

1 State of Arkansas
2 92nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2019
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 205

5 By: Senator Hester
6 By: Representative A. Davis
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING ETHICS AND
10 CAMPAIGN FINANCE; TO AMEND THE TIMES FOR CERTAIN
11 CONTRIBUTION AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS; TO AMEND
12 PORTIONS OF INITIATED ACT 1 OF 1990 AND INITIATED ACT
13 1 OF 1996; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
14
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Subtitle

16 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING ETHICS AND
17 CAMPAIGN FINANCE; TO AMEND THE TIMES FOR
18 CERTAIN CONTRIBUTION AND EXPENDITURE
19 REPORTS; AND TO AMEND PORTIONS OF
20 INITIATED ACT 1 OF 1990 AND INITIATED ACT
21 1 OF 1996.
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25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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27 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-6-203(b)(1), concerning contribution
28 limits and resulting from Initiated Act 1 of 1990 and Initiated Act 1 of
29 1996, is amended to read as follows:

30 (b)(1) It shall be unlawful for any person ~~permitted to make a~~
31 ~~contribution under subdivisions (a)(1)(A)(i)-(vi) of this section~~ to make a
32 contribution to a candidate for any public office or to any person acting on
33 the candidate's behalf, which in the aggregate exceeds two thousand seven
34 hundred dollars (\$2,700) per election.
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36 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 7-6-207(a)(1)(B), concerning monthly



1 reports for candidates for state or district office and resulting from
 2 Initiated Act 1 of 1990 and Initiated Act 1 of 1996, is amended to read as
 3 follows:

4 (B) Beginning with the month of ~~November preceding~~ January
 5 of a calendar year in which a candidate may be listed on any ballot for
 6 election, a monthly report of all contributions received and expenditures
 7 made during that month. However, for any month in which certain days of that
 8 month are included in a preelection report required under subdivision
 9 (a)(1)(C) of this section or a final report required under subdivision
 10 (a)(1)(D) of this section, no monthly report for that month shall be due. In
 11 the case of a primary or runoff election, those days of the month occurring
 12 after the date of the election shall be carried forward and included in the
 13 next monthly report. The monthly report shall be filed no later than fifteen
 14 (15) days after the end of each month, except that the final report, covering
 15 the month during which an election is held, shall be filed within thirty (30)
 16 days after the end of the month in which the last election is held at which
 17 the candidate seeks nomination and after the end of the month in which the
 18 general election is held. With respect to a special election, the candidate
 19 shall file monthly reports under this section beginning with the month in
 20 which the special election candidate's total campaign contributions or
 21 expenditures exceed five hundred dollars (\$500);

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 23 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 7-6-207(a)(1)(D), concerning final reports
 24 for candidates for state or district office and resulting from Initiated Act
 25 1 of 1990 and Initiated Act 1 of 1996, is amended to read as follows:

26 (D) No later than thirty (30) days after the end of the
 27 month in which the candidate's name has appeared on the ballot in any primary
 28 election, runoff election, general election, or special election, or when
 29 only one (1) candidate qualifies for a particular office or position and no
 30 position or name of an unopposed candidate shall appear on a ballot, a final
 31 report of all contributions received and expenditures made which have not
 32 been disclosed on reports previously required to be filed. A final report is
 33 required regardless of whether a candidate has received contributions or made
 34 expenditures in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500); and

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 36 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 7-6-208(a)(2), concerning final reports for

1 candidates for school district, township, or municipal office and resulting
 2 rom Initiated Act 1 of 1996, is amended to read as follows:

3 (2) No later than thirty (30) days after the end of the month in
 4 which the candidate’s name has appeared on the ballot in any preferential
 5 primary election, runoff election, general election, school election, or
 6 special election, or when only one (1) candidate qualifies for a particular
 7 office or position and no position or name of an unopposed candidate shall
 8 appear on a ballot, file a final report of all contributions received and
 9 expenditures made that have not been disclosed on reports previously required
 10 to be filed. A final report is required regardless of whether a candidate has
 11 received contributions or made expenditures in excess of five hundred dollars
 12 (\$500);

13
 14 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 7-6-209(a)(2), concerning final reports for
 15 candidates for county office and resulting from Initiated Act 1 of 1996, is
 16 amended to read as follows:

17 (2) No later than thirty (30) days after the end of the month in
 18 which the candidate’s name has appeared on the ballot in any preferential
 19 primary election, runoff election, general election, or special election, or
 20 when only one (1) candidate qualifies for a particular office or position and
 21 no position or name of an unopposed candidate shall appear on a ballot, file
 22 a final report of all contributions received and expenditures made that have
 23 not been disclosed on reports previously required to be filed. A final report
 24 is required regardless of whether a candidate has received contributions or
 25 made expenditures in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500);

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 27 SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 7-6-224, resulting from Initiated Act 1 of
 28 1996, is amended to read as follows:

29 7-6-224. Authority of local jurisdictions.

30 (a) Municipalities, counties, and townships ~~shall have the authority~~
 31 ~~to~~ may establish reasonable limitations on:

- 32 (1) Time periods that candidates for local office shall be
 33 allowed to solicit contributions;
- 34 (2) Limits on contributions to local candidates at amounts lower
 35 than those set by state law; and
- 36 (3) Voluntary campaign expenditure limits for candidates seeking

1 election to their respective governing bodies.

2 (b) Enforcement of any limitation established under subsection (a) of
3 this section is the responsibility of the municipality, county, or township
4 establishing the limitation.

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6 SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 7-6-226(c)(1)(A), concerning quarterly
7 reports filed by county political party committees, is amended to read as
8 follows:

9 (A) The total amount of contributions received and the
10 total amount of contributions made during the ~~filing~~ reporting period and the
11 cumulative amount of those totals;