

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

A Bill

SENATE BILL 383

5 By: Senator C. Tucker
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION AMOUNTS; TO
9 AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING CAMPAIGN PRACTICES; TO
10 DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

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13 TO AMEND CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION AMOUNTS;
14 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING CAMPAIGN
15 PRACTICES; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-6-203(a)(1)(A), concerning campaign
22 finance contributions, limitations, acceptance or solicitation, use as
23 personal income, and disposition, is amended to read as follows:

24 (a)(1)(A) It shall be unlawful for any candidate for any public office
25 or for any person acting on the candidate's behalf to accept campaign
26 contributions in excess of ~~two thousand seven hundred dollars (\$2,700)~~ two
27 thousand eight hundred dollars (\$2,800) per election from:

- 28 (i) An individual;
- 29 (ii) A political party that meets the definition of
30 a political party under § 7-1-101;
- 31 (iii) A political party that meets the requirements
32 of § 7-7-205;
- 33 (iv) A county political party committee;
- 34 (v) A legislative caucus committee; or
- 35 (vi) An approved political action committee.
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1 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 7-6-203(b)(1), concerning campaign finance
 2 contributions, limitations, acceptance or solicitation, use as personal
 3 income, and disposition, is amended to read as follows:

4 (b)(1) It shall be unlawful for any person to make a contribution to a
 5 candidate for any public office or to any person acting on the candidate's
 6 behalf, which in the aggregate exceeds ~~two thousand seven hundred dollars~~
 7 ~~(\$2,700)~~ two thousand eight hundred dollars (\$2,800) per election.

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 9 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
 10 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the federal campaign
 11 contribution limit has increased and the limit set in Arkansas conflicts with
 12 that increase; that it is not clear what campaign contribution limit applies
 13 to the citizens of Arkansas; that the rules governing campaign contributions
 14 to candidates are an important part of the election process to maintain
 15 integrity and trust in the election system; and that this act is immediately
 16 necessary because consistency in the rules governing campaign contributions
 17 ensures the public trust in the election process and contributes to the
 18 public safety and welfare. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and
 19 this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public
 20 peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

- 21 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;
- 22 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,
 23 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the
 24 bill; or
- 25 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is
 26 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.