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LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO
Sixty-fifth Legislature First Regular Session - 2019

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1 AN ACT
2 RELATING TO CAMPAIGN FINANCE; AMENDING SECTION 67-6602, IDAHO CODE, TO RE-
3 VISE DEFINITIONS; AND AMENDING SECTION 67-6628, IDAHO CODE, TO REQUIRE
4 AN AUTHORITY LINE IN ELECTIONEERING COMMUNICATIONS.

5 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

6 SECTION 1. That Section 67-6602, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
7 amended to read as follows:

8 67-6602. DEFINITIONS. As used in this chapter, the following terms
9 have the following meanings:

10 (a~~1~~) "Candidate" means an individual who has ~~taken affirmative action~~
11 ~~to seek nomination or election to public office. An individual shall be~~
12 ~~deemed to have taken affirmative action to seek such nomination or election~~
13 ~~to public office when he first:~~

- 14 ~~(1) Receives contributions or makes expenditures or reserves space or~~
15 ~~facilities with intent to promote his candidacy for office; or~~
- 16 ~~(2) Announces publicly or files for office~~
- 17 seeks nomination, election or reelection to public office and who has taken
18 any of the following actions:

- 19 (a) Announced his or her candidacy publicly;
- 20 (b) Filed for public office;
- 21 (c) Received a contribution for the purpose of promoting his or her can-
22 didacy for office; or
- 23 (d) Made an expenditure, contracted for services or reserved space with
24 the intent of promoting his or her candidacy for office.

25 ~~(3) For purposes of this chapter, an incumbent shall be presumed to be~~
26 ~~a candidate in the subsequent election for his or her office. Contri-~~
27 ~~butions received by an incumbent candidate shall not be in excess of the~~
28 ~~prescribed contribution limits for the subsequent election by which the~~
29 ~~incumbent candidate's name would first appear on the ballot. An incum-~~
30 ~~bent shall no longer be a candidate for his or her office after the dead-~~
31 ~~line for the filing of a declaration of candidacy to first appear on the~~
32 ~~ballot for that office has expired, until he or she has failed to file a~~
33 ~~declaration of candidacy by the statutory deadline.~~

34 (b~~2~~) "Compensation" includes any advance, conveyance, forgiveness of
35 indebtedness, deposit, distribution, loan, payment, gift, pledge or trans-
36 fer of money or anything of value, and any contract, agreement, promise or
37 other obligation, whether or not legally enforceable, to do any of the fore-
38 going, for services rendered or to be rendered, but does not include reim-
39 bursement of expenses if such reimbursement does not exceed the amount ac-
40 tually expended for such expenses and is substantiated by an itemization of
41 such expenses.

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1 (e3) "Contribution" includes any advance, conveyance, forgiveness of
2 indebtedness, deposit, distribution, loan, payment, gift, pledge, sub-
3 scription or transfer of money or anything of value, and any contract, agree-
4 ment, promise or other obligation, whether or not legally enforceable, to
5 make a contribution, in support of or in opposition to any candidate, polit-
6 ical committee or measure. Such term also includes personal funds or other
7 property of a candidate or members of his household expended or transferred
8 to cover expenditures incurred in support of such candidate but does not
9 include personal funds used to pay the candidate filing fee. Such term also
10 includes the rendering of personal and professional services for less than
11 full consideration, but does not include ordinary home hospitality or the
12 rendering of "part-time" personal services of the sort commonly performed
13 by volunteer campaign workers or advisors or incidental expenses not in ex-
14 cess of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) personally paid for by any volunteer
15 campaign worker. "Part-time" services, for the purposes of this definition,
16 means services in addition to regular full-time employment, or, in the case
17 of an unemployed person or persons engaged in part-time employment, services
18 rendered without compensation or reimbursement of expenses from any source
19 other than the candidate or political committee for whom such services are
20 rendered. For the purposes of this act, contributions, other than money or
21 its equivalent shall be deemed to have a money value equivalent to the fair
22 market value of the contribution.

23 (d4) "Election" means any general, special or primary election.

24 (e5) "Election campaign" means any campaign in support of or in opposi-
25 tion to a candidate for election to public office and any campaign in support
26 of, or in opposition to, a measure.

27 (f6) (1a) "Electioneering communication" means any paid communication
28 broadcast by television or radio, printed in a newspaper or on a bill-
29 board, directly mailed or delivered by hand to personal residences, ~~or~~
30 telephone calls made to personal residences, or paid advertising on the
31 internet or through social media, or otherwise distributed that:

32 ~~(i) Unambiguously refers to any candidate; and~~

33 ~~(ii) Is broadcasted, printed, mailed, delivered, made or dis-~~
34 ~~tributed within thirty (30) days before a primary election or~~
35 ~~sixty (60) days before a general election; and~~

36 ~~(iii) Is broadcasted to, printed in a newspaper, distributed to,~~
37 ~~mailed to or delivered by hand to, telephone calls made to, or~~
38 ~~otherwise distributed to an audience that includes members of the~~
39 ~~electorate for such public office~~

40 to members of the public that includes voters or potential voters for
41 public office or a ballot measure, that takes place from within thirty
42 (30) days before a primary election until midnight on the day of the gen-
43 eral election, and that unambiguously refers to a specific candidate or
44 measure to be on the ballot. An electioneering communication expendi-
45 ture is made when any portion of the communication reaches members of
46 the public who are voters or potential voters.

47 (2b) "Electioneering communication" does not include:

48 (i) Any news articles, editorial endorsements, opinion or com-
49 mentary, writings, or letter to the editor printed in a newspaper,

1 magazine, or other periodical not owned or controlled by a candi-
2 date or political party;
3 (ii) Any editorial endorsements or opinions aired by a broad-
4 cast facility not owned or controlled by a candidate or political
5 party;
6 (iii) Any communication by persons made in the regular course and
7 scope of their business or any communication made by a membership
8 organization solely to members of such organization and their fam-
9 ilies;
10 (iv) Any communication which refers to any candidate only as part
11 of the popular name of a bill or statute;
12 (v) A communication which constitutes an expenditure or an inde-
13 pendent expenditure under this chapter.
14 (~~7~~) "Executive official" means:
15 (~~1~~a) The governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state con-
16 troller, state treasurer, attorney general, superintendent of public
17 instruction and any deputy or staff member of one (1) of those individ-
18 uals who, within the course and scope of his or her employment, is di-
19 rectly involved in major policy influencing decisions for the office;
20 (~~2~~b) A state department or agency director, deputy director, division
21 administrator or bureau chief as established and enumerated in sections
22 67-2402 and 67-2406, Idaho Code;
23 (~~3~~c) The membership and the executive or chief administrative officer
24 of any board or commission that is authorized to make rules or conduct
25 rulemaking activities pursuant to section 67-5201, Idaho Code;
26 (~~4~~d) The membership and the executive or chief administrative officer
27 of any board or commission that governs any of the state departments
28 enumerated in section 67-2402, Idaho Code, not including public school
29 districts;
30 (~~5~~e) The membership and the executive or chief administrative officer
31 of the Idaho public utilities commission, the Idaho industrial commis-
32 sion, and the Idaho state tax commission; and
33 (~~6~~f) The members of the governing board of the state insurance fund, and
34 the members of the governing board and the executive or chief adminis-
35 trative officer of the Idaho housing and finance association, the Idaho
36 energy resources authority, and the Idaho state building authority.
37 (~~8~~) "Expenditure" includes any payment, contribution, subscription,
38 distribution, loan, advance, deposit, or gift of money or anything of value,
39 and includes a contract, promise, or agreement, whether or not legally en-
40 forceable, to make an expenditure. The term "expenditure" also includes a
41 promise to pay, a payment or a transfer of anything of value in exchange for
42 goods, services, property, facilities or anything of value for the purpose
43 of assisting, benefiting or honoring any public official or candidate, or
44 assisting in furthering or opposing any election campaign. For the purpose of
45 making a report required under this chapter and unless otherwise specified
46 in statute, an expenditure is made at the time the funds have been obligated
47 or committed, whether by oral or written agreement.
48 (~~9~~) "Independent expenditure" means any expenditure by a person
49 for a communication expressly advocating the election, passage or defeat
50 of a clearly identified candidate or measure that is not made with the

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1 ~~cooperation or with the prior consent of, or in consultation with, or at~~
2 ~~the consent of, or in consultation with, or at the request of a sugges-~~
3 ~~tion of, a candidate or any agent or authorized committee of the candidate~~
4 ~~collaboration or coordination of a candidate or his agent, employee, volun-~~
5 ~~teer, or political committee supporting or opposing a measure. As used in~~
6 ~~this subsection, "expressly advocating" means any communication containing~~
7 ~~a message advocating election, passage or defeat including, but not limited~~
8 ~~to, the name of the candidate or measure, or expression such as "vote for,"~~
9 ~~"elect," "support," "cast your ballot for," "vote against," "defeat" or "re-~~
10 ~~ject." For the purpose of making any reports required under this chapter, an~~
11 ~~independent expenditure is made at the time any portion of goods is delivered~~
12 ~~or any portion of services is provided.~~

13 (~~§~~10) "Lobby" and "lobbying" each means attempting through contacts
14 with, or causing others to make contact with, members of the legislature or
15 legislative committees or an executive official, to influence the approval,
16 modification or rejection of any legislation by the legislature of the state
17 of Idaho or any committee thereof or by the governor or to develop or main-
18 tain relationships with, promote goodwill with, or entertain members of the
19 legislature or executive officials. "Lobby" and "lobbying" shall also mean
20 communicating with an executive official for the purpose of influencing the
21 consideration, amendment, adoption or rejection of any rule or rulemaking as
22 defined in section 67-5201, Idaho Code, or any ratemaking decision, procure-
23 ment, contract, bid or bid process, financial services agreement, or bond
24 issue. Neither "lobby" nor "lobbying" includes an association's or other
25 organization's act of communicating with the members of that association
26 or organization; and provided that neither "lobby" nor "lobbying" includes
27 communicating with an executive official for the purpose of carrying out
28 ongoing negotiations following the award of a bid or a contract, communica-
29 tions involving ongoing legal work and negotiations conducted by and with
30 attorneys for executive agencies, interactions between parties in litiga-
31 tion or other contested matters, or communications among and between members
32 of the legislature and executive officials and their employees, or by state
33 employees while acting in their official capacity or within the course and
34 scope of their employment.

35 (~~§~~11) "Lobbyist" includes any person who lobbies.

36 (~~§~~12) "Lobbyist's employer" means the person or persons by whom a lob-
37 byist is employed, directly or indirectly, and all persons by whom he is com-
38 pensated for acting as a lobbyist.

39 (~~§~~13) "Measure" means any proposal, to be voted statewide, submitted
40 to the people for their approval or rejection at an election, including any
41 initiative, referendum, recall election for statewide or legislative dist-
42 rict offices, or revision of or amendment to the state constitution. An
43 initiative or referendum proposal shall be deemed a measure when the attor-
44 ney general reviews it and gives it a ballot title. A recall shall be deemed
45 a measure upon approval of the recall petition as to form pursuant to section
46 34-1704, Idaho Code.

47 (~~§~~14) "Nonbusiness entity" means any group of two (2) or more individu-
48 als, corporation, association, firm, partnership, committee, club or other
49 organization which:

- 1 (1a) Does not have as its principal purpose the conduct of business ac-
2 tivities for profit; and
3 (2b) Received during the preceding or current calendar year contribu-
4 tions, gifts or membership fees, which in the aggregate exceeded ten
5 percent (10%) of its total receipts for such year.
6 (15) "Person" means an individual, corporation, association, firm,
7 partnership, committee, political party, club or other organization or
8 group of persons.
9 (16) "Political committee" means:
10 (1a) Any person specifically designated to support or oppose any candi-
11 date or measure; or
12 (2b) Any person who receives contributions and makes expenditures in
13 an amount exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500) in any calendar year
14 for the purpose of supporting or opposing one (1) or more candidates or
15 measures. Any entity registered with the federal election commission
16 shall not be considered a political committee for purposes of this chap-
17 ter.
18 (3c) A county, district or regional committee of a recognized politi-
19 cal party shall not be considered a political committee for the purposes
20 of this chapter unless such party committee has expenditures exceeding
21 five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in a calendar year.
22 (17) "Political treasurer" means an individual appointed by a candi-
23 date or political committee as provided in section 67-6603, Idaho Code.
24 (18) "Public office" means any state office or position, state sena-
25 tor, state representative, and judge of the district court that is filled by
26 election.
27 (19) "Social media" means websites and applications that enable users
28 to create and share content or to participate in social networking.

29 SECTION 2. That Section 67-6628, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
30 amended to read as follows:

- 31 67-6628. ELECTIONEERING COMMUNICATIONS -- STATEMENTS. (1) Any per-
32 son who conducts or transmits any electioneering communication shall be
33 required to file a statement on a form provided by the secretary of state.
34 Contents of the statement shall include the amount spent on such communi-
35 cations, the name and address of the person, and the names and addresses of
36 any persons who contribute fifty dollars (\$50.00) or more to any person de-
37 scribed in this section.
38 (2) Any person that incurs costs in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100)
39 when making an electioneering communication shall file a statement in accor-
40 dance with the time limits established by section 67-6611 (2), Idaho Code.
41 (3) In addition to the requirements of subsection (2) of this section,
42 any person that incurs costs of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more when
43 making an electioneering communication shall file a statement as provided
44 in subsection (1) of this section within forty-eight (48) hours of incurring
45 the costs for such communication.
46 (4) Every electioneering communication shall contain an authority line
47 that states the name of the candidate, political committee or other person
48 responsible for the communication.

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1 (5) All information required by this section to be on an electioneering
2 communication shall appear in a font size and type that is plainly legible.