

#### FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

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**To:** Chair Remke and Commissioners Casher, Eskovitz, Wasserman and Wynne

**From:** Erin V. Peth, Executive Director

Sukhi K. Brar, Senior Commission Counsel and Legislative Coordinator

**Subject:** Legislative Update

**Date:** April 3, 2015

The Legislature began the 2015-2016 Legislative session on December 1, 2014. This report includes a summary of the bills currently pending before the Legislature that would impact the Political Reform Act (the "Act").

# Political Reform Act Bills Pending in the Legislature

### **SB 21 (Hill)**

Introduced: December 1, 2014

## **Existing Law**

The Act prohibits public officials from receiving gifts in excess of \$440 in value from a single source in a calendar year, with exceptions. One exception to this gift limit is for payments made to public officials for specified types of travel that are reasonably related to a legislative or governmental purpose, or to an issue of state, national, or international public policy.

## Proposed Law

This bill would require a nonprofit organization that makes travel payments for an elected state officer or local elected officeholder to disclose the names of donors responsible for funding the payments. The bill would also require a person who receives a gift of a travel payment from any source to report the travel destination on his or her Statement of Economic Interests.

**Status: In Senate Elections Committee** 

## SB 283 (Nielsen)

Introduced: February 19, 2015

### **Existing Law**

The Act requires the Attorney General to prepare a ballot label, title and summary for each statewide ballot measure and to include this summary in the ballot pamphlet.

#### Proposed Law

This bill would require the Legislative Analyst, instead of the Attorney General prepare the ballot label, title and summary for all measurers submitted to voters.

**Status: In Senate Elections Committee** 

#### SB 310 (Anderson)

Introduced: February 23, 2015

This bill currently proposes nonsubstantive changes to the Act.

**Status: In Senate Rules Committee** 

#### AB 10 (Gatto)

Introduced: December 1, 2014

#### **Existing Law**

The Act prohibits a public official at any level of state or local government from making, participating in making, or in any way attempting to use his or her official position to influence a governmental decision in which the public official knows or has reason to know that he or she has a financial interest. A public official has a financial interest in a governmental decision if it is reasonably foreseeable that the decision will have a material financial effect, distinguishable from its effect on the public generally, on a business entity in which the public official has a direct or indirect investment worth \$2,000 or more, real property in which the public official has a direct or indirect interest worth \$2,000 or more, and sources of income aggregating \$500 or more in value within 12 months prior to the time when the decision is made. The Act requires certain public officials to file a Statement of Economic Interests disclosing investments, real property interests, and income within specified periods of assuming or leaving office, and annually while holding the office. The Act requires the disclosures to include information indicating, within a specified value range, the fair market value of investments or interests in real property and the aggregate value of income received from a source.

#### Proposed Law

This bill would increase the thresholds at which a public official has a disqualifying financial interest in sources of income from \$500 to \$1,000, investments in business entities from \$2,000 to \$5,000, and in interests in real property from \$2,000 to \$10,000. The bill would also make conforming adjustments to the thresholds at which income, investments, and interests in real property must be disclosed on a public official's Statement of Economic Interests. The bill would revise the dollar amounts associated with the value ranges for reporting the value of economic interests. Additionally, this bill would require certain public officials to disclose information on the official's Statement of Economic Interests relating to governmental decisions for which the public official had a disqualifying financial interest.

**Status: In Assembly Elections Committee** 

## AB 594 (Gordon)

Introduced: February 24, 2015

#### **Existing Law**

The Act provides for the comprehensive regulation of campaign financing, including requiring the reporting of campaign contributions and expenditures and imposing other reporting and recordkeeping requirements on campaign committees.

Currently, committees generally file two semi-annual statements every year covering all campaign activity for a period of six months. In election years, committees also file two preelection reports as it gets closer to the election that provide an overall picture of that activity for each committee that is involved in the upcoming election. In addition to these reports, committees that make or receive contributions of \$1,000 or more or make independent expenditures of \$1,000 or more in the last 90 days before the election must file an additional report within 24 hours of such activity. Before 2013, this 24-hour reporting period covered only the last 16 days before an election but was expanded to the last 90 days in 2013.

Supplemental preelection reports are also required to be filed at specific times when a candidate or committee makes contributions of \$10,000 or more in connection with an election. In reality, such activity has already been disclosed on the 24-hour reports making the filing of these supplemental reelection reports unnecessary and over-burdensome. Additionally, supplemental independent expenditure reports are also required to be filed when a candidate or committee has made independent expenditures of \$1,000 or more in a calendar year, again this activity for the most part will have already been captured on a 24-hour report, making this report unnecessary.

Current law defines a committee as a person or combination of persons that receive contributions of \$1,000 or more, make independent expenditures of \$1,000 or more, or that make contributions of \$10,000 or more. Once a person or combination of persons reaches these thresholds they are subject to the Act's campaign reporting requirements. Persons who conduct campaign related

activity but do not reach these thresholds are not required to file campaign reports, other than one short form in some circumstances.

## Proposed Law

The bill proposes four main changes to the Act:

- 1. Eliminates duplicative reports. Specifically, the bill eliminates some duplicative reports. As explained above, the need for supplemental preelection statements and supplemental independent expenditure reports have been eliminated because extending the 24-hour reporting period from 16 days to 90 days a few years ago has made these statements duplicative, burdensome and unnecessary.
- 2. Provides updated monetary thresholds for triggering as a committee. The bill increases the monetary thresholds for triggering as a "committee" that is subject to the Act's campaign reporting requirements. Specifically, the bill increases recipient committee and independent expenditure committee qualification thresholds from \$1,000 to \$2,000 and increases the major donor committee qualification threshold from \$10,000 to \$20,000.
- 3. Proposes raising the late contribution and late independent expenditure reporting threshold from \$1,000 to \$2,000. These thresholds have been unchanged since 1974 and 1981 and would be valued at amounts of more than double today. The bill also clarifies that the 90-day 24-hour reporting period includes the election date itself, in addition to the 90 days before the election, making those provisions consistent throughout the Act.
- 4. Clarifies and simplifies requirements for preelection statements. Currently, the Act's preelection reporting requirements are very complicated and difficult to understand. This bill will clarify and simplify requirements for reports filed before the election, while still maintaining relevant and timely disclosure. Some thresholds have been raised to make the rules more uniform, but otherwise reporting times would be the same as under the old scheme, just easier to understand. Most of the \$500 preelection reporting thresholds have been in place since 1986 and would be valued at over \$1,000 today. Specifically the bill:
  - Keeps \$0 reporting threshold for candidates their controlled committees or for committees primarily formed to support or oppose an elected state officer or state candidate or measure on the ballot. This is unchanged from current law.
  - Includes a \$1,000 reporting threshold for candidates not listed on the statewide primary or general election ballot making contributions. This raises the reporting threshold from \$0 to \$1,000.
  - State or county general purpose committee reporting threshold is raised from \$500 to \$1,000.
  - Political party committee reporting threshold remains unchanged at \$1,000 for contributions received but is raised from \$500 to \$1000 for contributions and independent expenditures made.
  - City general purpose committee reporting threshold is raised from \$500 to \$1,000.

• Slate mailer preelection reporting threshold is raised from \$500 to \$1,000 but reporting requirements otherwise remain the same and language has been simplified.

**Status: In Assembly Elections Committee** 

### AB 609 (Garcia)

Introduced: February 24, 2015

### **Existing Law**

The California Constitution requires that a person reside within the legislative district for which he or she seeks election as a Member of the Legislature for one year immediately preceding the election. The Act allows candidates who accept the voluntary expenditure limits set forth in Section 85400 to purchase space to place a statement in the voter information portion of the sample ballot.

#### Proposed Law

This bill would permit a candidate for Member of the Legislature to file a statement with the Sectary of State in which the candidate voluntarily agrees that, if elected, he or she will continue to reside within the district from which he or she was elected during his or her term of office. This bill will permit candidates running for State Senate or Assembly who accept the Act's voluntary expenditure limits *and* sign the voluntary statement described above to purchase the space to place a statement in the ballot pamphlet.

**Status: In Assembly Elections Committee** 

## **AB 700 (Gomez)**

Introduced: February 25, 2015

This bill is currently a substantive spot bill containing some provisions from last session's Disclose Act.

**Status: In Assembly Elections Committee** 

#### **AB 834 (Salas)**

Introduced: February 26, 2015

**Existing Law** 

The Act prohibits an incumbent from sending a newsletter or other mass mailing at public expense.

## Proposed Law

This bill would define a "public advertisement" as an advertisement that is paid for from the funds of a state or local public entity. This bill would prohibit a person or entity from disseminating, broadcasting, or otherwise publishing a public advertisement, within 90 days of an election if the advertisement features, a candidate who will appear on the ballot at that election.

**Status: In Assembly Elections Committee** 

# AB 910 (Harper)

Introduced: February 26, 2015

## **Existing Law**

Existing law allows the Commission to contract with the County of San Bernardino to provide advice and enforcement of its local campaign rules.

#### Proposed Law

This bill would now allow the Commission to contract with any city or county to provide advice and enforcement of local campaign rules.

**Status: In Assembly Elections Committee** 

#### **AB 1083 (Eggman)**

Introduced February 27, 2015

#### **Existing Law**

Existing law allows the Commission to contract with the County of San Bernardino to provide advice and enforcement of its local campaign rules.

#### Proposed Law

This bill would allow the Commission to contract with the City of Stockton to provide advice and enforcement of local campaign rules.

**Status: In Assembly Elections Committee** 

#### **AB 1200 (Gordon)**

Introduced: February 27, 2015

## **Existing Law**

Existing provisions of the Act regulate the activities of lobbyists, lobbying firms, and lobbyist employers in connection with attempts to influence legislative and administrative action and require reporting of such activity. "Administrative action" is defined in the Act to include the proposal, drafting, development, consideration, amendment, enactment or defeat by any state agency of any rule, regulation, or other action in any ratemaking proceeding or any quasi legislative proceeding.

## Proposed Law

This bill would define "administrative action" to include the awarding of specified statewide contracts by the Office of Procurement in the Department of General Services making the Act's lobbyist reporting requirements applicable to actions that attempt to influence statewide contracts.

**Status: In Assembly Elections Committee** 

## **AB 1413 (Grove)**

Introduced: February 27, 2015

This bill currently proposes nonsubstantive changes to the Act.

**Status: In Assembly Pending Referral to Policy Committee** 

#### **AB 1494 (Levine)**

Introduced: February 27, 2015

#### **Existing Law**

The Act requires a committee that makes an independent expenditure of \$1,000 or more during the 90-day election cycle in connection with a candidate for elective state office or a state ballot measure to disclose that expenditure by filing a report online or electronically with the Secretary of State.

## Proposed Law

This bill would require a committee subject to the Act's independent expenditure disclosure requirements to pay a tax at the rate of an undetermined percentage of the amount of each independent expenditure reported to the Secretary of State within 5 days of filing the report. The bill would require the Secretary of State to establish a fund with the tax revenues and allocate those funds to the Fair Political Practices Commission and local elections offices for the purpose

of increasing transparency in political campaigns, civic engagement, and voter registration and turnout.

Status: In Assembly Elections Committee and Assembly Revenue and Tax Committee

#### **Government Code Section 1090 Bills Pending in the Legislature**

## SB 330 (Mendoza)

Introduced: February 23, 2015

## **Existing Law**

Existing law prohibits Members of the Legislature, and state, county, district, judicial district, and city officers or employees from being financially interested in a contract, as specified, made by them in their official capacity or by any body or board of which they are members, subject to specified exceptions.

## Proposed Law

This bill would, on and after January 1, 2017, expand these prohibitions to deem that a public officer who is an elected member of any state or local body, board, or commission has a prohibited financial interest in a contract pursuant to these provisions, if that public officer's spouse, child, parent, sibling, or the spouse of the child, parent, or sibling has a financial interest in any contract made by that public officer in his or her official capacity, or by any body, board, or commission of which that public officer is a member.

**Status: In Senate Committee on Governance and Finance** 

#### **SB 704 (Bates)**

Introduced on February 27, 2015

### **Existing Law**

Existing law prohibits Members of the Legislature, state, county, district, judicial district, and city officers or employees from being financially interested in any contract made by them in their official capacity, or by any body or board of which they are members. Existing law identifies certain remote interests that are not subject to this prohibition and other situations in which an official is not deemed to be financially interested in a contract.

#### Proposed Law

This bill would establish an additional situation in which an official is not financially interested in a contract as applied to an owner or partner of a firm serving on an advisory board or commission to the contracting agency if the owner or partner recuses himself or herself from all participation in reviewing a project that results from a contract between the firm and the contracting agency.

**Status: In Senate Elections Committee & Senate Governance and Finance Committee** 

#### **Introduced by Senator Hill**

December 1, 2014

An act to amend Sections 87207 and 89506 of the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 21, as introduced, Hill. Political Reform Act of 1974: gifts of travel.

The Political Reform Act of 1974 provides for the comprehensive regulation of campaign financing and related matters, including the reporting of gifts, as defined. The act prohibits specified officers from receiving gifts in excess of \$440 in value from a single source in a calendar year. The act exempts gift payments for the actual costs of specified types of travel that are reasonably related to a legislative or governmental purpose, or to an issue of state, national, or international public policy, from the annual limit on the value of gifts from a single source.

This bill would require a nonprofit organization that pays for these types of travel for an elected state officer or local elected officeholder to disclose the names of donors responsible for funding the payments, as specified. The bill would require a person who receives a gift of a travel payment from any source to report the travel destination on his or her statement of economic interests.

A violation of the Act's provisions is punishable as a misdemeanor. By expanding the scope of an existing crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

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This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

The Political Reform Act of 1974, an initiative measure, provides that the Legislature may amend the act to further the act's purposes upon a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote of each house and compliance with specified procedural requirements.

This bill would declare that it furthers the purposes of the act.

Vote: <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub>. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 87207 of the Government Code is 2 amended to read:
- 87207. (a) When If income is required to be reported under this article, the statement shall contain, except as provided in subdivision (b):
  - (1) The name and address of each source of income aggregating five hundred dollars (\$500) or more in value, or fifty dollars (\$50) or more in value if the income was a gift, and a general description of the business activity, if any, of each source.
  - (2) A statement whether the aggregate value of income from each source, or in the case of a loan, the highest amount owed to each source, was at least five hundred dollars (\$500) but did not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000), whether it was in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) but was not greater than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), whether it was greater than ten thousand dollars (\$100,000) but not greater than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), or whether it was greater than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).
  - (3) A description of the consideration, if any, for which the income was received.
  - (4) In the case of a gift, the amount and the date on which the gift was received, and the travel destination for purposes of a gift that is a travel payment, advance, or reimbursement.
  - (5) In the case of a loan, the annual interest rate, the security, if any, given for the loan, and the term of the loan.
  - (b) When If the filer's pro rata share of income to a business entity, including income to a sole proprietorship, is required to be reported under this article, the statement shall contain:

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(1) The name, address, and a general description of the business activity of the business entity.

- (2) The name of every person from whom the business entity received payments if the filer's pro rata share of gross receipts from that person was equal to or greater than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) during a calendar year.
- (c) When If a payment, including an advance or reimbursement, for travel is required to be reported pursuant to this section, it may be reported on a separate travel reimbursement schedule which shall be included in the filer's statement of economic interest. A filer who chooses not to use the travel schedule shall disclose payments for travel as a gift, unless it is clear from all surrounding circumstances that the services provided were equal to or greater in value than the payments for the travel, in which case the travel may be reported as income.
- SEC. 2. Section 89506 of the Government Code is amended to read:
- 89506. (a) Payments, advances, or reimbursements, for travel, including actual transportation and related lodging and subsistence that is reasonably related to a legislative or governmental purpose, or to an issue of state, national, or international public policy, are not prohibited or limited by this chapter if either of the following apply applies:
- (1) The travel is in connection with a speech given by the elected state officer, local elected officeholder, candidate for—elected elective state office or local—elected, elective office, an individual specified in Section 87200, member of a state board or commission, or designated employee of a state or local government agency, the lodging and subsistence expenses are limited to the day immediately preceding, the day of, and the day immediately following the speech, and the travel is within the United States.
- (2) The travel is provided by a government, a governmental agency, a foreign government, a governmental authority, a bona fide public or private educational institution, as defined in Section 203 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, a nonprofit organization that is exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or by a person domiciled outside the United States which who substantially satisfies the requirements for tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

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(b) Gifts of travel not described in subdivision (a) are subject to the limits in Section 89503.

- (c) Subdivision (a) applies only to travel that is reported on the recipient's statement of economic interests.
- (d) For purposes of this section, a gift of travel does not include any of the following:
- (1) Travel that is paid for from campaign funds, as permitted by Article 4 (commencing with Section 89510), or that is a contribution.
- (2) Travel that is provided by the agency of a local elected officeholder, an elected state officer, member of a state board or commission, an individual specified in Section 87200, or a designated employee.
- (3) Travel that is reasonably necessary in connection with a bona fide business, trade, or profession and that satisfies the criteria for federal income tax deduction for business expenses in Sections 162 and 274 of the Internal Revenue Code, unless the sole or predominant activity of the business, trade, or profession is making speeches.
- (4) Travel that is excluded from the definition of a gift by any other provision of this title.
- (e) This section does not apply to payments, advances, or reimbursements for travel and related lodging and subsistence permitted or limited by Section 170.9 of the Code of Civil Procedure.
- (f) (1) A nonprofit organization that makes payments, advances, or reimbursements that total more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) in a calendar year, or that total more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in a calendar year for a single person, for travel by an elected state officer or local elected officeholder as described in subdivision (a) shall disclose to the Commission the names of the donors responsible for funding those payments, advances, or reimbursements. The disclosure of donor names shall be limited to donors who donated one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more to the nonprofit organization in a calendar year and who knew or had reason to know that the donation would be used for a payment, advance, or reimbursement for travel by an elected state officer or local elected officeholder as described in subdivision (a).

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(2) A donor knows or has reason to know that his or her donation will be used in the manner described in paragraph (1) under any of the following conditions:

- (A) The donor directed the nonprofit organization to use the donation to make a payment, advance, or reimbursement for travel by an elected state officer or local elected officeholder as described in subdivision (a).
- (B) The donor made the donation in response to a message or solicitation for donations for the stated purpose of making a payment, advance, or reimbursement for travel by an elected state officer or local elected officeholder as described in subdivision (a).
- (C) The donor, or an agent, employee, or representative of the donor, accompanied an elected state officer or local elected officeholder for any portion of travel as described in subdivision (a).
- (3) For purposes of Sections 87103, 87207, and 89503, a nonprofit organization that makes payments, advances, or reimbursements for travel by an elected state officer or local elected officeholder as described in subdivision (a) is the source of the gift unless the nonprofit organization is acting as an intermediary or agent of the donor. If the nonprofit organization is acting as an intermediary or agent of the donor, all of the following apply:
- (A) The donor to the nonprofit organization is the source of the gift.
- (B) The donor shall be identified as a financial interest under Section 87103.
  - (C) The gift shall be reported as required by Section 87207.
- (D) The gift shall be subject to the limitations on gifts specified in Section 89503.
- SEC. 3. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution.

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- 1 SEC. 4. The Legislature finds and declares that this bill furthers
- the purposes of the Political Reform Act of 1974 within the meaning of subdivision (a) of Section 81012 of the Government
- 4 Code.

# **Introduced by Senator Nielsen**

(Coauthor: Senator Morrell) (Coauthors: Assembly Members Chang, Chávez, Dahle, Lackey, and Olsen)

February 19, 2015

An act to amend Sections 9050, 9051, 9053, 9086, 9087, 13262, 13282, and 18602 of the Elections Code, and to amend Section 88002 of the Government Code, relating to elections.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 283, as amended, Nielsen. Elections: ballot titles and summaries. Existing law requires the Attorney General to provide a ballot label and a ballot title for each measure to be submitted to the voters at a statewide election. Existing law requires the Attorney General to prepare a summary of the chief purposes and points of each statewide ballot measure as part of the ballot title. Existing law, including provisions of the Political Reform Act of 1974, requires that the ballot pamphlet contain, among other things, the official summary prepared by the Attorney General.

This bill would require the Legislative Analyst, instead of the Attorney General, to prepare the ballot label and the ballot title and summary for all measures submitted to the voters of the state. The bill would also make conforming changes.

The Political Reform Act of 1974, an initiative measure, provides that the Legislature may amend the act to further the act's purposes upon a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote of each house and compliance with specified procedural requirements.

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This bill would declare that it furthers the purposes of the act. Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 9050 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

9050. After the Secretary of State determines that a measure will appear on the ballot at the next statewide election, the Secretary of State shall promptly transmit a copy of the measure to the Legislative Analyst. The Legislative Analyst shall provide and return to the Secretary of State a ballot title and summary and ballot label for the measure. The Legislative Analyst shall prepare a ballot title and summary and ballot label for each measure submitted to the voters of the whole state by a date sufficient to meet the ballot pamphlet public display deadlines.

SEC. 2. Section 9051 of the Elections Code is amended to read: 9051. (a) (1) The ballot title and summary may differ from the legislative, circulating, or other title and summary of the measure and shall not exceed 100 words, not including the fiscal impact.

- (2) The ballot title and summary shall be amended to include a summary of the Legislative Analyst's estimate of the net state and local government fiscal impact prepared pursuant to Section 9087 of this code and Section 88003 of the Government Code.
- (b) The ballot label shall not contain more than 75 words and shall be a condensed version of the ballot title and summary including the financial impact summary prepared pursuant to Section 9087 of this code and Section 88003 of the Government Code.
- (c) In preparing the ballot title and summary, the Legislative Analyst shall give a true and impartial statement of the purpose of the measure in such language that the ballot title and summary shall neither be an argument, nor be likely to create prejudice, for or against the proposed measure.
- 31 (d) The Legislative Analyst shall invite and consider public 32 comment in preparing each ballot title and summary.
  - SEC. 3. Section 9053 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

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9053. A measure shall be designated on the ballot by the ballot label certified to the Secretary of State by the Legislative Analyst.

- SEC. 4. Section 9086 of the Elections Code is amended to read:
- 9086. The ballot pamphlet shall contain, as to each state measure to be voted upon, the following, following in the order set forth in this section:
- (a) (1) Upon the top portion of the first page, and not exceeding one-third of the page, shall appear:
  - (A) Identification of the measure by number and title.
  - (B) The official summary prepared by the Legislative Analyst.
- (C) The total number of votes cast for and against the measure in both the State Senate and Assembly, Assembly if the measure was passed by the Legislature.
- (2) The space in the title and summary that is used for an explanatory table prepared pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of Section 9087 of this code and Section 88003 of the Government Code shall not be included when measuring the amount of space the information described in paragraph (1) has taken for purposes of determining compliance with the restriction prohibiting the information described in paragraph (1) from exceeding one-third of the page.
- (b) Beginning at the top of the right page shall appear the analysis prepared by the Legislative Analyst, provided that the analysis fits on a single page. If it does not fit on a single page, the analysis shall begin on the lower portion of the first left page and shall continue on subsequent pages until it is completed.
- (c) Immediately below the analysis prepared by the Legislative Analyst shall appear a printed statement that refers voters to the Secretary of State's Internet Web site for a list of committees primarily formed to support or oppose a ballot measure, and information on how to access the committee's top 10 contributors.
- (d) Arguments for and against the measure shall be placed on the next left and right pages, respectively, following the final page of the analysis of the Legislative Analyst. The rebuttals shall be placed immediately below the arguments.
- (e) If no argument against the measure has been submitted, the argument for the measure shall appear on the right page facing the analysis.
- 39 (f) The complete text of each measure shall appear at the back 40 of the pamphlet. The text of the measure shall contain the

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provisions of the proposed measure and the existing provisions of law repealed or revised by the measure. The provisions of the proposed measure differing from the existing provisions of law affected shall be distinguished in print, so as to facilitate comparison.

- (g) The following statement shall be printed at the bottom of each page where arguments appear: "Arguments printed on this page are the opinions of the authors, and have not been checked for accuracy by any official agency."
- SEC. 5. Section 9087 of the Elections Code is amended to read: 9087. (a) The Legislative Analyst shall prepare an impartial analysis of the measure describing the measure and including a fiscal analysis of the measure showing the amount of any increase or decrease in revenue or cost to state or local government. If it is estimated that a measure would result in increased cost to the state, an analysis of the measure's estimated impact on the state shall be provided, including an estimate of the percentage of the General Fund that would be expended due to the measure, using visual aids when appropriate. An estimate of increased cost to the state or local governments shall be set out in boldface print in the ballot pamphlet.
- (b) The analysis shall be written in clear and concise terms, so as to be easily understood by the average voter, and shall avoid the use of technical terms wherever possible. The analysis may contain background information, including the effect of the measure on existing law and the effect of enacted legislation which will become effective if the measure is adopted, and shall generally set forth in an impartial manner the information the average voter needs to adequately understand the measure. To the extent practicable, the Legislative Analyst shall use a uniform method in each analysis to describe the estimated increase or decrease in revenue or cost of a measure, so that the average voter may draw comparisons among the fiscal impacts of measures. The condensed statement of the fiscal impact summary for the measure prepared by the Legislative Analyst to appear on the ballot shall contain the uniform estimate of increase or decrease in revenue or cost of the measure prepared pursuant to this subdivision.
- (c) The Legislative Analyst may contract with a professional writer, educational specialist, or another person for assistance in writing an analysis that fulfills the requirements of this section,

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including the requirement that the analysis be written so that it will be easily understood by the average voter. The Legislative Analyst may also request the assistance of a state department, agency, or official in preparing his or her analysis.

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- (d) Before submitting the analysis to the Secretary of State, the Legislative Analyst shall submit the analysis to a committee of five persons, appointed by the Legislative Analyst, for the purpose of reviewing the analysis to confirm its clarity and easy comprehension to the average voter. The committee shall be drawn from the public at large, and one member shall be a specialist in education, one member shall be bilingual, and one member shall be a professional writer. Members of the committee shall be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in performing their duties. Within five days of the submission of the analysis to the committee, the committee shall make recommendations to the Legislative Analyst as it deems appropriate to guarantee that the analysis can be easily understood by the average voter. The Legislative Analyst shall consider the committee's recommendations, and he or she shall incorporate in the analysis those changes recommended by the committee that he or she deems to be appropriate. The Legislative Analyst is solely responsible for determining the content of the analysis required by this section.
- (e) (1) The title and summary of any measure that appears on the ballot shall be amended to contain a summary of the Legislative Analyst's estimate of the net state and local government fiscal impact.
- (2) For state bond measures that are submitted to the voters for their approval or rejection, the summary of the Legislative Analyst's estimate described in paragraph (1) shall include an explanatory table of the information in the summary.
- SEC. 6. Section 13262 of the Elections Code is amended to read:
- 13262. (a) The ballot shall contain the same material as to candidates and measures, and shall be printed in the same order as provided for paper ballots, and may be arranged in parallel columns on one or more ballot cards as required, except that the column in which the voter marks his or her choices may be at the left of the names of candidates and the designation of measures.

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(b) If there are a greater number of candidates for an office or for a party nomination for an office than the number whose names can be placed on one pair of facing ballot pages, a series of overlaying pages printed only on the same, single side shall be used, and the ballot shall be clearly marked to indicate that the list of candidates for the office is continued on the following page or pages. If the names of candidates for the office are not required to be rotated, they shall be rotated by groups of candidates in a manner so that the name of each candidate shall appear on each page of the ballot in approximately the same number of precincts as the names of all other candidates.

- (c) Space shall be provided on the ballot or on a separate write-in ballot to permit voters to write in names not printed on the ballot when authorized by law. The size of the voting square and the spacing of the material may be varied to suit the conditions imposed by the use of ballot cards, provided the size of the type is not reduced below the minimum size requirements set forth in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 13100).
- (d) The statement of measure submitted to the voters may be abbreviated if necessary on the ballot, if each and every statement of measure on that ballot is abbreviated. Any abbreviation of matters to be voted on throughout the state shall be composed by the Legislative Analyst.
- SEC. 7. Section 13282 of the Elections Code is amended to read:
- 13282. Whenever the Legislative Analyst prepares a ballot label, the Legislative Analyst shall file a copy of the ballot label with the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State shall make a copy of the ballot label available for public examination before the printing of the ballot label on any ballot. The public shall be permitted to examine the ballot label for at least 20 days, and the Secretary of State may consolidate the examination requirement under this section with the public examination requirements set forth in Section 9092. A voter may seek a writ of mandate requiring a ballot label, or portion thereof, to be amended or deleted. The provisions set forth in Section 9092 concerning the issuance of the writ and the nature of the proceedings shall be applicable to this section.
- 39 SEC. 8. Section 18602 of the Elections Code is amended to 40 read:

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18602. A person working for the proponent or proponents of a statewide initiative or referendum measure who covers or otherwise obscures the summary of the measure prepared by the Legislative Analyst from the view of a prospective signer is guilty of a misdemeanor.

- SEC. 9. Section 88002 of the Government Code is amended to read:
- 88002. The ballot pamphlet shall contain, as to each state measure to be voted upon, the following in the order set forth in this section:
- (a) (1) Upon the top portion of the first page, and not exceeding one-third of the page, shall appear:
  - (A) The identification of the measure by number and title.
  - (B) The official summary prepared by the Legislative Analyst.
- (C) The total number of votes cast for and against the measure in both the State Senate and Assembly if the measure was passed by the Legislature.
- (2) The space in the title and summary that is used for an explanatory table prepared pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of Section 9087 of the Elections Code and Section 88003 of this code shall not be included when measuring the amount of space the information described in paragraph (1) has taken for purposes of determining compliance with the restriction prohibiting the information described in paragraph (1) from exceeding one-third of the page.
- (b) Beginning at the top of the right page shall appear the analysis prepared by the Legislative Analyst, provided that the analysis fits on a single page. If it does not fit on a single page, then the analysis shall begin on the lower portion of the first left page and shall continue on subsequent pages until it is completed.
- (c) Immediately below the analysis prepared by the Legislative Analyst shall appear a printed statement that refers voters to the Secretary of State's Internet Web site for a list of committees primarily formed to support or oppose a ballot measure, and information on how to access the committee's top 10 contributors.
- (d) Arguments for and against the measure shall be placed on the next left and right pages, respectively, following the page on which the analysis of the Legislative Analyst ends. The rebuttals shall be placed immediately below the arguments.

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(e) If no argument against the measure has been submitted, the argument for the measure shall appear on the right page facing the analysis.

- (f) The complete text of each measure shall appear at the back of the pamphlet. The text of the measure shall contain the provisions of the proposed measure and the existing provisions of law repealed or revised by the measure. The provisions of the proposed measure differing from the existing provisions of law affected shall be distinguished in print, so as to facilitate comparison.
- (g) The following statement shall be printed at the bottom of each page where arguments appear: "Arguments printed on this page are the opinions of the authors and have not been checked for accuracy by any official agency."
- SEC. 10. The Legislature finds and declares that this bill furthers the purposes of the Political Reform Act of 1974 within the meaning of subdivision (a) of Section 81012 of the Government Code.

#### **Introduced by Senator Anderson**

## February 23, 2015

An act to amend Section 81001 of the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 310, as introduced, Anderson. The Political Reform Act of 1974. Existing law, the Political Reform Act of 1974, provides for the comprehensive regulation of campaign financing. Existing law sets forth findings and declarations supporting the necessity of campaign finance regulation.

This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to that provision.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:* 

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 81001 of the Government Code is amended to read:
- 3 81001. The people find and declare as follows:
- (a) State and local government should serve the needs and
- respond to the wishes of all citizens equally, without regard to
- their wealth;
- (b) Public officials, whether elected or appointed, should
- perform their duties in an impartial manner impartially, free from
- bias caused by their own financial interests or the financial interests
- of persons who have supported them; 10

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(c) Costs of conducting election campaigns have increased greatly in recent years, and candidates have been forced to finance their campaigns by seeking large contributions from lobbyists and organizations who thereby gain disproportionate influence over governmental decisions;

- (d) The influence of large campaign contributors is increased because existing laws for disclosure of campaign receipts and expenditures have proved to be inadequate;
- (e) Lobbyists often make their contributions to incumbents who cannot be effectively challenged because of election laws and abusive practices which give the incumbent an unfair advantage;
- (f) The wealthy individuals and organizations which make large campaign contributions frequently extend their influence by employing lobbyists and spending large amounts to influence legislative and administrative actions;
- (g) The influence of large campaign contributors in ballot measure elections is increased because the ballot pamphlet mailed to the voters by the state is difficult to read and almost impossible for a layman to understand; and
- (h) Previous laws regulating political practices have suffered from inadequate enforcement by state and local authorities.

#### AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 7, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

#### ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 10

#### **Introduced by Assembly Member Gatto**

December 1, 2014

An act to amend Sections 82015, 82033, 82034, 87103, 87206, and 87207 of, and to add Sections 87206.5 and 87211 to, the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 10, as amended, Gatto. Political Reform Act of 1974: *behested payments and* economic interest disclosures.

(1) The Political Reform Act of 1974 requires elected officers, candidates, and committees to file semiannual campaign statements that include, among other things, the total amount of contributions received during the period covered by the campaign statement and the total cumulative amount of contributions received. The act provides that contributions include a payment made at the behest of a candidate unless full and adequate consideration is received from the candidate or it is clear from the surrounding circumstances that the payment was made for purposes unrelated to his or her candidacy for elective office. The act provides that a payment made principally for legislative, governmental, or charitable purposes is presumed to be made for purposes unrelated to a candidate's candidacy for elective office and is neither a gift nor a contribution. The act requires a payment of this type made at the behest of a candidate who is an elected officer to be reported within 30 days following the date on which the payment or payments equal or exceed \$5,000 in the aggregate from the same source in the same calendar year in which the payments are made.

AB 10 — 2 —

This bill would also require candidates who are required to file campaign statements, and elected officers for one year after they leave elective office, to report within 30 days following the date on which a behested payment or payments are made for legislative, governmental, or charitable purposes that equal or exceed \$5,000 in the aggregate from the same source in the same calendar year in which the payments are made.

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(2) The Political Reform Act of 1974 prohibits a public official at any level of state or local government from making, participating in making, or in any way attempting to use his or her official position to influence a governmental decision in which the public official knows or has reason to know that he or she has a financial interest. A public official has a financial interest in a governmental decision if it is reasonably foreseeable that the decision will have a material financial effect, distinguishable from its effect on the public generally, on a business entity in which the public official has a direct or indirect investment worth \$2,000 or more, real property in which the public official has a direct or indirect interest worth \$2,000 or more, and sources of income aggregating \$500 or more in value within 12 months prior to the time when the decision is made.

The Political Reform Act of 1974 requires persons holding specified public offices to file disclosures of investments, real property interests, and income within specified periods of assuming or leaving office, and annually while holding the office. The act requires the disclosures to include a statement indicating, within a specified value range, the fair market value of investments or interests in real property and the aggregate value of income received from a source.

This bill would increase the thresholds at which a public official has a disqualifying financial interest in sources of income from \$500 to \$1,000, in investments in business entities from \$2,000 to \$5,000, and in interests in real property from \$2,000 to \$10,000.

The bill would make conforming adjustments to the thresholds at which income, investments, and interests in real property must be disclosed on a public official's statement of economic interests. The bill would also revise the dollar amounts associated with the value ranges for reporting the value of economic interests.

This bill would require certain public officials to disclose information on the official's statement of economic interests relating to governmental -3- AB 10

decisions for which the public official had a disqualifying financial interest, as specified.

Existing law makes a knowing or willful violation of the act a misdemeanor and subjects offenders to criminal penalties.

By creating additional crimes, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

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(3) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

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(4) The Political Reform Act of 1974, an initiative measure, provides that the Legislature may amend the act to further the act's purposes upon a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote of each house and compliance with specified procedural requirements.

This bill would declare that it furthers the purposes of the act.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 82015 of the Government Code is 2 amended to read:
  - 82015. (a) "Contribution" means a payment, a forgiveness of a loan, a payment of a loan by a third party, or an enforceable promise to make a payment except to the extent that full and adequate consideration is received, unless it is clear from the surrounding circumstances that it is not made for political purposes.
  - (b) (1) A payment made at the behest of a committee, as defined in subdivision (a) of Section 82013, is a contribution to the committee unless full and adequate consideration is received from the committee for making the payment.
- 12 (2) A payment made at the behest of a candidate is a contribution 13 to the candidate unless the criteria in either subparagraph (A) or 14 (B) are satisfied:
- 15 (A) Full and adequate consideration is received from the 16 candidate.

AB 10 —4—

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(B) It is clear from the surrounding circumstances that the payment was made for purposes unrelated to his or her candidacy for elective office. The following types of payments are presumed to be for purposes unrelated to a candidate's candidacy for elective office:

- (i) A payment made principally for personal purposes, in which case it may be considered a gift under the provisions of Section 82028. Payments that are otherwise subject to the limits of Section 86203 are presumed to be principally for personal purposes.
- (ii) A payment made by a state, local, or federal governmental agency or by a nonprofit organization that is exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- (iii) A payment not covered by clause (i), made principally for legislative, governmental, or charitable purposes, in which case it is neither a gift nor a contribution. However, payments of this type that are made at the behest of a candidate who is required to file a campaign statement, a candidate who is an elected officer officer. or an elected officer for one year after he or she leaves elective office, shall be reported within 30 days following the date on which the payment or payments equal or exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in the aggregate from the same source in the same calendar year in which they are made. The report shall be filed by the elected officer filed, for a candidate who is required to file a campaign statement, with the officials and agencies he or she is required to file his or her campaign statement, for an elected officer, with the elected officer's agency and agency, and for an elected officer for the one year after he or she has left elective office, with the agency the elected officer was required to file the statement when he or she was an elected officer. The report shall be a public record subject to inspection and copying pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 81008. The report shall contain the following information: name of payor, address of payor, amount of the payment, date or dates the payment or payments were made, the name and address of the payee, a brief description of the goods or services provided or purchased, if any, and a description of the specific purpose or event for which the payment or payments were made. Once the five-thousand-dollar (\$5,000) aggregate threshold from a single source has been reached for a calendar year, all payments for the calendar year made by that source shall be disclosed within 30 days after the date the threshold was reached

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or the payment was made, whichever occurs later. Within 30 days after receipt of the report, state agencies shall forward a copy of these reports to the Commission, and local agencies shall forward a copy of these reports to the officer with whom *candidates for, and* elected officers—of of, that agency file their campaign statements.

- (C) For purposes of subparagraph (B), a payment is made for purposes related to a candidate's candidacy for elective office if all or a portion of the payment is used for election-related activities. For purposes of this subparagraph, "election-related activities" shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
- (i) Communications that contain express advocacy of the nomination or election of the candidate or the defeat of his or her opponent.
- (ii) Communications that contain reference to the candidate's candidacy for elective office, the candidate's election campaign, or the candidate's or his or her opponent's qualifications for elective office.
- (iii) Solicitation of contributions to the candidate or to third persons for use in support of the candidate or in opposition to his or her opponent.
- (iv) Arranging, coordinating, developing, writing, distributing, preparing, or planning of any communication or activity described in clause (i), (ii), or (iii).
- (v) Recruiting or coordinating campaign activities of campaign volunteers on behalf of the candidate.
  - (vi) Preparing campaign budgets.

- (vii) Preparing campaign finance disclosure statements.
- (viii) Communications directed to voters or potential voters as part of activities encouraging or assisting persons to vote if the communication contains express advocacy of the nomination or election of the candidate or the defeat of his or her opponent.
- (D) A contribution made at the behest of a candidate for a different candidate or to a committee not controlled by the behesting candidate is not a contribution to the behesting candidate.
- (3) A payment made at the behest of a member of the Public Utilities Commission, made principally for legislative, governmental, or charitable purposes, is not a contribution. However, payments of this type shall be reported within 30 days following the date on which the payment or payments equal or

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exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in the aggregate from the same source in the same calendar year in which they are made. The report shall be filed by the member with the Public Utilities Commission and shall be a public record subject to inspection and copying pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 81008. The report shall contain the following information: name of payor, address of payor, amount of the payment, date or dates the payment or payments were made, the name and address of the payee, a brief description of the goods or services provided or purchased, if any, and a description of the specific purpose or event for which the payment or payments were made. Once the five-thousand-dollar (\$5,000) aggregate threshold from a single source has been reached for a calendar year, all payments for the calendar year made by that source shall be disclosed within 30 days after the date the threshold was reached or the payment was made, whichever occurs later. Within 30 days after receipt of the report, the Public Utilities Commission shall forward a copy of these reports to the Fair Political Practices Commission. 

- (c) "Contribution" includes the purchase of tickets for events such as dinners, luncheons, rallies, and similar fundraising events; the candidate's own money or property used on behalf of his or her candidacy, other than personal funds of the candidate used to pay either a filing fee for a declaration of candidacy or a candidate statement prepared pursuant to Section 13307 of the Elections Code; the granting of discounts or rebates not extended to the public generally or the granting of discounts or rebates by television and radio stations and newspapers not extended on an equal basis to all candidates for the same office; the payment of compensation by any person for the personal services or expenses of any other person if the services are rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of a candidate or committee without payment of full and adequate consideration.
- (d) "Contribution" further includes any transfer of anything of value received by a committee from another committee, unless full and adequate consideration is received.
- (e) "Contribution" does not include amounts received pursuant to an enforceable promise to the extent those amounts have been previously reported as a contribution. However, the fact that those amounts have been received shall be indicated in the appropriate campaign statement.

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(f) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) or (3), "contribution" does not include a payment made by an occupant of a home or office for costs related to any meeting or fundraising event held in the occupant's home or office if the costs for the meeting or fundraising event are five hundred dollars (\$500) or less.

- (2) "Contribution" includes a payment made by a lobbyist or a cohabitant of a lobbyist for costs related to a fundraising event held at the home of the lobbyist, including the value of the use of the home as a fundraising event venue. A payment described in this paragraph shall be attributable to the lobbyist for purposes of Section 85702.
- (3) "Contribution" includes a payment made by a lobbying firm for costs related to a fundraising event held at the office of the lobbying firm, including the value of the use of the office as a fundraising event venue.
- (g) Notwithstanding the foregoing definition of "contribution," the term does not include volunteer personal services or payments made by any individual for his or her own travel expenses if the payments are made voluntarily without any understanding or agreement that they shall be, directly or indirectly, repaid to him or her.
- (h) "Contribution" further includes the payment of public moneys by a state or local governmental agency for a communication to the public that satisfies both of the following:
- (1) The communication expressly advocates the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate or the qualification, passage, or defeat of a clearly identified measure, or, taken as a whole and in context, unambiguously urges a particular result in an election.
- (2) The communication is made at the behest of the affected candidate or committee.
- (i) "Contribution" further includes a payment made by a person to a multipurpose organization as defined and described in Section 84222.

#### SECTION 1.

- SEC. 2. Section 82033 of the Government Code is amended to read:
- 37 82033. "Interest in real property" includes any leasehold, 38 beneficial or ownership interest or an option to acquire such an 39 interest in real property located in the jurisdiction owned directly, 40 indirectly or beneficially by the public official, or other filer, or

AB 10 —8—

his or her immediate family if the fair market value of the interest is ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or more. Interests in real property of an individual includes a pro rata share of interests in real property of any business entity or trust in which the individual or immediate family owns, directly, indirectly or beneficially, a 10-percent interest or greater.

SEC. 2.

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SEC. 3. Section 82034 of the Government Code is amended to read:

82034. "Investment" means any financial interest in or security issued by a business entity, including, but not limited to, common stock, preferred stock, rights, warrants, options, debt instruments, and any partnership or other ownership interest owned directly, indirectly, or beneficially by the public official, or other filer, or his or her immediate family, if the business entity or any parent, subsidiary, or otherwise related business entity has an interest in real property in the jurisdiction, or does business or plans to do business in the jurisdiction, or has done business within the jurisdiction at any time during the two years prior to the time any statement or other action is required under this title. An asset shall not be deemed an investment unless its fair market value equals or exceeds five thousand dollars (\$5,000). The term "investment" does not include a time or demand deposit in a financial institution, shares in a credit union, any insurance policy, interest in a diversified mutual fund registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-1 et seq.) or in a common trust fund created pursuant to Section 1585 of the Financial Code, interest in a government defined-benefit pension plan, or any bond or other debt instrument issued by any government or government agency. Investments of an individual includes a pro rata share of investments of any business entity, mutual fund, or trust in which the individual or immediate family owns, directly, indirectly, or beneficially, a 10-percent interest or greater. The term "parent, subsidiary or otherwise related business entity" shall be specifically defined by regulations of the commission. Commission.

SEC. 3.

38 SEC. 4. Section 87103 of the Government Code is amended to read:

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87103. A public official has a financial interest in a decision within the meaning of Section 87100 if it is reasonably foreseeable that the decision will have a material financial effect, distinguishable from its effect on the public generally, on the official, a member of his or her immediate family, or on any of the following:

- (a) Any business entity in which the public official has a direct or indirect investment worth five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more.
- (b) Any real property in which the public official has a direct or indirect interest worth ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or more.
- (c) Any source of income, except gifts or loans by a commercial lending institution made in the regular course of business on terms available to the public without regard to official status, aggregating one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more in value provided or promised to, received by, the public official within 12 months prior to before the time when the decision is made.
- (d) Any business entity in which the public official is a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee, or holds any position of management.
- (e) Any donor of, or any intermediary or agent for a donor of, a gift or gifts aggregating two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) or more in value provided to, received by, or promised to the public official within 12 months prior to before the time when the decision is made. The amount of the value of gifts specified by this subdivision shall be adjusted biennially by the commission to equal the same amount determined by the commission pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section 89503.

For purposes of this section, indirect investment or interest means any investment or interest owned by the spouse or dependent child of a public official, by an agent on behalf of a public official, or by a business entity or trust in which the official, the official's agents, spouse, and dependent children own directly, indirectly, or beneficially a 10-percent interest or greater.

SEC. 4.

SEC. 5. Section 87206 of the Government Code is amended to read:

87206. If an investment is required to be disclosed under this article, the statement shall contain all of the following:

(a) A statement of the nature of the investment.

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1 (b) The name of the business entity in which each investment 2 is held, and a general description of the business activity in which 3 the business entity is engaged. However, if the filer has a financial 4 interest in the business entity pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 5 87103, If a filer is required to report on his or her statement of economic interests a business entity investment in which the filer 6 7 is a director, officer, partner, or trustee, the filer shall provide a thorough and detailed description of the business entity's activities and disclose the names of all business partners who share a financial interest in the business entity, based on criteria established 10 by the Commission. 11

- (c) A statement indicating which of the following represents the fair market value of the investment: investment:
- (1) At least five thousand dollars (\$5,000) but not greater than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).
- (2) Greater than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) but not greater than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).
- (3) Greater than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) but not greater than two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000).
- (4) Greater than two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) but not greater than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).
- (5) Greater than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) but not greater than one million dollars (\$1,000,000).
- (6) Greater than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) but not greater than two million dollars (\$2,000,000).
  - (7) Greater than two million dollars (\$2,000,000).
- (d) In the case of a statement filed under Section 87203 or 87204, if the investment was partially or wholly acquired or disposed of during the period covered by the statement, the date of acquisition or disposal.

31 SEC. 5.

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- SEC. 6. Section 87206.5 is added to the Government Code, to read:
- 34 87206.5. (a) If an interest in real property is required to be 35 disclosed under this article, the statement shall contain all of the 36 following:
  - (1) A statement of the nature of the interest.
  - (2) The address or other precise location of the real property.
- 39 (3) A statement indicating which of the following represents 40 the fair market value of the interest in real property:

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(A) At least ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) but not greater than two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000).

- (B) Greater than two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) but not greater than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).
- (C) Greater than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) but not greater than seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000).
- (D) Greater than seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000) but not greater than one million dollars (\$1,000,000).
- (E) Greater than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) but not greater than two million dollars (\$2,000,000).
  - (F) Greater than two million dollars (\$2,000,000).
  - (4) In the case of a statement filed under Section 87203 or 87204, if the interest in real property was partially or wholly acquired or disposed of during the period covered by the statement, the date of acquisition or disposal.
  - (b) For purposes of disclosure under this article, "interest in real property" does not include the principal residence of the filer or any other property that the filer-utilizes uses exclusively as the personal residence of the filer.

SEC. 6.

- *SEC.* 7. Section 87207 of the Government Code is amended to read:
- 87207. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), if income is required to be reported under this article, the statement shall contain all of the following:
- (1) The name and address of each source of income aggregating one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more in value, or fifty dollars (\$50) or more in value if the income was a gift, and a general description of the business activity, if any, of each source. However, if the source of income is a business entity in which the filer has a financial interest pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 87103, the filer shall provide a thorough and detailed description of the business entity's activities, based on criteria established by the Commission.
- (2) A statement indicating which of the following represents the aggregate value of income from each source, or in the case of a loan, the highest amount owed to each source:
- 38 (A) At least one thousand dollars (\$1,000) but not greater than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

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 (B) Greater than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) but not greater than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).

- (C) Greater than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) but not greater than two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000).
- (D) Greater than two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) but not greater than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).
  - (E) Greater than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).
- (3) A description of the consideration, if any, for which the income was received.
- (4) In the case of a gift, the amount and the date on which the gift was received.
- (5) In the case of a loan, the annual interest rate, the security, if any, given for the loan, and the term of the loan.
- (b) When the filer's pro rata share of income to a business entity, including income to a sole proprietorship, is required to be reported under this article, the statement shall contain the following:
- (1) The name, address, and a thorough and detailed description of the business activity of the business—entity. entity based on criteria established by the Commission.
- (2) The name of every person from whom the business entity received payments if the filer's pro rata share of gross receipts from that person was equal to or greater than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) during a calendar year.
- (c) When a payment, including an advance or reimbursement, for travel is required to be reported pursuant to this section, it may be reported on a separate travel reimbursement schedule—which, which shall be included in the filer's statement of economic interest. A filer who chooses not to use the travel schedule shall disclose payments for travel as a gift, unless it is clear from all surrounding circumstances that the services provided were equal to or greater in value than the payments for the travel, in which case the travel may be reported as income.

SEC. 7.

- SEC. 8. Section 87211 is added to the Government Code, to read:
- 87211. (a) A public official who holds an office specified in Section 87200 shall disclose on his or her statement of economic interests each governmental decision for which a financial interest resulted in the public official's disqualification from making, participating in making, or in any way attempting to use his or her

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- official position to influence that governmental decision pursuant to Section 87100 or, for a Member of the Legislature, Section 87102.5. The disclosure shall identify the governmental decision, the date that the governmental decision was made or considered, the financial interest that created the conflict of interests, and any other relevant information that the Commission deems appropriate.
  - (b) The disclosures required by this section are in addition to any other required disclosures, including, but not limited to, the requirements of Section 87105.

SEC. 8.

SEC. 9. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution.

SEC. 9.

*SEC. 10.* The Legislature finds and declares that this bill furthers the purposes of the Political Reform Act of 1974 within the meaning of subdivision (a) of Section 81012 of the Government Code.

# AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 7, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

## ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 594

# **Introduced by Assembly Member Gordon**

February 24, 2015

An act to amend Sections—82013, 82036, 82036.5, 84101, 84103, 84200.6, and 84218 of, to repeal Sections 84200.7, 84202.5, and 84203.5 of, and to repeal and add Section 84200.5 of, the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 594, as amended, Gordon. Political Reform Act of 1974: campaign statements.

Existing law, the Political Reform Act of 1974, provides for the comprehensive regulation of campaign financing, including requiring the reporting of campaign contributions and expenditures and imposing other reporting and recordkeeping requirements on campaign committees. The act requires elected officers, candidates, and committees to file various reports, including semiannual reports, preelection statements, and supplemental preelection statements.

This bill would recast the requirements for filing preelection statements and would repeal other reporting requirements, including supplemental preelection statements and supplemental independent expenditure reports.

The act defines "committee" as a person or combination of persons who receives contributions or makes independent expenditures of \$1,000 or more in a calendar year or who makes contributions of \$10,000 or more in a calendar year to or at the behest of candidates. The act defines "late contributions" and "late independent expenditures" for purposes

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of the act to include certain contributions and independent expenditures, respectively, that are made within 90 days before the date of the election.

This bill would revise the definition of "committee" by increasing the qualifying monetary thresholds to \$2,000 for contributions received or independent expenditures made by a person or combination of persons or \$20,000 for contributions made to or at the behest of candidates by a person or combination of persons.

This bill would revise the definitions of "late contributions" and "late independent expenditures" to increase the reporting threshold to \$2,000 and to specify that those terms also include contributions and independent expenditures that are made on the date of the election.

The bill would also make conforming changes.

A violation of the act's provisions is punishable as a misdemeanor. By expanding the scope of a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

The Political Reform Act of 1974, an initiative measure, provides that the Legislature may amend the act to further the act's purposes upon a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote of each house and compliance with specified procedural requirements.

This bill would declare that it furthers the purposes of the act.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 82013 of the Government Code is 2 amended to read:
- 3 82013. "Committee" means any person or combination of persons who directly or indirectly does any of the following:
- (a) Receives contributions totaling two thousand dollars (\$2,000)
   or more in a calendar year.
- 7 (b) Makes independent expenditures totaling two thousand 8 dollars (\$2,000) or more in a calendar year; or

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(c) Makes contributions totaling twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) or more in a calendar year to or at the behest of candidates or committees.

A person or combination of persons that becomes a committee shall retain its status as a committee until such time as that status is terminated pursuant to Section 84214.

SEC. 2.

 SECTION 1. Section 82036 of the Government Code is amended to read:

82036. "Late contribution" means any of the following:

- (a) A contribution, including a loan, that totals in the aggregate two one thousand dollars—(\$2,000) (\$1,000) or more and is made to or received by a candidate, a controlled committee, or a committee formed or existing primarily to support or oppose a candidate or measure—on the date of the election, or during the 90-day period preceding the date of the election, or on the date of the election, at which the candidate or measure is to be voted on. For purposes of the Board of Administration of the Public Employees' Retirement System and the Teachers' Retirement Board, "the date of the election" is the deadline to return ballots.
- (b) A contribution, including a loan, that totals in the aggregate two *one* thousand dollars (\$2,000) (\$1,000) or more and is made to or received by a political party committee, as defined in Section 85205, on the date of a state election or within 90 days before the date of a state election *or on the date of the election*.

<del>SEC. 3.</del>

- SEC. 2. Section 82036.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:
- 82036.5. "Late independent expenditure" means an independent expenditure that totals in the aggregate-two *one* thousand dollars (\$2,000) (\$1,000) or more and is made for or against a specific candidate or measure involved in an election on the date of the election or during the 90-day period preceding the date of the election *or on the date of the election*. For purposes of the Board of Administration of the Public Employees' Retirement System and the Teachers' Retirement Board, "the date of the election" is the deadline to return ballots.

38 SEC. 4.

39 SEC. 3. Section 84101 of the Government Code is amended 40 to read:

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84101. (a) A committee that is a committee by virtue of subdivision (a) of Section 82013 shall file a statement of organization. The committee shall file the original of the statement of organization with the Secretary of State and shall also file a copy of the statement of organization with the local filing officer, if any, with whom the committee is required to file the originals of its campaign reports pursuant to Section 84215. The original and copy of the statement of organization shall be filed within 10 days after the committee has qualified as a committee. The Secretary of State shall assign a number to each committee that files a statement of organization and shall notify the committee of the number. The Secretary of State shall send a copy of statements filed pursuant to this section to the county elections official of each county that he or she deems appropriate. A county elections official who receives a copy of a statement of organization from the Secretary of State pursuant to this section shall send a copy of the statement to the clerk of each city in the county that he or she deems appropriate.

- (b) In addition to filing the statement of organization as required by subdivision (a), if a committee qualifies as a committee under subdivision (a) of Section 82013 before the date of an election in connection with which the committee is required to file preelection statements, but after the closing date of the last campaign statement required to be filed before the election pursuant to Section 84200.8 or 84200.9, the committee shall file, by facsimile transmission, online transmission, guaranteed overnight delivery, or personal delivery within 24 hours of qualifying as a committee, the information required to be reported in the statement of organization. The information required by this subdivision shall be filed with the filing officer with whom the committee is required to file the originals of its campaign reports pursuant to Section 84215.
- (c) If an independent expenditure committee qualifies as a committee pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 82013 during the time period described in Section 82036.5 and makes independent expenditures of two one thousand dollars (\$2,000) (\$1,000) or more to support or oppose a candidate or candidates for office, the committee shall file, by facsimile transmission, online transmission, guaranteed overnight delivery, or personal delivery within 24 hours of qualifying as a committee, the information required to be reported in the statement of organization. The information required

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by this section shall be filed with the filing officer with whom the committee is required to file the original of its campaign reports pursuant to Section 84215, and shall be filed at all locations required for the candidate or candidates supported or opposed by the independent expenditures. The filings required by this section are in addition to filings that may be required by Section 84204.

(d) For purposes of this section, in calculating whether two one thousand dollars—(\$2,000) (\$1,000) in contributions has been received, payments for a filing fee or for a statement of qualifications to appear in a sample ballot shall not be included if these payments have been made from the candidate's personal funds.

SEC. 5.

SEC. 4. Section 84103 of the Government Code is amended to read:

- 84103. (a) If there is a change in any of the information contained in a statement of organization, an amendment shall be filed within 10 days to reflect the change. The committee shall file the original of the amendment with the Secretary of State and shall also file a copy of the amendment with the local filing officer, if any, with whom the committee is required to file the originals of its campaign reports pursuant to Section 84215.
- (b) In addition to filing an amendment to a statement of organization as required by subdivision (a), a committee as defined in subdivision (a) of Section 82013 shall, by facsimile transmission, online transmission, guaranteed overnight delivery, or personal delivery within 24 hours, notify the filing officer with whom it is required to file the originals of its campaign reports pursuant to Section 84215 if the change requiring the amendment occurs before the date of the election in connection with which the committee is required to file a preelection statement, but after the closing date of the last preelection statement required to be filed for the election pursuant to Section 84200.8, if any of the following information is changed:
  - (1) The name of the committee.
- (2) The name of the treasurer or other principal officers.
- 37 (3) The name of any candidate or committee by which the 38 committee is controlled or with which it acts jointly.

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The notification shall include the changed information, the date of the change, the name of the person providing the notification, and the committee's name and identification number.

A committee may file a notification online only if the appropriate filing officer is capable of receiving the notification in that manner. SEC. 6.

- 7 SEC. 5. Section 84200.5 of the Government Code is repealed. 8 SEC. 7.
- 9 SEC. 6. Section 84200.5 is added to the Government Code, to 10 read:
  - 84200.5. In addition to the campaign statements required by Section 84200, elected officers, candidates, and committees shall file preelection statements as follows:
  - (a) All candidates appearing on the ballot to be voted on at the next election, their controlled committees, and committees primarily formed to support or oppose an elected officer, candidate, or a measure appearing on the ballot to be voted on at the next election shall file the applicable preelection statements specified in Section 84200.8.
  - (b) All elected state officers and candidates for elective state office who are not appearing on the ballot at the next statewide primary or general-election ballot, election, and who, during the preelection reporting periods covered by Section 84200.8, contribute to any committee required to report receipts, expenditures, or contributions pursuant to this title, or make an independent expenditure of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,000) (\$500) or more in connection with the statewide primary or general election, shall file the applicable preelection statements specified in Section 84200.8.
  - (c) A state or county general purpose—recipient committee formed pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 82013, other than a political party committee as defined in Section 84205, shall file the applicable preelection statements specified in Section 84200.8 if it makes contributions or independent expenditures totaling—one thousand five hundred dollars—(\$1,000) (\$500) or more in connection with the statewide primary or general election during the period covered by the preelection statements. However, a state or county general purpose committee formed pursuant to subdivision (b) or (c) of Section 82013 is not required to file the preelection statements specified in Section 84200.8.

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(d) A political party committee as defined in Section 84205 shall file the applicable preelection statements specified in Section 84200.8 in connection with a statewide state election if the committee receives contributions totaling one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more, or if it makes contributions or independent expenditures totaling one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,000) (\$500) or more, in connection with the election during the period covered by the preelection statement.

- (e) A city general purpose committee formed pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 82013 shall file the applicable preelection statements specified in Section 84200.8 if it makes contributions or independent expenditures totaling—one thousand five hundred dollars—(\$1,000) (\$500) or more in connection with a city election in the committee's jurisdiction during the period covered by the preelection statements. However, a city general purpose committee formed pursuant to subdivision (b) or (c) of Section 82013 is not required to file the preelection statements specified in Section 84200.8.
- (f) CalPERS and CalSTRS Elections. During an election period for the Board of Administration of the Public Employees' Retirement System or the Teachers' Retirement Board:
- (1) All candidates for these boards, their controlled committees, and committees primarily formed to support or oppose the candidates shall file the preelection statements specified in Section 84200.9.
- (2) A state or county general purpose committee formed pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 82013 shall file the preelection statements specified in Section 84200.9 if it makes contributions or independent expenditures totaling—one thousand five hundred dollars—(\$1,000) (\$500) or more during the period covered by the preelection statement to support or oppose a candidate, or a committee primarily formed to support or oppose a candidate on the ballot for the Board of Administration of the Public Employees' Retirement System or the Teachers' Retirement Board.
- (3) However, a general purpose committee formed pursuant to subdivision (b) or (c) of Section 82013 is not required to file the statements specified in Section 84200.9.

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- 1 SEC. 8.
- 2 SEC. 7. Section 84200.6 of the Government Code is amended to read:
- 4 84200.6. In addition to the campaign statements required by 5 Sections 84200 and 84200.5, all candidates and committees shall 6 file the following special statements and reports:
  - (a) Late contribution reports, when required by Section 84203.
- 8 (b) Late independent expenditure reports, when required by 9 Section 84204.
- 10 SEC. 9.

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- 11 SEC. 8. Section 84200.7 of the Government Code is repealed.
- 12 SEC. 10.
- 13 SEC. 9. Section 84202.5 of the Government Code is repealed.
- 14 SEC. 11.
- 15 SEC. 10. Section 84203.5 of the Government Code is repealed.
- 16 SEC. 12.
- 17 SEC. 11. Section 84218 of the Government Code is amended to read:
- 19 84218. (a) A slate mailer organization shall file semiannual 20 campaign statements no later than July 31 for the period ending 21 June 30, and no later than January 31 for the period ending 22 December 31.
  - (b) In addition to the semiannual statements required by subdivision (a), a slate mailer organization which produces a slate mailer supporting or opposing candidates or measures being voted on in an election shall file the statements specified in Section 84200.8 if, during the period covered by the preelection statement, the slate mailer organization receives payments totaling—one thousand five hundred dollars—(\$1,000) (\$500) or more from any person for the support of or opposition to candidates or ballot measures in one or more slate mailers, or expends five hundred dollars (\$500) or more to produce one or more slate mailers.
- 33 (c) A slate mailer organization shall file two copies of its 34 campaign reports with the clerk of the county in which it is 35 domiciled. A slate mailer organization is domiciled at the address 36 listed on its statement of organization unless it is domiciled outside 37 California, in which case its domicile shall be deemed to be Los
- 38 Angeles County for purposes of this section.
- In addition, slate mailer organizations shall file campaign reports as follows:

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(1) A slate mailer organization which produces one or more slate mailers supporting or opposing candidates or measures voted on in a state election, or in more than one county, shall file campaign reports in the same manner as state general purpose committees pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 84215.

- (2) A slate mailer organization which produces one or more slate mailers supporting or opposing candidates or measures voted on in only one county, or in more than one jurisdiction within one county, shall file campaign reports in the same manner as county general purpose committees pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 84215.
- (3) A slate mailer organization which produces one or more slate mailers supporting or opposing candidates or measures voted on in only one city shall file campaign reports in the same manner as city general purpose committees pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 84215.
- (4) Notwithstanding the above, no slate mailer organization shall be required to file more than the original and one copy, or two copies, of a campaign report with any one county or city clerk or with the Secretary of State.

SEC. 13.

- SEC. 12. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution.
- SEC. 14.
- 32 SEC. 13. The Legislature finds and declares that this bill 33 furthers the purposes of the Political Reform Act of 1974 within 34 the meaning of subdivision (a) of Section 81012 of the Government 35 Code.

# **Introduced by Assembly Member Cristina Garcia**

February 24, 2015

An act to add Section 8020.5 to the Elections Code, and to amend Section 85601 of the Government Code, relating to elections.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 609, as introduced, Cristina Garcia. Members of the Legislature: residency.

The California Constitution requires that a person reside within the legislative district for which he or she seeks election as a Member of the Legislature for one year immediately preceding the election.

This bill would permit a candidate for Member of the Legislature to file a statement with the Secretary of State in which the candidate voluntarily agrees that, if elected, he or she will continue to reside within the district from which he or she was elected during his or her term of office. This bill would require the Secretary of State to designate in the state ballot pamphlet those candidates who have voluntarily agreed to this continuing residency requirement.

The Political Reform Act of 1974 authorizes a candidate for State Senate or Assembly who accepts certain voluntary expenditure limits to purchase the space to place a statement in the voter information portion of the sample ballot that does not exceed 250 words.

This bill would additionally require a candidate for State Senate or Assembly to file the voluntary statement described above in order to purchase the space to place a statement in the sample ballot.

The Political Reform Act of 1974, an initiative measure, provides that the Legislature may amend the act to further the act's purposes

AB 609 — 2 —

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upon a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote of each house and compliance with specified procedural requirements.

This bill would declare that it furthers the purposes of the act.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares that, in order to ensure that Members of the Legislature adequately and effectively represent their constituents, those elected to the Legislature should continue to reside in the districts that they are elected to represent during their terms of office.
- 6 SEC. 2. Section 8020.5 is added to the Elections Code, to read: 7 8020.5. (a) A candidate for Member of the Legislature may file a statement with the Secretary of State in which the candidate 9 voluntarily agrees that, if elected, he or she will continue to reside 10 within the district from which he or she was elected during his or 11 her term of office. A person does not violate the voluntary agreement if, after being elected for a term of office, the boundaries 12 13 of the district from which he or she was elected are changed during 14 that term of office so as to exclude his or her residence from the 15 district.
  - (b) If a candidate for Member of the Legislature elects to file the voluntary statement of continuing residency pursuant to subdivision (a), the statement shall be filed with his or her nomination documents.
  - (c) The Secretary of State shall designate in the state ballot pamphlet those candidates for Member of the Legislature who have voluntarily agreed to the continuing residency requirement set forth in this section.
- SEC. 3. Section 85601 of the Government Code is amended to read:
- 85601. (a) A candidate for statewide elective office, as defined in Section 82053, who accepts the voluntary expenditure limits set forth in Section 85400 may purchase the space to place a statement in the state ballot pamphlet that does not exceed 250 words. The statement may not make any reference to any opponent of the candidate. The statement shall be submitted in accordance

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with timeframes and procedures set forth by the Secretary of State for the preparation of the state ballot pamphlets.

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- (b) Notwithstanding subdivision (e) of Section 88001 of this code or subdivision (e) of Section 9084 of the Elections Code, on and after November 6, 2002, the Secretary of State may not include in the state ballot pamphlet a statement from a candidate who has not voluntarily agreed to the expenditure limitations set forth in Section 85400.
- (c) A candidate for State Senate or Assembly who accepts the voluntary expenditure limits set forth in Section 85400 of this code and files the voluntary statement described in Section 8020.5 of the Elections Code may purchase the space to place a statement in the voter information portion of the sample ballot that does not exceed 250 words. The statement may not make any reference to any opponent of the candidate. The statement shall be submitted in accordance with the timeframes and procedures set forth in the Elections Code for the preparation of the voter information portion of the sample ballot.
- SEC. 4. The Legislature finds and declares that this bill furthers the purposes of the Political Reform Act of 1974 within the meaning of subdivision (a) of Section 81012 of the Government Code.

# **Introduced by Assembly Members Gomez and Levine**

February 25, 2015

An act to add Section 84503.1 to the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 700, as introduced, Gomez. Political Reform Act of 1974: advertisement disclosures.

Existing law, the Political Reform Act of 1974, provides for the comprehensive regulation of campaign financing, including requiring the reporting of campaign contributions and expenditures and imposing other reporting and recordkeeping requirements on campaign committees. Existing law additionally imposes disclosure statement requirements with respect to advertisements supporting or opposing a candidate or ballot measure paid for by donors making contributions of specified amounts or by independent expenditures and defines several terms and phrases for these purposes.

This bill would impose new disclosure statement requirements for political advertisements regarding a ballot measure paid for by specified committees that are radio advertisements, prerecorded telephonic messages, or television or video advertisements that would require the identification of identifiable contributors, as defined.

This bill would also state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would implement a California Disclose Act, with provisions similar to a specified bill from the 2013–14 Regular Session of the Legislature.

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Because a violation of the act is punishable as a misdemeanor, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

The Political Reform Act of 1974, an initiative measure, provides that the Legislature may amend the act to further the act's purposes upon a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote of each house and compliance with specified procedural requirements.

This bill would declare that it furthers the purposes of the act.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the 2 following:

- (a) Ever-increasing amounts of funds are raised and spent in support of and opposition to state and local ballot measures, especially in the form of advertisements. The outcomes of such elections are disproportionately impacted by campaign expenditures in support of and opposition to those measures.
- (b) Ever-increasing amounts of funds are spent on campaigns by persons who do one or more of the following:
- (1) Frequently use their wealth to fund local and state ballot measures designed to advance their own economic interests.
- (2) Increasingly avoid having their identities disclosed in election-related advertisements by channeling funds through one or more persons before those funds are received by a committee, thereby undermining the purpose and intent of laws requiring disclosure on such advertisements.
- (3) Spend extraordinary amounts of money running election-related advertisements while hiding behind dubious and misleading names, including, but not limited to, advertisements by primarily formed committees and general purpose committees.
- (4) Increasingly evade disclosure by funding advertisements designed to persuade voters without expressly advocating support or opposition.

\_3\_ AB 700

(c) The activities described in subdivision (b) cause the public to become increasingly disaffected with the democratic process, discouraging participation in elections and coloring public perceptions of the legitimacy and integrity of state and local government.

- (d) The people of California and their government officials have a compelling interest in knowing the true and original source of committee funding and receiving clear information identifying the largest original contributors responsible for political advertisements funded by such committees.
- (e) The disclosure of original contributors on advertisements serves the following important governmental and societal purposes:
- (1) Providing the people and government officials current and easily accessible information regarding who is funding advertisements that are intended to influence their votes on ballot measures.
- (2) Enabling the people and government officials to identify potential bias in advertisements to assist them in making more informed decisions and giving proper weight to different speakers and messages.
- (3) Deterring actual corruption and avoiding the appearance of corruption by providing increased transparency of contributions and expenditures.
- (4) Improving the people's confidence in the democratic process and increasing their motivation to actively participate in that process by regular voting and other forms of civic engagement.
- (5) Promoting compliance with and detecting violations of the Political Reform Act of 1974 (Title 9 (commencing with Section 81000) of the Government Code), while also addressing the problems and advancing the state interests described in that act.
- SEC. 2. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would implement a California Disclose Act consistent with the provisions of Senate Bill 52 of the 2013–14 Regular Session of the Legislature.
- SEC. 3. Section 84503.1 is added to the Government Code, to read:
- 84503.1. (a) For purposes of this section, "identifiable contributor" means a person that is the original source of funds for contributions received by a committee that cumulatively total fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or more, notwithstanding the fact

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that the contributions were transferred, in whole or in part, through one or more other committees or persons.

- (b) A committee that is a candidate controlled committee as defined in Section 82016 or a political party committee as defined in Section 85205 is not subject to the disclosure statement requirements of this section.
- (c) An advertisement regarding a ballot measure that is a radio advertisement or prerecorded telephonic message shall include a disclosure statement at the beginning or end of the advertisement read in a clearly spoken manner and in a pitch and tone substantially similar to the rest of the advertisement that reads as follows: "This ad has major funding from [state names in descending order of identifiable contributors who have made the two largest cumulative contributions to the committee that paid for the advertisement]. Paid for by [name of the committee that paid for the advertisement]."
- (d) An advertisement regarding a ballot measure that is a television or video advertisement shall include a disclosure area with a solid black background on the entire bottom one-third of the television or video display screen at the beginning or end of the advertisement for a minimum of five seconds in the case of an advertisement that lasts 30 seconds or less or a minimum of 10 seconds in the case of an advertisement that lasts longer than 30 seconds. The disclosure area shall include the following text: "Paid for by [name of the committee that paid for the advertisement]. This ad has major funding from [state names in descending order of identifiable contributors who have made the three largest cumulative contributions to the committee that paid for the advertisement]." The text shall be in a contrasting color in Arial Narrow equivalent font, and the type size shall be at least 4 percent of the height of the television or video display screen and shall be centered horizontally.
- (e) The requirements of this section are in addition to any other requirements imposed by this article.
- SEC. 4. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of

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the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California

3 Constitution.

SEC. 5. The Legislature finds and declares that this bill furthers the purposes of the Political Reform Act of 1974 within the meaning of subdivision (a) of Section 81012 of the Government Code.

# AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 26, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

# **ASSEMBLY BILL**

No. 834

# **Introduced by Assembly Member Salas**

February 26, 2015

An act to—amend Section 82015 of add Section 89002 to the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 834, as amended, Salas. Political Reform Act of 1974: contributions advertisements.

Existing law, the Political Reform Act of 1974, provides for the comprehensive regulation of campaign conduct, including requiring certain disclosures in advertisements made for campaign purposes. Existing law also prohibits an incumbent from sending a newsletter or other mass mailing at public expense.

This bill would define a "public advertisement" as an advertisement that is paid for from the funds of a state or local public entity. This bill would prohibit a person or entity from disseminating, broadcasting, or otherwise publishing a public advertisement, as defined, within 90 days of an election if the advertisement features, as defined, a candidate who will appear on the ballot at that election.

Existing law makes a willful violation of the Political Reform Act of 1974 a misdemeanor and subject offenders to criminal penalties.

The bill would impose a state-mandated local program by creating additional crimes.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state.

 $AB 834 \qquad \qquad -2 -$ 

Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

The Political Reform Act of 1974, an initiative measure, provides that the Legislature may amend the act to further the act's purposes upon a  $^{2}$ /<sub>3</sub> vote of each house and compliance with specified procedural requirements.

This bill would declare that it furthers the purposes of the act.

Existing law, the Political Reform Act of 1974, provides for the comprehensive regulation of campaign financing, including requiring the reporting of campaign contributions and expenditures and imposing other reporting and recordkeeping requirements on campaign committees. The act provides that a payment made at the behest of a candidate is a contribution to that candidate, unless full and adequate consideration is received from the candidate or it is clear from the surrounding circumstances that the payment was made for purposes unrelated to his or her candidacy for elective office.

This bill would make a nonsubstantive change to that payment provision.

Vote: majority <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub>. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no-yes. State-mandated local program: no-yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 89002 is added to the Government Code, 2 to read:
- 89002. (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:
  - (1) "Public advertisement" means an advertisement, including a broadcast, billboard, or newspaper advertisement, that is paid for from the funds of a state or local public entity.
- 8 (2) "Featuring a candidate" means containing the voice or image of, or a statement attributable to, a candidate.
- 10 (b) A person or entity shall not disseminate, broadcast, or 11 otherwise publish a public advertisement featuring a candidate 12 for elective office within 90 days before the date of the election at
- 13 *which the candidate will appear on the ballot.*

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14 SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to 15 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because -3- AB 834

the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution.

SEC. 3. The Legislature finds and declares that this bill furthers the purposes of the Political Reform Act of 1974 within the meaning of subdivision (a) of Section 81012 of the Government Code.

SECTION 1. Section 82015 of the Government Code is amended to read:

- 82015. (a) "Contribution" means a payment, a forgiveness of a loan, a payment of a loan by a third party, or an enforceable promise to make a payment except to the extent that full and adequate consideration is received, unless it is clear from the surrounding circumstances that it is not made for political purposes.
- (b) (1) A payment made at the behest of a committee, as defined in subdivision (a) of Section 82013, is a contribution to the committee unless full and adequate consideration is received from the committee for making the payment.
- (2) A payment made at the behest of a candidate is a contribution to that candidate, unless the criteria in either subparagraph (A) or (B) are satisfied:
- (A) Full and adequate consideration is received from the candidate.
- (B) It is clear from the surrounding circumstances that the payment was made for purposes unrelated to his or her candidacy for elective office. The following types of payments are presumed to be for purposes unrelated to a candidate's candidacy for elective office:
- (i) A payment made principally for personal purposes, in which ease it may be considered a gift under the provisions of Section 82028. Payments that are otherwise subject to the limits of Section 86203 are presumed to be principally for personal purposes.
- (ii) A payment made by a state, local, or federal governmental agency or by a nonprofit organization that is exempt from taxation under Section 501(e)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- (iii) A payment not covered by clause (i), made principally for legislative, governmental, or charitable purposes, in which case it

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1 is neither a gift nor a contribution. However, payments of this type 2 that are made at the behest of a candidate who is an elected officer 3 shall be reported within 30 days following the date on which the 4 payment or payments equal or exceed five thousand dollars 5 (\$5,000) in the aggregate from the same source in the same 6 calendar year in which they are made. The report shall be filed by 7 the elected officer with the elected officer's agency and shall be 8 a public record subject to inspection and copying pursuant to 9 subdivision (a) of Section 81008. The report shall contain the 10 following information: name of payor, address of payor, amount 11 of the payment, date or dates the payment or payments were made, 12 the name and address of the payee, a brief description of the goods 13 or services provided or purchased, if any, and a description of the specific purpose or event for which the payment or payments were 14 15 made. Once the five-thousand-dollar (\$5,000) aggregate threshold 16 from a single source has been reached for a calendar year, all 17 payments for the calendar year made by that source shall be 18 disclosed within 30 days after the date the threshold was reached 19 or the payment was made, whichever occurs later. Within 30 days after receipt of the report, state agencies shall forward a copy of 20 21 these reports to the Commission, and local agencies shall forward 22 a copy of these reports to the officer with whom elected officers 23 of that agency file their campaign statements. 24

- (C) For purposes of subparagraph (B), a payment is made for purposes related to a candidate's candidacy for elective office if all or a portion of the payment is used for election-related activities. For purposes of this subparagraph, "election-related activities" shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
- (i) Communications that contain express advocacy of the nomination or election of the candidate or the defeat of his or her opponent.
- (ii) Communications that contain reference to the candidate's candidacy for elective office, the candidate's election campaign, or the candidate's or his or her opponent's qualifications for elective office.
- (iii) Solicitation of contributions to the candidate or to third persons for use in support of the candidate or in opposition to his or her opponent.

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(iv) Arranging, coordinating, developing, writing, distributing, preparing, or planning of any communication or activity described in clause (i), (ii), or (iii).

- (v) Recruiting or coordinating campaign activities of campaign volunteers on behalf of the candidate.
  - (vi) Preparing campaign budgets.

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- (vii) Preparing campaign finance disclosure statements.
- (viii) Communications directed to voters or potential voters as part of activities encouraging or assisting persons to vote if the communication contains express advocacy of the nomination or election of the candidate or the defeat of his or her opponent.
- (D) A contribution made at the behest of a candidate for a different candidate or to a committee not controlled by the behesting candidate is not a contribution to the behesting candidate.
- (3) A payment made at the behest of a member of the Public Utilities Commission, made principally for legislative, governmental, or charitable purposes, is not a contribution. However, payments of this type shall be reported within 30 days following the date on which the payment or payments equal or exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in the aggregate from the same source in the same calendar year in which they are made. The report shall be filed by the member with the Public Utilities Commission and shall be a public record subject to inspection and copying pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 81008. The report shall contain the following information: name of payor, address of payor, amount of the payment, date or dates the payment or payments were made, the name and address of the payee, a brief description of the goods or services provided or purchased, if any, and a description of the specific purpose or event for which the payment or payments were made. Once the five-thousand-dollar (\$5,000) aggregate threshold from a single source has been reached for a calendar year, all payments for the calendar year made by that source shall be disclosed within 30 days after the date the threshold was reached or the payment was made, whichever occurs later. Within 30 days after receipt of the report, the Public Utilities Commission shall forward a copy of these reports to the Fair Political Practices Commission.
- (c) "Contribution" includes the purchase of tickets for events such as dinners, luncheons, rallies, and similar fundraising events; the candidate's own money or property used on behalf of his or

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her candidacy, other than personal funds of the candidate used to pay either a filing fee for a declaration of candidacy or a candidate statement prepared pursuant to Section 13307 of the Elections Code; the granting of discounts or rebates not extended to the public generally or the granting of discounts or rebates by television and radio stations and newspapers not extended on an equal basis to all candidates for the same office; the payment of compensation by any person for the personal services or expenses of any other person if the services are rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of a candidate or committee without payment of full and adequate consideration.

- (d) "Contribution" further includes any transfer of anything of value received by a committee from another committee, unless full and adequate consideration is received.
- (e) "Contribution" does not include amounts received pursuant to an enforceable promise to the extent those amounts have been previously reported as a contribution. However, the fact that those amounts have been received shall be indicated in the appropriate campaign statement.
- (f) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) or (3), "contribution" does not include a payment made by an occupant of a home or office for costs related to any meeting or fundraising event held in the occupant's home or office if the costs for the meeting or fundraising event are five hundred dollars (\$500) or less.
- (2) "Contribution" includes a payment made by a lobbyist or a cohabitant of a lobbyist for costs related to a fundraising event held at the home of the lobbyist, including the value of the use of the home as a fundraising event venue. A payment described in this paragraph shall be attributable to the lobbyist for purposes of Section 85702.
- (3) "Contribution" includes a payment made by a lobbying firm for costs related to a fundraising event held at the office of the lobbying firm, including the value of the use of the office as a fundraising event venue.
- (g) Notwithstanding the foregoing definition of "contribution," the term does not include volunteer personal services or payments made by any individual for his or her own travel expenses if the payments are made voluntarily without any understanding or agreement that they shall be, directly or indirectly, repaid to him or her.

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(h) "Contribution" further includes the payment of public moneys by a state or local governmental agency for a communication to the public that satisfies both of the following:

- (1) The communication expressly advocates the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate or the qualification, passage, or defeat of a clearly identified measure, or, taken as a whole and in context, unambiguously urges a particular result in an election.
- (2) The communication is made at the behest of the affected candidate or committee.
- (i) "Contribution" further includes a payment made by a person to a multipurpose organization as defined and described in Section 84222.

## AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 19, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

# **ASSEMBLY BILL**

No. 910

# Introduced by Assembly Member Harper (Coauthor: Assembly Member Travis Allen)

(Coauthor: Senator Bates)

February 26, 2015

An act to add and repeal Section 83123.7 of the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 910, as amended, Harper. Political Reform Act of 1974: local enforcement.

Existing law authorizes the Fair Political Practices Commission, upon mutual agreement between the Commission and the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Bernardino, to have primary responsibility for the impartial, effective administration, implementation, and enforcement of a local campaign finance reform ordinance of the County of San Bernardino, as specified.

This bill would authorize the Commission and the Board of Supervisors of the County of Orange governing body of any city, county, or city and county, to also enter into such an agreement, as specified. specified, if the governing body of the city, county, or city and county, or a majority of voters, approves the agreement. The bill would require, if an agreement is entered into, that the Commission report specified information to the Legislature regarding the performance of that agreement on or before January 1, 2019. The bill would repeal its provisions on January 1, 2020.

AB 910 — 2 —

This bill would make legislative findings and declarations as to the necessity of a special statute for the County of Orange.

The Political Reform Act of 1974, an initiative measure, provides that the Legislature may amend the act to further the act's purposes upon a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote of each house and compliance with specified procedural requirements.

This bill would declare that it furthers the purposes of the act.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 83123.7 is added to the Government 2 Code, to read:
- 83123.7. (a) (1)—For purposes of this section, "local agency" means a city, county, or city and county.
- 5 (b) (1) Upon mutual agreement between the Commission and the Board of Supervisors of the County of Orange, governing body of a local agency, the Commission is authorized to assume primary responsibility for the impartial, effective administration, implementation, and enforcement of a local campaign finance ordinance passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Orange. Upon agreement, of the local agency if the agreement has been approved by either of the following:
- 13 (A) The governing body of the local agency.
- 14 (B) A majority of the voters in the local agency who voted on the agreement.
  - (2) (A) Upon approval of an agreement pursuant to paragraph (1), the Commission shall be the civil prosecutor responsible for the civil enforcement of that the local campaign finance ordinance of the local agency in accordance with this title.
    - (2) (A)

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- 21 (B) As the civil prosecutor of the County of Orange's local 22 agency's campaign finance ordinance, the Commission may do 23 all of the following with respect to the local campaign finance 24 ordinance:
- 25 (i) Provide advice.
- 26 (ii) Investigate possible violations.

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- (iii) Bring administrative actions in accordance with this title and Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2.
  - (iv) Bring civil actions.

5 <del>(B)</del>

(C) The Commission shall not be required to obtain authorization from the *city or* district attorney of the County of Orange local agency to bring an administrative or civil action pursuant to subparagraph (A). (B).

<del>(b)</del>

- (c) A local campaign finance ordinance of the County of Orange local agency enforced by the Commission pursuant to this section shall comply with this title.
  - (c) The Board of Supervisors of the County of Orange
- (d) The governing body of the local agency shall consult with the Commission prior to adopting and amending any local campaign finance ordinance that is subsequently enforced by the Commission pursuant to this section.

<del>(d)</del>

- (e) (1) The Board of Supervisors of the County of Orange The governing body of the local agency and the Commission may enter into any agreements necessary and appropriate to carry out the provisions of this section, including agreements pertaining to any necessary reimbursement of state costs with county funds for costs incurred by the Commission in administering, implementing, or enforcing a local campaign finance ordinance pursuant to this section.
- (2) An agreement entered into pursuant to this subdivision shall not contain any form of a cancellation fee, a liquidated damages provision, or other financial disincentive to the exercise of the right to terminate the agreement pursuant to subdivision—(e), (f), except that the Commission may require the Board of Supervisors of the County of Orange governing body of the local agency to pay the Commission for services rendered and any other expenditures reasonably made by the Commission in anticipation of services to be rendered pursuant to the agreement in the event that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Orange governing body of the local agency terminates the agreement.
- (e) The Board of Supervisors of the County of Orange or the Commission

AB 910 —4—

(f) The governing body of the local agency may, at any time, by ordinance or resolution, terminate any—an agreement made pursuant to this section for the Commission to administer, implement, or enforce a local campaign finance ordinance or any provision thereof.

<del>(f)</del>

- (g) If an agreement is entered into pursuant to this section, the Commission shall report to the Legislature regarding the performance of that agreement on or before January 1, 2019, and shall submit that report in compliance with Section 9795. The Commission shall develop the report in consultation with the County of Orange. local agency. The report shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:
  - (1) The status of the agreement.
- (2) The estimated annual cost savings, if any, for the County of Orange. local agency.
- (3) A summary of relevant annual performance metrics, including measures of utilization, enforcement, and customer satisfaction.
- (4) Any public comments submitted to the Commission or the County of Orange *local agency* relative to the operation of the agreement.
  - (5) Any legislative recommendations.

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- (h) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2020, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2020, deletes or extends that date.
- SEC. 2. The Legislature finds and declares that a special law is necessary and that a general law cannot be made applicable within the meaning of Section 16 of Article IV of the California Constitution because of the necessity to ensure the integrity of the electoral process while reducing corruption, and the appearance of corruption, in the County of Orange.

34 SEC. 3.

35 SEC. 2. The Legislature finds and declares that this bill furthers 36 the purposes of the Political Reform Act of 1974 within the 37 meaning of subdivision (a) of Section 81012 of the Government 38 Code.

# AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 26, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

# **ASSEMBLY BILL**

No. 1083

## **Introduced by Assembly Member Eggman**

February 27, 2015

An act to amend Section 83123.5 add and repeal Section 83123.6 of the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1083, as amended, Eggman. Political Reform Act of 1974: local campaign reform. *enforcement*.

The Political Reform Act of 1974 establishes the Fair Political Practices Commission (Commission), which has the primary responsibility for the impartial, effective administration and implementation of the act. The act authorizes, Existing law authorizes the Fair Political Practices Commission, upon mutual agreement between the Commission and the Board of Supervisors of the County of San-Bernardino (board), the Commission to assume Bernardino, to have primary responsibility for the impartial, effective administration, implementation, and enforcement of a local campaign finance reform ordinance passed by the board. Under the act, the Commission may be the civil prosecutor responsible for civil enforcement of that local campaign finance reform ordinance. of the County of San Bernardino, as specified.

This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to this provision of law.

This bill would authorize the Commission and the City Council of the City of Stockton to also enter into such an agreement, as specified. The bill would require, if an agreement is entered into, that the Commission

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report specified information to the Legislature regarding the performance of that agreement on or before January 1, 2019. The bill would repeal its provisions on January 1, 2020.

This bill would make legislative findings and declarations as to the necessity of a special statute for the City of Stockton.

The Political Reform Act of 1974, an initiative measure, provides that the Legislature may amend the act to further the act's purposes upon a  $^{2}$ /<sub>3</sub> vote of each house and compliance with specified procedural requirements.

This bill would declare that it furthers the purposes of the act.

Vote: majority-<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub>. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no-yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 83123.6 is added to the Government Code, 2 to read:
- to read:
   83123.6. (a) Upon mutual agreement between the Commission
   and the City Council of the City of Stockton, the Commission is
- 5 authorized to assume primary responsibility for the impartial,
- 6 effective administration, implementation, and enforcement of a
- 7 local campaign finance reform ordinance passed by the City
- 8 Council of the City of Stockton. The Commission is authorized to
- 9 be the civil prosecutor responsible for the civil enforcement of that
- 10 local campaign finance reform ordinance in accordance with this
- 11 title. As the civil prosecutor of the City of Stockton's local 12 campaign finance reform ordinance, the Commission may do both
- 12 campaign finance reform ordinance, the Commission may do both13 of the following:
- 14 (1) Investigate possible violations of the local campaign finance 15 reform ordinance.
  - (2) Bring administrative actions in accordance with this title and Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2.
- 19 (b) Any local campaign finance reform ordinance of the City 20 of Stockton enforced by the Commission pursuant to this section 21 shall comply with this title.
- (c) The City Council of the City of Stockton shall consult with
   the Commission before adopting and amending any local campaign
- 24 finance reform ordinance that is subsequently enforced by the
- 25 Commission pursuant to this section.

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(d) (1) The City Council of the City of Stockton and the Commission may enter into any agreements necessary and appropriate to carry out the provisions of this section, including agreements pertaining to any necessary reimbursement of state costs with city funds for costs incurred by the Commission in administering, implementing, or enforcing a local campaign finance reform ordinance pursuant to this section.

- (2) An agreement entered into pursuant to this subdivision shall not contain any form of a cancellation fee, a liquidated damages provision, or other financial disincentive to the exercise of the right to terminate the agreement pursuant to subdivision (e), except that the Commission may require the City Council of the City of Stockton to pay the Commission for services rendered and any other expenditures reasonably made by the Commission in anticipation of services to be rendered pursuant to the agreement if the City Council of the City of Stockton terminates the agreement.
- (e) The City Council of the City of Stockton or the Commission may, at any time, by ordinance or resolution, terminate any agreement made pursuant to this section for the Commission to administer, implement, or enforce a local campaign finance reform ordinance or any provision thereof.
- (f) If an agreement is entered into pursuant to this section, the Commission shall report to the Legislature regarding the performance of that agreement on or before January 1, 2019, and shall submit that report in compliance with Section 9795. The Commission shall develop the report in consultation with the City Council of the City of Stockton. The report shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:
- (1) The status of the agreement.

- 30 (2) The estimated annual cost savings, if any, for the City of Stockton.
  - (3) A summary of relevant annual performance metrics, including measures of utilization, enforcement, and customer satisfaction.
  - (4) Public comments submitted to the Commission or the City of Stockton relative to the operation of the agreement.
    - (5) Legislative recommendations.
  - (g) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2020, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2020, deletes or extends that date.

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SEC. 2. The Legislature finds and declares that a special law is necessary and that a general law cannot be made applicable within the meaning of Section 16 of Article IV of the California Constitution because of the necessity to avoid an appearance of corruption in the City of Stockton's electoral process. The proposed local campaign finance reform ordinance is intended to make it more difficult for candidates and influential individuals and entities to engage in quid pro quo corruption, make the financing of campaigns for elective city offices more transparent, and to make more information, especially financial information, regarding candidates and their supporters available to voters. Enforcement of the local campaign finance reform ordinance by the Commission is needed to ensure the integrity of the ordinance.

SEC. 3. The Legislature finds and declares that this bill furthers the purposes of the Political Reform Act of 1974 within the meaning of subdivision (a) of Section 81012 of the Government Code.

SECTION 1. Section 83123.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

83123.5. (a) Upon mutual agreement between the Commission and the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Bernardino, the Commission may assume primary responsibility for the impartial, effective administration, implementation, and enforcement of a local campaign finance reform ordinance passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Bernardino. The Commission may be the civil prosecutor responsible for the civil enforcement of that local campaign finance reform ordinance in accordance with this title. As the civil prosecutor of the County of San Bernardino's local campaign finance reform ordinance, the Commission may do both of the following:

- (1) Investigate possible violations of the local campaign finance reform ordinance.
- (2) Bring administrative actions in accordance with this title and Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2.
- (b) Any local campaign finance reform ordinance of the County of San Bernardino enforced by the Commission pursuant to this section shall comply with this title.
- (c) The Board of Supervisors of the County of San Bernardino shall consult with the Commission prior to adopting and amending

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any local campaign finance reform ordinance that is subsequently enforced by the Commission pursuant to this section.

- (d) (1) The Board of Supervisors of the County of San Bernardino and the Commission may enter into any agreements necessary and appropriate to carry out the provisions of this section, including agreements pertaining to any necessary reimbursement of state costs with county funds for costs incurred by the Commission in administering, implementing, or enforcing a local eampaign finance reform ordinance pursuant to this section.
- (2) An agreement entered into pursuant to this subdivision shall not contain any form of a cancellation fee, a liquidated damages provision, or other financial disincentive to the exercise of the right to terminate the agreement pursuant to subdivision (e), except that the Commission may require the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Bernardino to pay the Commission for services rendered and any other expenditures reasonably made by the Commission in anticipation of services to be rendered pursuant to the agreement in the event that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Bernardino terminates the agreement.
- (e) The Board of Supervisors of the County of San Bernardino or the Commission may, at any time, by ordinance or resolution, terminate any agreement made pursuant to this section for the Commission to administer, implement, or enforce a local campaign finance reform ordinance or any provision thereof.
- (f) If an agreement is entered into pursuant to this section, the Commission shall report to the Legislature regarding the performance of that agreement on or before January 1, 2017, and shall submit that report in compliance with Section 9795. The Commission shall develop the report in consultation with the County of San Bernardino. The report shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:
  - (1) The status of the agreement.
- (2) The estimated annual cost savings, if any, for the County of San Bernardino.
- (3) A summary of relevant annual performance metrics, including measures of utilization, enforcement, and customer satisfaction
- 38 (4) Any public comments submitted to the Commission or the 39 County of San Bernardino relative to the operation of the 40 agreement.

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- (5) Any legislative recommendations.
  (g) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2018, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that 3
- is enacted before January 1, 2018, deletes or extends that date.

#### AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 7, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

## ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1200

## **Introduced by Assembly Member Gordon**

February 27, 2015

An act to amend Section 82002 of the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1200, as amended, Gordon. Political Reform Act of 1974: lobbying: procurement contracts.

Existing provisions of the Political Reform Act of 1974 regulate the activities of lobbyists, lobbying firms, and lobbyist employers, as defined, in connection with attempts to influence legislative and administrative action by legislative and other state officials, including requirements that lobbyists, lobbying firms, and lobbyist employers register and file periodic reports with the Secretary of State. For purposes of these provisions, "administrative action" is defined to include the proposal, drafting, development, consideration, amendment, enactment, or defeat by any state agency of any rule, regulation, or other action in any ratemaking proceeding or any quasi-legislative proceeding.

This bill would additionally define the term "administrative action" to include the awarding of specified statewide contracts by the Office of Procurement in the Department of General Services, governmental procurement, which would be defined to include various actions regarding procurement contracts, thereby making the above-described lobbying requirements applicable to actions that attempt to influence those statewide contracts. governmental procurement.

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Because a willful violation of the act's provisions is punishable as a misdemeanor, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

The Political Reform Act of 1974, an initiative measure, provides that the Legislature may amend the act to further the act's purposes upon a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote of each house and compliance with specified procedural requirements.

This bill would declare that it furthers the purposes of the act.

Vote: <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub>. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 82002 of the Government Code is 2 amended to read:
- 3 82002. (a) "Administrative action" means any of the following:
- 4 (1) The proposal, drafting, development, consideration, amendment, enactment, or defeat by any state agency of any rule, regulation, or other action in any ratemaking proceeding or any quasi-legislative proceeding, which shall include any proceeding governed by Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2.
  - (2) With regard only to placement agents, the decision by any state agency to enter into a contract to invest state public retirement system assets on behalf of a state public retirement system.
    - (3) Proceedings involving the awarding of statewide contracts.
    - (3) Governmental procurement.

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- (b) "Ratemaking proceeding" means, for—the purposes of a proceeding before the Public Utilities Commission, any proceeding in which it is reasonably foreseeable that a rate will be established, including, but not limited to, general rate cases, performance-based ratemaking, and other ratesetting mechanisms.
- (c) "Quasi-legislative proceeding" means, for purposes of a proceeding before the Public Utilities Commission, any proceeding that involves consideration of the establishment of a policy that will apply generally to a group or class of persons, including, but

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not limited to, rulemakings and investigations that may establish rules affecting an entire industry.

- (d) "Statewide contract" has the same meaning as that term is defined in Section 10290 of the Public Contract Code with respect to a contract subject to Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 10290) of Part 2 of Division 2 of the Public Contract Code that has a total estimated cost in an amount over two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000). Commencing January 1, 2018, this minimum amount shall be adjusted in the manner provided by subdivision (b) of Section 10105 of the Public Contract Code.
  - (d) "Governmental procurement" means any of the following:
- (1) Preparing the terms, specifications, bid documents, request for proposals, or evaluation criteria for a procurement contract.
  - (2) Soliciting for a procurement contract.
  - (3) Evaluating a procurement contract.

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- (4) Awarding, approving, denying, or disapproving a procurement contract.
- (5) Approving or denying an assignment, amendment, other than an amendment authorized and payable under the terms of a procurement contract as the procurement contract was finally awarded or approved, renewal, or extension of a procurement contract, or any other material change in a procurement contract resulting in financial benefit to the offeror.
- SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution.
- 33 SEC. 3. The Legislature finds and declares that this bill furthers 34 the purposes of the Political Reform Act of 1974 within the meaning of subdivision (a) of Section 81012 of the Government 36 Code.

## **Introduced by Assembly Member Grove**

February 27, 2015

An act to amend Section 82013 of the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1413, as introduced, Grove. Recipient committee: threshold qualifications.

Existing law defines a "committee" under the Political Reform Act of 1974 by reference to amounts of moneys received in contributions, made in independent expenditures, or made in contributions by a person or persons on an annual basis.

This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to this provision.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:* 

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 82013 of the Government Code is 2 amended to read:
- 82013. "Committee" means any person or combination of persons who directly or indirectly does any of the following:
- 5 (a) Receives contributions totaling one thousand dollars (\$1,000) 6 or more in a calendar year.
- (b) Makes independent expenditures totaling one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more in a calendar year; or.

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- 1 (c) Makes contributions totaling ten thousand dollars (\$10,000)
- 2 or more in a calendar year to, or at the behest of, candidates or
- 3 committees.
- 4 A person or combination of persons that becomes a committee
- 5 shall retain its status as a committee until such time as that status
- 6 is terminated pursuant to Section 84214.

#### AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 7, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

## **ASSEMBLY BILL**

No. 1494

# Introduced by Assembly Member Levine

(Coauthors: Senators Allen and McGuire)

February 27, 2015

An act to amend Section 85500 of, and to add Section 12179.2 to the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1494, as amended, Levine. Political Reform Act of 1974: independent expenditure tax.

Existing law designates the Secretary of State as the chief elections officer of the state and requires him or her to see that elections are efficiently conducted and that state election laws are enforced. Existing law also authorizes the Secretary of State in certain circumstances to assist the county elections officer in discharging his or her duties.

The Political Reform Act of 1974 provides for the comprehensive regulation of campaign financing, including requiring the filing of reports of contributions and expenditures. Among its provisions, the act requires a committee that makes an independent expenditure, as defined, of \$1,000 or more during an election cycle in connection with a candidate for elective state office or a state ballot measure to disclose that expenditure by filing a report online or electronically with the Secretary of State.

This bill would require a committee subject to the independent expenditure disclosure requirement to pay a tax at the rate of—an undetermined percentage 10% of the amount of each independent expenditure reported to the Secretary of State within 5 days of filing

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the report. The bill would require the Secretary of State to establish a fund with the tax revenues and allocate those funds to the Fair Political Practices Commission and local elections offices for the purpose of increasing transparency in political campaigns, civic engagement, and voter registration and turnout.

Existing law makes a willful violation of the Political Reform Act of 1974 a misdemeanor and subject offenders to criminal penalties.

The bill would impose a state-mandated local program by creating additional crimes.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

The Political Reform Act of 1974, an initiative measure, provides that the Legislature may amend the act to further the act's purposes upon a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote of each house and compliance with specified procedural requirements.

This bill would declare that it furthers the purposes of the act.

Vote: <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub>. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 12179.2 is added to the Government 2 Code, to read:
- Code, to read:
  12179.2. (a) The Secretary of State shall establish a fund for
- 4 the purpose of increasing transparency in political campaigns, civic
- 5 engagement, and voter registration and turnout and deposit
- 6 revenues received pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 85500
- 7 into the fund. Upon appropriation by the Legislature, the Secretary
- 8 of State shall allocate these funds to the Fair Political Practices
- 9 Commission for the purpose of increasing transparency in political campaigns and to local elections offices, through a competitive
  - campaigns and to local elections offices, through a competitive grant program, to increase voter registration and turnout.
    - (b) Notwithstanding Section 10231.5, the Secretary of State shall report to the Legislature and to the Department of Finance by March 31 of each year on the allocation and use of fund moneys
- 15 specified in subdivision (a). The Secretary of State shall also post
- 16 this information on his or her Internet Web site.

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SEC. 2. Section 85500 of the Government Code is amended to read:

- 85500. (a) In addition to any other report required by this title, a committee, including a political party committee, that is required to file reports pursuant to Section 84605 and that makes independent expenditures of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more during an election cycle in connection with a candidate for elective state office or state ballot measure, shall file online or electronically a report with the Secretary of State disclosing the making of the independent expenditure. This report shall disclose the same information required by subdivision (b) of Section 84204 and shall be filed within 24 hours of the time the independent expenditure is made.
- (b) An expenditure shall not be considered independent, and shall be treated as a contribution from the person making the expenditure to the candidate on whose behalf, or for whose benefit, the expenditure is made, if the expenditure is made under any of the following circumstances:
- (1) The expenditure is made with the cooperation of, or in consultation with, the candidate on whose behalf, or for whose benefit, the expenditure is made, or any controlled committee or any agent of the candidate.
- (2) The expenditure is made in concert with, or at the request or suggestion of, the candidate on whose behalf, or for whose benefit, the expenditure is made, or any controlled committee or any agent of the candidate.
- (3) The expenditure is made under any arrangement, coordination, or direction with respect to the candidate or the candidate's agent and the person making the expenditure.
- (c) A committee subject to this section shall pay a tax at the rate of \_\_\_\_ percent (\_\_ %) 10 percent of the amount of each independent expenditure reported pursuant to subdivision (a) to the Secretary of State within 5 days of the filing of the report pursuant to subdivision (a).
- SEC. 3. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of

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- 1 the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within
- 2 the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California
- 3 Constitution.
- 4 SEC. 4. The Legislature finds and declares that this bill furthers
- 5 the purposes of the Political Reform Act of 1974 within the
- 6 meaning of subdivision (a) of Section 81012 of the Government
- 7 Code.

## **Introduced by Senator Mendoza**

February 23, 2015

An act to amend, repeal, and add Section 1091.5 of, and to add Section 1091.7 to, the Government Code, relating to public officers.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 330, as introduced, Mendoza. Public officers: contracts: financial interest.

(1) Existing law prohibits Members of the Legislature, and state, county, district, judicial district, and city officers or employees from being financially interested in a contract, as specified, made by them in their official capacity or by any body or board of which they are members, subject to specified exceptions.

This bill would, on and after January 1, 2017, and notwithstanding any other law, expand these prohibitions to deem that a public officer who is an elected member of any state or local body, board, or commission has a prohibited financial interest in a contract pursuant to these provisions, if that public officer's spouse, child, parent, sibling, or the spouse of the child, parent, or sibling has a financial interest in any contract made by that public officer in his or her official capacity, or by any body, board, or commission of which that public officer is a member.

(2) Existing law imposes a criminal penalty for every officer or person who willfully violates the prohibitions against making or being financially interested in contracts, as specified.

By expanding these prohibitions, this bill would create a new crime, and thus, would impose a state-mandated local program.

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(3) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 1091.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

1091.5. (a) An officer or employee shall not be deemed to be interested in a contract if his or her interest is any of the following:

- (1) The ownership of less than 3 percent of the shares of a corporation for profit, provided that the total annual income to him or her from dividends, including the value of stock dividends, from the corporation does not exceed 5 percent of his or her total annual income, and any other payments made to him or her by the corporation do not exceed 5 percent of his or her total annual income.
- (2) That of an officer in being reimbursed for his or her actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official duties
- (3) That of a recipient of public services generally provided by the public body or board of which he or she is a member, on the same terms and conditions as if he or she were not a member of the body or board.
- (4) That of a landlord or tenant of the contracting party if the contracting party is the federal government or any federal department or agency, this state or an adjoining state, any department or agency of this state or an adjoining state, any county or city of this state or an adjoining state, or any public corporation or special, judicial, or other public district of this state or an adjoining state unless the subject matter of the contract is the property in which the officer or employee has the interest as landlord or tenant in which event his or her interest shall be deemed a remote interest within the meaning of, and subject to, the provisions of Section 1091.

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(5) That of a tenant in a public housing authority created pursuant to Part 2 (commencing with Section 34200) of Division 24 of the Health and Safety Code in which he or she serves as a member of the board of commissioners of the authority or of a community development commission created pursuant to Part 1.7 (commencing with Section 34100) of Division 24 of the Health and Safety Code.

- (6) That of a spouse of an officer or employee of a public agency in his or her spouse's employment or officeholding if his or her spouse's employment or officeholding has existed for at least one year prior to his or her election or appointment.
- (7) That of a nonsalaried member of a nonprofit corporation, provided that this interest is disclosed to the body or board at the time of the first consideration of the contract, and provided further that this interest is noted in its official records.
- (8) That of a noncompensated officer of a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation, which, as one of its primary purposes, supports the functions of the body or board or to which the body or board has a legal obligation to give particular consideration, and provided further that this interest is noted in its official records.

For purposes of this paragraph, an officer is "noncompensated" even though he or she receives reimbursement from the nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation for necessary travel and other actual expenses incurred in performing the duties of his or her office.

- (9) That of a person receiving salary, per diem, or reimbursement for expenses from a government entity, unless the contract directly involves the department of the government entity that employs the officer or employee, provided that the interest is disclosed to the body or board at the time of consideration of the contract, and provided further that the interest is noted in its official record.
- (10) That of an attorney of the contracting party or that of an owner, officer, employee, or agent of a firm which renders, or has rendered, service to the contracting party in the capacity of stockbroker, insurance agent, insurance broker, real estate agent, or real estate broker, if these individuals have not received and will not receive remuneration, consideration, or a commission as a result of the contract and if these individuals have an ownership interest of less than 10 percent in the law practice or firm, stock brokerage firm, insurance firm, or real estate firm.

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(11) Except as provided in subdivision (b), that of an officer or employee of, or a person having less than a 10-percent ownership interest in, a bank, bank holding company, or savings and loan association with which a party to the contract has a relationship of borrower, depositor, debtor, or creditor.

- (12) That of (A) a bona fide nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation having among its primary purposes the conservation, preservation, or restoration of park and natural lands or historical resources for public benefit, which corporation enters into an agreement with a public agency to provide services related to park and natural lands or historical resources and which services are found by the public agency, prior to entering into the agreement or as part of the agreement, to be necessary to the public interest to plan for, acquire, protect, conserve, improve, or restore park and natural lands or historical resources for public purposes and (B) any officer, director, or employee acting pursuant to the agreement on behalf of the nonprofit corporation. For purposes of this paragraph, "agreement" includes contracts and grants, and "park," "natural lands," and "historical resources" shall have the meanings set forth in subdivisions (d), (g), and (i) of Section 5902 of the Public Resources Code. Services to be provided to the public agency may include those studies and related services, acquisitions of property and property interests, and any activities related to those studies and acquisitions necessary for the conservation, preservation, improvement, or restoration of park and natural lands or historical resources.
- (13) That of an officer, employee, or member of the Board of Directors of the California Housing Finance Agency with respect to a loan product or programs if the officer, employee, or member participated in the planning, discussions, development, or approval of the loan product or program and both of the following two conditions exist:
- (A) The loan product or program is or may be originated by any lender approved by the agency.
- (B) The loan product or program is generally available to qualifying borrowers on terms and conditions that are substantially the same for all qualifying borrowers at the time the loan is made.
- (14) That of a party to a contract for public services entered into by a special district that requires a person to be a landowner or a representative of a landowner to serve on the board of which the

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officer or employee is a member, on the same terms and conditions as if he or she were not a member of the body or board. For purposes of this paragraph, "public services" includes the powers and purposes generally provided pursuant to provisions of the Water Code relating to irrigation districts, California water districts, water storage districts, or reclamation districts.

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- (b) An officer or employee shall not be deemed to be interested in a contract made pursuant to competitive bidding under a procedure established by law if his or her sole interest is that of an officer, director, or employee of a bank or savings and loan association with which a party to the contract has the relationship of borrower or depositor, debtor or creditor.
- (c) This section shall be repealed on January 1, 2017.
- SEC. 2. Section 1091.5 is added to the Government Code, to read:
- 1091.5. (a) An officer or employee shall not be deemed to be interested in a contract if his or her interest is any of the following:
- (1) The ownership of less than 3 percent of the shares of a corporation for profit, provided that the total annual income to him or her from dividends, including the value of stock dividends, from the corporation does not exceed 5 percent of his or her total annual income, and any other payments made to him or her by the corporation do not exceed 5 percent of his or her total annual income.
- (2) That of an officer in being reimbursed for his or her actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official duties
- (3) That of a recipient of public services generally provided by the public body or board of which he or she is a member, on the same terms and conditions as if he or she were not a member of the body or board.
- (4) That of a landlord or tenant of the contracting party if the contracting party is the federal government or any federal department or agency, this state or an adjoining state, any department or agency of this state or an adjoining state, any county or city of this state or an adjoining state, or any public corporation or special, judicial, or other public district of this state or an adjoining state unless the subject matter of the contract is the property in which the officer or employee has the interest as landlord or tenant in which event his or her interest shall be deemed

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a remote interest within the meaning of, and subject to, the provisions of Section 1091.

- (5) That of a tenant in a public housing authority created pursuant to Part 2 (commencing with Section 34200) of Division 24 of the Health and Safety Code in which he or she serves as a member of the board of commissioners of the authority or of a community development commission created pursuant to Part 1.7 (commencing with Section 34100) of Division 24 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (6) Except as provided in Section 1091.7, that of a spouse of an officer or employee of a public agency in his or her spouse's employment or officeholding if his or her spouse's employment or officeholding has existed for at least one year prior to his or her election or appointment.
- (7) That of a nonsalaried member of a nonprofit corporation, provided that this interest is disclosed to the body or board at the time of the first consideration of the contract, and provided further that this interest is noted in its official records.
- (8) That of a noncompensated officer of a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation, which, as one of its primary purposes, supports the functions of the body or board or to which the body or board has a legal obligation to give particular consideration, and provided further that this interest is noted in its official records.

For purposes of this paragraph, an officer is "noncompensated" even though he or she receives reimbursement from the nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation for necessary travel and other actual expenses incurred in performing the duties of his or her office.

- (9) That of a person receiving salary, per diem, or reimbursement for expenses from a government entity, unless the contract directly involves the department of the government entity that employs the officer or employee, provided that the interest is disclosed to the body or board at the time of consideration of the contract, and provided further that the interest is noted in its official record.
- (10) That of an attorney of the contracting party or that of an owner, officer, employee, or agent of a firm which renders, or has rendered, service to the contracting party in the capacity of stockbroker, insurance agent, insurance broker, real estate agent, or real estate broker, if these individuals have not received and will not receive remuneration, consideration, or a commission as a result of the contract and if these individuals have an ownership

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interest of less than 10 percent in the law practice or firm, stock brokerage firm, insurance firm, or real estate firm.

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- (11) Except as provided in subdivision (b), that of an officer or employee of, or a person having less than a 10-percent ownership interest in, a bank, bank holding company, or savings and loan association with which a party to the contract has a relationship of borrower, depositor, debtor, or creditor.
- (12) That of (A) a bona fide nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation having among its primary purposes the conservation, preservation, or restoration of park and natural lands or historical resources for public benefit, which corporation enters into an agreement with a public agency to provide services related to park and natural lands or historical resources and which services are found by the public agency, prior to entering into the agreement or as part of the agreement, to be necessary to the public interest to plan for, acquire, protect, conserve, improve, or restore park and natural lands or historical resources for public purposes and (B) any officer, director, or employee acting pursuant to the agreement on behalf of the nonprofit corporation. For purposes of this paragraph, "agreement" includes contracts and grants, and "park," "natural lands," and "historical resources" shall have the meanings set forth in subdivisions (d), (g), and (i) of Section 5902 of the Public Resources Code. Services to be provided to the public agency may include those studies and related services, acquisitions of property and property interests, and any activities related to those studies and acquisitions necessary for the conservation, preservation, improvement, or restoration of park and natural lands or historical resources.
- (13) That of an officer, employee, or member of the Board of Directors of the California Housing Finance Agency with respect to a loan product or programs if the officer, employee, or member participated in the planning, discussions, development, or approval of the loan product or program and both of the following two conditions exist:
- (A) The loan product or program is or may be originated by any lender approved by the agency.
- (B) The loan product or program is generally available to qualifying borrowers on terms and conditions that are substantially the same for all qualifying borrowers at the time the loan is made.

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(14) That of a party to a contract for public services entered into by a special district that requires a person to be a landowner or a representative of a landowner to serve on the board of which the officer or employee is a member, on the same terms and conditions as if he or she were not a member of the body or board. For purposes of this paragraph, "public services" includes the powers and purposes generally provided pursuant to provisions of the Water Code relating to irrigation districts, California water districts, water storage districts, or reclamation districts.

- (b) An officer or employee shall not be deemed to be interested in a contract made pursuant to competitive bidding under a procedure established by law if his or her sole interest is that of an officer, director, or employee of a bank or savings and loan association with which a party to the contract has the relationship of borrower or depositor, debtor or creditor.
- (c) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2017. SEC. 3. Section 1091.7 is added to the Government Code, to read:
- 1091.7. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, a public officer who is an elected member of any state or local body, board, or commission shall be deemed to have a financial interest in a contract pursuant to this article, if that public officer's spouse, child, parent, sibling, or the spouse of the child, parent, or sibling has a financial interest in any contract made by that public officer in his or her official capacity, or by any body, board, or commission of which that public officer is a member.
- (b) (1) The determination of a financial interest with respect to any person described in this section shall be made according to the same standards as those set forth in this article with respect to the public officer, as applicable.
- (2) For purposes of determining a financial interest pursuant to this section, an individual lobbying on behalf of a contracting party shall be construed to be an agent of that contracting party.
  - (c) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2017.
- SEC. 4. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of

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- the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.
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## **Introduced by Senator Bates**

February 27, 2015

An act to amend Section 1091.5 of the Government Code, relating to public officers.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 704, as introduced, Bates. Public officers and employees: conflict of interest.

The Political Reform Act of 1974 establishes the Fair Political Practices Commission as the agency responsible for enforcing the act. The act authorizes the Commission to issue an opinion or advice to a person with respect to that person's duties under the act, as specified. The act authorizes the Commission to seek and impose administrative and civil penalties against persons who violate the act, as prescribed.

Existing law prohibits Members of the Legislature, state, county, district, judicial district, and city officers or employees from being financially interested in any contract made by them in their official capacity, or by any body or board of which they are members. Existing law identifies certain remote interests that are not subject to this prohibition and other situations in which an official is not deemed to be financially interested in a contract. Existing law makes a willful violation of this prohibition a crime.

Existing law also makes a person who violates the prohibition against being financially interested in a contract, or who causes another person to violate the prohibition, subject to administrative and civil fines, as specified. Existing law authorizes the Commission to enforce these violations by bringing an administrative or civil action against a person who is subject to the prohibition, as specified, upon written authorization from the district attorney of the county in which the alleged violation

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occurred. Existing law authorizes a person who is subject to those prohibitions to request an opinion or advice from the Commission with respect to those prohibitions, as specified.

This bill would establish an additional situation in which an official is not financially interested in a contract as applied to an owner or partner of a firm serving on an advisory board or commission to the contracting agency if the owner or partner recuses himself or herself from all participation in reviewing a project that results from a contract between the firm and the contracting agency.

The Political Reform Act of 1974, an initiative measure, provides that the Legislature may amend the act to further the act's purposes upon a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote of each house and compliance with specified procedural requirements.

This bill would declare that it furthers the purposes of the act.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 1091.5 of the Government Code is 2 amended to read:
  - 1091.5. (a) An officer or employee shall not be deemed to be interested in a contract if his or her interest is any of the following:
  - (1) The ownership of less than 3 percent of the shares of a corporation for profit, provided that the total annual income to him or her from dividends, including the value of stock dividends, from the corporation does not exceed 5 percent of his or her total annual income, and any other payments made to him or her by the corporation do not exceed 5 percent of his or her total annual income.
  - (2) That of an officer in being reimbursed for his or her actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official duties.
- 15 (3) That of a recipient of public services generally provided by 16 the public body or board of which he or she is a member, on the 17 same terms and conditions as if he or she were not a member of 18 the body or board.
- 19 (4) That of a landlord or tenant of the contracting party if the 20 contracting party is the federal government or any federal 21 department or agency, this state or an adjoining state, any

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department or agency of this state or an adjoining state, any county or city of this state or an adjoining state, or any public corporation or special, judicial, or other public district of this state or an adjoining state unless the subject matter of the contract is the property in which the officer or employee has the interest as landlord or tenant in which event his or her interest shall be deemed a remote interest within the meaning of, and subject to, the provisions of Section 1091.

- (5) That of a tenant in a public housing authority created pursuant to Part 2 (commencing with Section 34200) of Division 24 of the Health and Safety Code in which he or she serves as a member of the board of commissioners of the authority or of a community development commission created pursuant to Part 1.7 (commencing with Section 34100) of Division 24 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (6) That of a spouse of an officer or employee of a public agency in his or her spouse's employment or officeholding if his or her spouse's employment or officeholding has existed for at least one year prior to his or her election or appointment.
- (7) That of a nonsalaried member of a nonprofit corporation, provided that this interest is disclosed to the body or board at the time of the first consideration of the contract, and provided further that this interest is noted in its official records.
- (8) That of a noncompensated officer of a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation, which, as one of its primary purposes, supports the functions of the body or board or to which the body or board has a legal obligation to give particular consideration, and provided further that this interest is noted in its official records.

For purposes of this paragraph, an officer is "noncompensated" even though he or she receives reimbursement from the nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation for necessary travel and other actual expenses incurred in performing the duties of his or her office.

- (9) That of a person receiving salary, per diem, or reimbursement for expenses from a government entity, unless the contract directly involves the department of the government entity that employs the officer or employee, provided that the interest is disclosed to the body or board at the time of consideration of the contract, and provided further that the interest is noted in its official record.
- (10) That of an attorney of the contracting party or that of an owner, officer, employee, or agent of a firm which renders, or has

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rendered, service to the contracting party in the capacity of stockbroker, insurance agent, insurance broker, real estate agent, or real estate broker, if these individuals have not received and will not receive remuneration, consideration, or a commission as a result of the contract and if these individuals have an ownership interest of less than 10 percent in the law practice or firm, stock brokerage firm, insurance firm, or real estate firm.

- (11) Except as provided in subdivision (b), that of an officer or employee of, or a person having less than a 10-percent ownership interest in, a bank, bank holding company, or savings and loan association with which a party to the contract has a relationship of borrower, depositor, debtor, or creditor.
- (12) That of (A) a bona fide nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation having among its primary purposes the conservation, preservation, or restoration of park and natural lands or historical resources for public benefit, which corporation enters into an agreement with a public agency to provide services related to park and natural lands or historical resources and which services are found by the public agency, prior to entering into the agreement or as part of the agreement, to be necessary to the public interest to plan for, acquire, protect, conserve, improve, or restore park and natural lands or historical resources for public purposes and (B) any officer, director, or employee acting pursuant to the agreement on behalf of the nonprofit corporation. For purposes of this paragraph, "agreement" includes contracts and grants, and "park," "natural lands," and "historical resources" shall have the meanings set forth in subdivisions (d), (g), and (i) of Section 5902 of the Public Resources Code. Services to be provided to the public agency may include those studies and related services, acquisitions of property and property interests, and any activities related to those studies and acquisitions necessary for the conservation, preservation, improvement, or restoration of park and natural lands or historical resources.
- (13) That of an officer, employee, or member of the Board of Directors of the California Housing Finance Agency with respect to a loan product or programs if the officer, employee, or member participated in the planning, discussions, development, or approval of the loan product or program and both of the following two conditions exist:

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(A) The loan product or program is or may be originated by any lender approved by the agency.

- (B) The loan product or program is generally available to qualifying borrowers on terms and conditions that are substantially the same for all qualifying borrowers at the time the loan is made.
- (14) That of a party to a contract for public services entered into by a special district that requires a person to be a landowner or a representative of a landowner to serve on the board of which the officer or employee is a member, on the same terms and conditions as if he or she were not a member of the body or board. For purposes of this paragraph, "public services" includes the powers and purposes generally provided pursuant to provisions of the Water Code relating to irrigation districts, California water districts, water storage districts, or reclamation districts.
- (15) That of an owner or partner of a firm serving on an advisory board or commission to the contracting agency if the owner or partner recuses himself or herself from all participation in reviewing a project that results from a contract between the firm and the contracting agency.
- (b) An officer or employee shall not be deemed to be interested in a contract made pursuant to competitive bidding under a procedure established by law if his or her sole interest is that of an officer, director, or employee of a bank or savings and loan association with which a party to the contract has the relationship of borrower or depositor, debtor or creditor.
- SEC. 2. The Legislature finds and declares that this bill furthers the purposes of the Political Reform Act of 1974 within the meaning of subdivision (a) of Section 81012 of the Government Code.