



*Synopsis of Senate Committee Amendments**

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Legislative Service Commission

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(S. Rules)

Eliminated provisions proposed by the House-passed version that would have required the Secretary of State to regulate political fundraisers (secs. 3517.30 to 3517.39; related changes in secs. 3501.05, 3517.10, and 3517.992).

Modified a House-passed version provision so as to establish a maximum aggregate limit of \$250,000 (in contrast to \$500,000) that a statewide candidate may accept from any one or any combination of county political party state candidate funds in a primary election period or in a general election period (sec. 3517.102(C)(1)(a)(iii)).

Added a provision to the House-passed version that specifies that the use by a corporation or labor organization of its money or property for communicating information is not a violation of the general prohibition against using money or property for political purposes if the communication (1) is not made by mass broadcast, (2) is not made by advertising in a newspaper of general circulation, and (3) is sent exclusively to specified individuals or unintentionally to a de minimus number of other individuals (sec. 3599.03(F)(3)).

Eliminated references in the House-passed version to a "political committee" making disbursements to pay the direct costs of producing or airing electioneering communications, while retaining the language referring to "persons" making those disbursements (sec. 3517.082--no longer in the bill, (see below); secs. 3517.10, 3517.106, 3517.1011, 3517.13, 3517.23, and 3599.031, and Section 3).

Eliminated new provisions in the House-passed version regarding payroll deductions for political purposes (sec. 3517.082--no longer in the bill; secs. 3517.09 and 3599.031).

* This synopsis does not address amendments that may have been adopted on the Senate floor.

Added provisions to the House-passed version that:

- Permit state political parties to establish Levin accounts and to accept gifts to those accounts to defray costs incurred for voter registration, voter identification, get-out-the-vote, or generic campaign activities (sec. 3517.1013(A) and (B)(1)).
- Permit any person, including a for-profit or nonprofit corporation, but not including a public utility, to make gifts to a Levin account, and limit to \$10,000 per calendar year *in which a candidate for federal office* will appear on the ballot in this state the amount a corporation, nonprofit corporation, or labor organization may give to a Levin account (sec. 3517.1013(B)).
- Prohibit corporations, nonprofit corporations, and labor organizations from making gifts to a Levin account in any year when no candidate for federal office will appear on the ballot in this state (sec. 3517.1013(B)).
- Specify that a corporation, nonprofit corporation, or labor organization making gifts to a state political party's Levin account does not violate the general prohibition against those entities using their money or property for political purposes (sec. 3599.03(A) and (D)(3)).
- Require a state political party that receives gifts for a Levin account to file, by electronic means of transmission to the Secretary of State's office, statements regarding the gifts received by and disbursements made from that account, and specify the information that must be included in those statements (sec. 3517.1013(C)).
- Require the Secretary of State to store on computer the information contained in gift and disbursement statements filed by state political parties with respect to their Levin account and to make that information available online to the public through the Internet (secs. 3517.10(D)(7) and 3517.106(B)(4)).
- Generally apply the provisions of the Campaign Finance Law applicable to the filing of campaign finance statements by electronic means of transmission to the filing of gift and disbursement statements regarding Levin accounts (secs. 3517.10(C)(6) and (D)(6) and (7), 3517.106(H), (I), (J), and (K), and 3517.11(B)(3) and (C)).
- Require the Secretary of State to determine by rule when an addendum, amendment, or other correction to a gift and disbursement statement or an amended gift and disbursement statement must be filed (sec. 3517.11(B)(3)(a)(iv)).



- Generally apply the provisions of existing law regarding complaints made to the Ohio Elections Commission alleging violations of the Campaign Finance Law to alleged violations of the bill's Levin account provisions (sec. 3517.154).

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