Notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section, a central committee
17 of a political party may make aggregate in-kind contributions during an election cycle
18 that are not in excess of:

19 (i) for a State central committee, \$1 for every two registered
20 voters in the State; and

21 (ii) for a local central committee, \$1 for every two registered
22 voters in the county.

23 (2) For the purposes of paragraph (1) of this subsection, the number of
24 registered voters is determined, regardless of party affiliation, as of the first day of the
25 election cycle.

26 (d) The limit on contributions to the campaign finance entity of a candidate
27 applies regardless of the number of offices sought by the candidate or campaign
28 finance entities formed to support the candidate.

29 (e) Contributions by a corporation and any wholly-owned subsidiary of the
30 corporation, or by two or more corporations owned by the same stockholders, shall be
31 considered as being made by one contributor.

1 **(F) (1) A CONTRIBUTION BY A DEPENDENT MINOR SHALL BE**
2 **REPORTED IN THE NAME OF THE MINOR BUT BE CONSIDERED AS BEING MADE**
3 **BY THE MINOR'S CUSTODIAL PARENTS OR GUARDIANS FOR PURPOSES OF THE**
4 **CONTRIBUTION LIMITS IN THIS SECTION.**

5 **(2) THE AMOUNT OF A DEPENDENT MINOR'S CONTRIBUTION**
6 **SHALL BE ATTRIBUTED ONE-HALF TO EACH OF THE MINOR'S CUSTODIAL**
7 **PARENTS OR GUARDIANS, OR IF THE MINOR HAS ONLY ONE CUSTODIAL PARENT**
8 **OR GUARDIAN, ENTIRELY TO THAT PARENT OR GUARDIAN.**

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
10 October 1, 2010.