

**As Introduced**

**125th General Assembly  
Special Session  
2003-2004**

**S. B. No. 3**

**Senator Fedor**

—

**A BILL**

To enact sections 3501.052, 3501.053, and 3501.054 of  
the Revised Code to prohibit the Secretary of  
State and candidates for the office of Secretary  
of State from engaging in partisan political  
activities regarding candidates for federal,  
state, or local office and ballot issues and  
questions, and to prohibit advertisements or  
communications from the office of the Secretary of  
State from containing the voice, image, or  
likeness of the Secretary of State.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That sections 3501.052, 3501.053, and 3501.054 of  
the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:

**Sec. 3501.052.** (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Authorized committee" and "principal campaign committee"  
have the same meanings as in the Federal Election Campaign Act.

(2) "Federal Election Campaign Act" has the same meaning as  
in section 3517.01 of the Revised Code.

(B) Except for the secretary of state's own campaign and  
exercising the right to vote, the secretary of state shall not  
participate in any form of partisan political activity with regard

to a candidate for any federal, state, or local office, including, 21  
but not limited to, the following: 22

(1) Serving as campaign treasurer or in any other official 23  
capacity or in any decision-making capacity for any campaign 24  
committee for any state or local office; 25

(2) Serving as campaign treasurer or in any other official 26  
capacity or in any decision-making capacity for any principal 27  
campaign committee or other authorized committee for any federal 28  
office; 29

(3) Soliciting or accepting a contribution in support of or 30  
opposition to a candidate for any federal, state, or local office; 31

(4) Making a contribution or expenditure, including an 32  
independent expenditure, in support of or opposition to a 33  
candidate for any federal, state, or local office; 34

(5) Conducting a fundraising activity in support of or 35  
opposition to a candidate for any federal, state, or local office; 36

(6) Making a speech at a political meeting or appearing in a 37  
campaign advertisement in support of or opposition to a candidate 38  
for any federal, state, or local office; 39

(7) Publicly endorsing or opposing a candidate for any 40  
federal, state, or local office. 41

(C) Except for the candidate's own campaign, a candidate for 42  
the office of secretary of state shall not do any of the following 43  
in support of or opposition to a candidate for any federal, state, 44  
or local office: 45

(1) Solicit or accept a contribution; 46

(2) Make a contribution or expenditure, including an 47  
independent expenditure; 48

(3) Conduct a fundraising activity. 49

Sec. 3501.053. (A) Except for exercising the right to vote, 50  
the secretary of state shall not participate in any form of 51  
partisan political activity with regard to a ballot issue or 52  
question, including, but not limited to, the following: 53

(1) Serving on or in any official or decision-making capacity 54  
for any committee supporting or opposing a ballot issue or 55  
question; 56

(2) Soliciting or accepting a contribution in support of or 57  
opposition to a ballot issue or question; 58

(3) Making a contribution or expenditure, including an 59  
independent expenditure, in support of or opposition to a ballot 60  
issue or question; 61

(4) Conducting a fundraising activity in support of or 62  
opposition to a ballot issue or question; 63

(5) Making a speech at a political meeting or appearing in a 64  
campaign advertisement in support of or opposition to a ballot 65  
issue or question; 66

(6) Publicly endorsing or opposing a ballot issue or 67  
question. 68

(B) A candidate for the office of secretary of state shall 69  
not do any of the following in support of or opposition to a 70  
ballot issue or question: 71

(1) Solicit or accept a contribution; 72

(2) Make a contribution or expenditure, including an 73  
independent expenditure; 74

(3) Conduct a fundraising activity. 75

Sec. 3501.054. No advertisement or communication from the 76  
office of the secretary of state in or via a newspaper, magazine, 77

circular, billboard, direct mailing, sign, radio, television,  
telephone, internet, or other type of media shall contain the  
voice, image, or likeness of the secretary of state.

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