

1 **State of Arkansas**  
2 **78th General Assembly**  
3 **Regular Session, 1991**  
4 **By: Representative Mike Wilson**

# A Bill

**HOUSE BILL**

## **For An Act To Be Entitled**

8 "AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS CAMPAIGN FINANCING LAW TO  
9 PROHIBIT ATTORNEYS FROM CONTRIBUTING TO POLITICAL  
10 CAMPAIGNS OF PERSONS SEEKING JUDICIAL OFFICE; AND FOR  
11 OTHER PURPOSES."

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13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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15 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 7-6-203 is hereby amended by inserting an  
16 additional subsection at the end thereof to read as follows:

17 "(e) It is unlawful for anyone licensed as an attorney by the Arkansas  
18 Supreme Court or anyone acting on the attorney's behalf to make a  
19 contribution, directly or indirectly, to a candidate for judicial office in  
20 this State or to any person acting on the candidate's behalf. It is unlawful  
21 for any candidate for judicial office in this State or any person acting on  
22 the candidate's behalf to accept any campaign contributions from anyone  
23 licensed as an attorney by the Arkansas Supreme Court or from anyone acting on  
24 the attorney's behalf."

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26 SECTION 2. All provisions of this Act of a general and permanent nature  
27 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code  
28 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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30 SECTION 3. If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to  
31 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect  
32 other provisions or applications of the Act which can be given effect without  
33 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
34 Act are declared to be severable.

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1           SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are  
2 hereby repealed.

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4           SECTION 5. EMERGENCY. It is hereby found and determined by the General  
5 Assembly that the citizens of this State expect people serving as judges to be  
6 totally objective in exercising their judicial authority; that the current  
7 campaign contribution laws are in need of change in order to assure that there  
8 is not even the appearance of influencing a judge as a result of campaign  
9 contributions; that this Act will prohibit the campaign contributions by the  
10 lawyers who will seek rulings from the judiciary; and that this Act should  
11 therefore be given effect immediately in order to strengthen the campaign  
12 finance laws as soon as possible. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared  
13 to exist and this Act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the  
14 public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and  
15 after its passage and approval.

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