

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1728

5 By: Representatives Godfrey, Clowney, A. Collins
6 By: Senators B. Davis, G. Leding
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW RELATED TO CAMPAIGN FINANCE;
10 TO ALLOW CAMPAIGN FUNDS TO PAY CHILDCARE EXPENSES; TO
11 AMEND PORTIONS OF INITIATED ACT 1 OF 1990 AND
12 INITIATED ACT 1 OF 1996; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

15 TO AMEND THE LAW RELATED TO CAMPAIGN
16 FINANCE; TO ALLOW CAMPAIGN FUNDS TO PAY
17 CHILDCARE EXPENSES; AND TO AMEND PORTIONS
18 OF INITIATED ACT 1 OF 1990 AND INITIATED
19 ACT 1 OF 1996.
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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-6-203(f)(2), concerning the
26 contributions, limitations, and use of campaign funds and carryover campaign
27 funds and resulting from Initiated Act 1 of 1990 and Initiated Act 1 of 1996,
28 is amended to read as follows:

29 (2) A candidate shall not take any campaign funds as income for
30 his or her spouse or dependent children, except that:

31 (A) This subsection shall not prohibit a candidate who has
32 an opponent from employing his or her spouse or dependent children as
33 campaign workers;

34 (B) The use of campaign funds to pay a candidate's
35 childcare expenses shall not be considered a taking of campaign funds as
36 personal income if the campaign funds are used to pay for childcare for the



1 time the candidate is engaging in campaign activity; and

2 ~~(B)~~(C) Any candidate who has an opponent and who, during
 3 the campaign and before the election, takes a leave of absence without pay
 4 from his or her primary place of employment shall be authorized to take
 5 campaign funds during the campaign and before the election as personal income
 6 up to the amount of employment income lost as a result of ~~such~~ the leave of
 7 absence.

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 9 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 7-6-203(g)(4), concerning the
 10 contributions, limitations, and use of campaign funds and carryover campaign
 11 funds and resulting from Initiated Act 1 of 1990 and Initiated Act 1 of 1996,
 12 is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

13 (F)(i) The use of carryover funds to pay an elected
 14 candidate's childcare expenses shall not be considered a taking of campaign
 15 funds as personal income if the reimbursement is for the time the elected
 16 candidate is performing his or her responsibilities as an elected official.

17 (ii) The reimbursement of expenses shall be a result
 18 of childcare expenses incurred while the elected candidate is performing his
 19 or her responsibilities as an elected official and the source of the
 20 reimbursement shall be authorized under the rules of the House of
 21 Representatives or the Senate and used to reimburse the carryover account.

22 (iii) The reimbursement amount for childcare
 23 expenses shall be reported in the elected candidate's carryover fund report.