

POLITICAL REFORM ACT

2026



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

1102 Q Street • Suite 3050 • Sacramento, CA 95811

POLITICAL REFORM ACT — 2026

Introduction

This 2026 version of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”) is not an official publication of the Government Code. It has been produced for use by the public and staff of the Fair Political Practices Commission. The boldface title before each Government Code Section and the histories following some sections have been added for clarity and are not part of the Act.

Commission regulations implementing the Act are contained in the California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Division 6 (Sections 18104-18998). References to applicable regulations and opinions follow each statute. These references were accurate as of January 1, 2026, but changes may have occurred since then. Thus, the references are provided for convenience only and should not be relied upon.

Opinion summaries appear in Appendix I. In addition, Commission opinions and advice letters are available on Westlaw, LexisNexis, and the FPPC’s website. Appendix II contains citations to enforcement decisions, and Appendix III contains a summary of enforcement decisions. Appendix IV contains Government Code Sections 1090 through 1097.6. AB 1090 (Fong), Chapter 650, Statutes of 2013, authorized the Commission to provide advice to public officials and enforce violations relating to Section 1090, which prohibits specified officials from being financially interested in a contract. Appendix V contains repealed sections of the Political Reform Act. Appendix VI contains the text of sections of the Political Reform Act with future operative dates.

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§ 81000. Title.

This title shall be known and may be cited as the “Political Reform Act of 1974.”

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18200

§ 81001. Findings and Declarations.

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, free from bias caused by their own financial interests or the financial interests of persons who have supported them;

(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 **state voter information guide** mailed to the voters by the state is difficult to read and almost impossible for a layperson to understand; and

(h) Previous laws regulating political practices have suffered from inadequate enforcement by state and local authorities.

History: Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50; **amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 249.**

§ 81002. Purposes of Title.

The people enact this title to accomplish the following purposes:

(a) Receipts and expenditures in election campaigns should be fully and truthfully disclosed in order that the voters may be fully informed and improper practices may be inhibited.

(b) The activities of lobbyists should be regulated and their finances disclosed in order that improper influences will not be directed at public officials.

(c) Assets and income of public officials which may be materially affected by their official actions should be disclosed and in appropriate circumstances the officials should be disqualified from acting in order that conflicts of interest may be avoided.

(d) The state **voter information guide** should be converted into a useful document so that voters will not be entirely dependent on paid advertising for information regarding state measures.

(e) Laws and practices unfairly favoring incumbents should be abolished in order that elections may be conducted more fairly.

(f) Adequate enforcement mechanisms should be provided to public officials and private citizens in order that this title will be vigorously enforced.

History: Amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289; **amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 249.**

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18313.5, 18313.6, 18705

§ 81003. Construction of Title.

This title should be liberally construed to accomplish its purposes.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18705

§ 81004. Reports and Statements; Perjury; Verification.*

(a) All reports and statements filed under this title shall be signed under penalty of perjury and verified by the filer. The verification shall state that the filer has used all reasonable diligence in its preparation, and that to the best of the filer’s knowledge it is true and complete.

(b) A report or statement filed by a committee which qualifies under subdivision (a) of Section 82013 shall be signed and verified by the treasurer, and a report or statement filed by any other person shall be signed and verified by the filer. If the filer is an entity other than an individual,

the report or statement shall be signed and verified by a responsible officer of the entity or by an attorney or a certified public accountant acting as agent for the entity. Every person who signs and verifies any report or statement required to be filed under this title which contains material matter which that person knows to be false is guilty of perjury.

(c) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, a person required to file a report or statement by paper with the Secretary of State may instead file the paper report or statement by email with the Secretary of State, or by other digital means as prescribed by the Secretary of State.

(2) A report or statement filed by email pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be signed using a digital signature that conforms with the requirements of Section 16.5.

(3) A report or statement filed with the Secretary of State by email that meets the requirements in this subdivision is the original report or statement for audit and other legal purposes.

History: Amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 775; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50; amended by Stats. 2022, Ch. 328.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18104, 18115.1, 18316.6, 18400, 18402.2, **18404.3**, 18421.10, 18426.1, 18427, 18539.2, 18757

Opinions: *In re Layton* (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 113
In re Augustine (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 69

*Section 81004 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 81004.5. Reports and Statements; Amendments.

Any report or statement filed pursuant to this title may be amended by the filer at any time. Amending an incorrect or incomplete report or statement may be considered as evidence of good faith.

History: Added by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1161.

§ 81005. Reports and Statements; Filing Deadline on Weekend or Holiday.

(a) If this title requires that a statement or report be filed before or on a specified date or during or within a specified period, and the filing deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or official state holiday, the filing deadline for the statement or report shall be extended to the next regular business day.

(b) This extension does not apply to the following statements or reports:

(1) Contribution reports required by Section 84203, subdivision (b) of Section 84203.3, or Section 85309, or the contributor's notice of a late in-kind contribution required by subdivision (a) of Section 84203.3, when the due date for these types of reports falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or official state holiday immediately before an election.

(2) Independent expenditure reports required by Section 84204 or 85500.

History: Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 312.

§ 81006. Filing Fees Prohibition.

Except as provided in this title, no fee or charge shall be collected by any officer for the filing of any report or statement or for the forms upon which reports or statements are to be prepared.

History: Amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985.

§ 81007. Mailing of Report or Statement.*

When a report or statement or copies thereof required to be filed with any officer under this title have been sent by first-class mail or by any other guaranteed overnight delivery service addressed to the officer, it shall for purposes of any deadline be deemed to have been received by the officer on the date of the deposit in the mail or of receipt by that delivery service. It shall be presumed until the contrary is established that any date stamped by the post office on the envelope or contained on the delivery service receipt containing the report or statement is the date it was deposited in the mail or received by the delivery service. Mail which is not received by the filing officer shall be presumed not to have been sent unless the filer possesses a post office or delivery service receipt establishing the date of deposit and the name and address of the addressee.

History: Amended by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1106; amended by Stats. 1994, Ch. 638; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

*Section 81007 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 81007.5. Faxing of Report or Statement.*

(a) Any report or statement or copies thereof required to be filed with any official under Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 84100) or Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 87100) may be faxed by the applicable deadline, provided that the required originals or paper copies are sent by first-class mail or by any other personal delivery or guaranteed overnight delivery service within 24 hours of the applicable deadline and provided that the total number of pages of each report or statement faxed is no more than 30 pages.

(b) A faxed report or statement shall not be deemed filed if the faxed report or statement is not a true and correct copy of the original or copy of the report or statement personally delivered or sent by first-class mail or guaranteed overnight delivery service pursuant to subdivision (a).

(c) A filing officer who receives a faxed report or statement shall make the report or statement available to the public in the same manner as provided in Section 81008. If the faxed report or statement is requested prior to the receipt of the original or copy of the report or statement by the filing officer, the filing officer shall inform the requester that the faxed report or statement will not be considered a filed report or statement if the requirements of subdivision (b) have not been met by the filer.

History: Added by Stats. 1994, Ch. 638; amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 394.

*Section 81007.5 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 81008. Public Records; Inspection; Reproduction; Time; Charges.*

Every report and statement filed pursuant to this title is a public record open for public inspection and reproduction during regular business hours, commencing as soon as practicable, but in any event not later than the second business day following the day on which it was received. No conditions whatsoever shall be imposed upon persons desiring to inspect or reproduce reports and statements filed under this title, nor shall any information or identification be required from these persons. Copies shall be provided at a charge not to exceed ten cents (\$0.10) per page. In addition, the filing officer may charge a retrieval fee not to exceed five dollars (\$5) per request for copies of reports and statements which are five or more years old. A request for more than one report or statement or report and statement at the same time shall be considered a single request.

History: Amended by Stats. 1979, Ch. 531; amended by Stats. 1988, Ch. 1208; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 478, effective September 10, 2004; amended by Stats. 2013, Ch. 654.

*Section 81008 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 81009. Preservation of Reports and Statements.*

(a) Statements of organization, registration statements, and original campaign statements of persons holding elective state office, candidates for any such office, committees supporting any such officeholder or candidate, and committees supporting or opposing statewide measures, shall be retained by filing officers indefinitely.

(b) Original campaign statements of mayors, city council members, county supervisors, candidates for any of these offices, and committees supporting any officeholder or candidate shall be retained indefinitely, except that original campaign statements of candidates not elected to these offices and of committees supporting candidates not elected to these offices shall be retained by filing officers for a period of not less than five years.

(c) Original campaign statements of all other persons shall be retained by filing officers for a period of not less than seven years.

(d) Original statements of economic interests of persons holding statewide elective office shall be retained by filing officers indefinitely.

(e) Original reports and statements not specified above in this section shall be retained by filing officers for a period of not less than seven years.

(f) Copies of reports or statements shall be retained by the officer with whom they are filed for a period of not less than four years, provided, however, that a filing officer is not required to retain more than one copy of a report or statement.

(g)(1) If an original report or statement or a copy is filed in paper format, the officer with whom it is filed may comply with this section by retaining one of the following available for public inspection:

(A) The original report or statement or copy filed in a paper format.

(B) A copy on microfilm or other space-saving materials.

(C) An electronic copy.

(2) Upon request, the officer shall provide copies of such statements pursuant to Section 81008.

History: Amended by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1106; amended by Stats. 1979, Ch. 531; amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 390, effective July 11, 1984; amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 211.

*Section 81009 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 81009.5. Local Ordinances.

(a) Any local government agency which has enacted, enacts, amends, or repeals an ordinance or other provision of law affecting campaign contributions and expenditures shall file a copy of the action with the commission.

(b) Notwithstanding Section 81013, no local government agency shall enact any ordinance imposing filing requirements additional to or different from those set forth in Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 84100) for elections held in its jurisdiction unless the additional or different filing requirements apply only to the candidates seeking election in that jurisdiction, their controlled committees or committees formed or existing primarily to support or oppose their candidacies, and to committees formed or existing primarily to support or oppose a candidate or to support or oppose the qualification of, or passage of, a local ballot measure which is being voted on only in that jurisdiction, and to city or county general purpose committees active only in that city or county, respectively.

History: Added by Stats. 1979, Ch. 531; amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1456; amended by Stats. 1986, Ch. 542; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 674.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Opinions: *In re Olson* (2001) 15 FPPC Ops. 13

§ 81010. Duties of the Filing Officer.*

With respect to reports and statements filed with a filing officer pursuant to this title, the filing officer shall:

(a) Supply the necessary forms and manuals prescribed by the Commission;

(b) Determine whether required documents have been filed and, if so, whether they conform on their face with the requirements of this title;

(c) Notify promptly all persons and known committees who have failed to file a report or statement in the form and at the time required by this title;

(d) Report apparent violations of this title to the appropriate agencies; and

(e) Compile and maintain a current list of all reports and statements filed with this office.

History: Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18110, 18115, 18115.1, 18115.2, 18732.5

Opinions: *In re Rundstrom* (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 188
In re Layton (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 113

*Section 81010 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 81010.5. Duties of Filing Officers; Effect of Non-Compliance.

A filing officer or filing official's failure to comply with a duty or to provide notice of a filing or disclosure obligation does not affect a person's duty to file statements and reports disclosing information as required by this title or any enforceable conflict of interest code.

History: Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 312.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18115

§ 81011.5. Information on Statewide Petitions.

Any provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, the election precinct of a person signing a statewide petition shall not be required to appear on the petition when it is filed with the county elections official, nor any additional information regarding a signer other than the information required to be written by the signer.

History: Added by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1095; (Identical to former Section 85203, repealed by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1095); amended Stats. 2002, Ch. 221.

§ 81012. Amendment or Repeal of Title.

This title may be amended or repealed by the procedures set forth in this section. If any portion of subdivision (a) is declared invalid, then subdivision (b) shall be the exclusive means of amending or repealing this title.

(a) This title may be amended to further its purposes by statute, passed in each house by rollcall vote entered in the journal, two-thirds of the membership concurring and signed by the Governor, if at least 8 days before passage in each house, or at least 12 days before passage in each house if the previous form of the bill did not amend this title, the bill in its final form has been printed, distributed to the Members of the Legislature, and published on the internet.

(b) This title may be amended or repealed by a statute that becomes effective only when approved by the electors.

History: Amended by Stats. 2023, Ch. 499, effective January 1, 2024; amended by Stats. 1976, Ch. 883, effective September 13, 1976; amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1200; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50; amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 331.

§ 81012.5. Amendment of Title; Email Alerts.

(a) The Legislative Counsel shall, through the information system described in Section 10248, make available to the public the option to sign up to receive an email alert any time any of the following actions occur:

(1) A new bill that would amend this title is introduced.

(2) An existing bill that would amend this title is amended, referred to the floor or committee, voted on, or is otherwise subject to an action triggering a notification by the information system described in Section 10248.

(3) An existing bill that would not amend this title is amended to include provisions that would amend this title.

(b) The email alerts described in subdivision (a) shall be sent in the shortest feasible time, but no later than 9 a.m. the calendar day after the legislative action that is subject to the alert.

(c) All email alerts sent through the information system described in Section 10248 regarding bills that would amend this title shall include the text "Political Reform Act Bill" in the email subject line.

History: Added by Stats. 2023, Ch. 499, effective January 1, 2024.

§ 81013. Imposition of Additional Requirements.

Nothing in this title prevents the Legislature or any other state or local agency from imposing additional requirements on any person if the requirements do not prevent the person from complying with this title. If any act of the Legislature conflicts with the provisions of this title, this title shall prevail.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18312,

Opinions: *In re Alperin* (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 77
In re Miller (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 91

§ 81014. Regulations.

Whenever any reference is made in this title to a federal or state statute and that statute has been or is subsequently repealed or amended, the Commission may promulgate regulations to carry out the intent of this title as nearly as possible.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18312

§ 81015. Severability.

If any provision of this title, or the application of any such provision to any person or circumstances, shall be held invalid, the remainder of this title to the extent it can be given effect, or the application of such provision to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is held invalid, shall not be affected thereby, and to this end the provisions of this title are severable.

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§ 82000. Interpretation of this Title.

Unless the contrary is stated or clearly appears from the context, the definitions set forth in this chapter shall govern the interpretation of this title.

§ 82001. Adjusting an Amount for Cost of Living Changes.

“Adjusting an amount for cost-of-living changes” means adjusting the amount received the previous year by an amount determined at the beginning of each fiscal year by the Director of Finance corresponding to amounts authorized from the salary and price increase items as set forth in the Budget Act and other cost-of-living adjustments on the same basis as those applied routinely to other state agencies.

History: Amended by Stats. 1978, Ch. 199, effective June 6, 1978.

§ 82002. Administrative Action.

(a) “Administrative action” means any of the following:

(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, including 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) Any decision or approval pursuant to Section 1215.2 of the Insurance Code or Section 1399.65 of the Health and Safety Code.

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

History: Amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 491; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 921; amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 668; amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 561; amended by Stats. 2022, Ch. 456.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18202

Opinions: *In re Evans* (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 84
In re Leonard (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 54
In re Nida (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 1
In re Carson (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 46

§ 82003. Agency.

“Agency” means any state agency or local government agency.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18754

§ 82004. Agency Official.

“Agency official” means any member, officer, employee, or consultant of any state agency who as part of that person’s official responsibilities participates in any administrative action in other than a purely clerical, secretarial, or ministerial capacity.

History: Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18249

Opinions: *In re Morrissey* (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 120
In re Morrissey (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 84
In re Wallace (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 118

§ 82004.2 Arrangement for Prospective Employment.

“Arrangement for prospective employment” means an agreement pursuant to which a prospective employer’s offer of employment has been accepted by the prospective employee, including through verbal or written acceptance.

History: Added by Stats. 2025, Ch. 186.

§ 82004.5. Behested Payment.

“Behested payment” means a payment that is made at the behest of a committee, an elected officer, a member of the Public Utilities Commission, or an agent thereof, under any of the following circumstances:

(a) Full and adequate consideration is received from the committee or elected officer.

(b) The payment is made to a different candidate or to a committee not controlled by the behesting candidate.

(c) As to an elected officer, it is clear from the surrounding circumstances that the payment was made for purposes unrelated to the officer’s seeking or holding of elective office. For purposes of this subdivision, a payment is made for purposes related to an elected officer’s seeking or holding of elective office if all or a portion of the payment is used for election-related activities, as defined in Section 82022.5.

The following types of payments are presumed to be for purposes unrelated to an elected officer’s seeking or holding of elective office:

(1) 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.

(2) A payment made by a state, local, or federal governmental agency.

(3) A payment made by a nonprofit organization that is exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(4) A payment made principally for charitable purposes.

(5) A payment made principally for legislative or governmental purposes by a person other than a state, local, or federal governmental agency.

History: Added by Stats. 2017, Ch. 749.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18424, 18424.1, 18424.2

§ 82005. Business Entity.

“Business entity” means any organization or enterprise operated for profit, including but not limited to a proprietorship, partnership, firm, business trust, joint venture, syndicate, corporation or association.

§ 82006. Campaign Statement.*

“Campaign statement” means an itemized report which is prepared on a form prescribed by the Commission and which provides the information required by Chapter 4 of this title.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Opinions: *In re Layton* (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 113

*Section 82006 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix V.

§ 82007. Candidate.

(a) “Candidate” means any of the following:

(1) Anyone who is listed on a ballot or is qualified to have write-in votes cast on their behalf counted by elections officials for nomination or election to any elective office.

(2) Anyone who receives a contribution, makes an expenditure, or gives their consent for another person to receive a contribution or make an expenditure, to bring about the person’s nomination or election to an elective office, even if any of the following apply:

(A) The specific elective office for which the person will seek nomination or election is unknown at the time the contribution is received or the expenditure is made.

(B) The person has not announced the candidacy or filed a declaration of candidacy.

(3) An elected officer, including any elected officer who is the subject of a recall.

(b) Anyone who becomes a candidate retains candidate status until that status is terminated under Section 84214.

(c) “Candidate” does not include any candidate, as defined in Section 30101(2) of Title 52 of the United States Code, for federal office, as to the person’s activities related to seeking nomination or election to that federal office.

History: Amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 312.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18404, 18531.5

Opinions: *In re Johnson* (1989) 12 FPPC Ops. 1
In re Lui (1987) 10 FPPC Ops. 10
In re Juvinal, Stull, Meyers, Republican Central Committee of Orange County, Tuteur (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 110

§ 82008. City.

“City” means a general law or a chartered city.

§ 82009.5. Clerk.

“Clerk” refers to the city or county clerk unless the city council or board of supervisors has designated any other agency to perform the specified function.

§ 82010. Closing Date.

“Closing date” means the date through which any report or statement filed under this title is required to be complete.

§ 82011. Code Reviewing Body.

“Code reviewing body” means all of the following:

(a) The commission, with respect to the conflict of interest code of a state agency other than an agency in the judicial branch of government, or any local government agency with jurisdiction in more than one county.

(b) The board of supervisors, with respect to the conflict of interest code of any county agency other than the board of supervisors, or any agency of the judicial branch of government, and of any local government agency, other than a city agency, with jurisdiction wholly within the county.

(c) The city council, with respect to the conflict of interest code of any city agency other than the city council.

(d) The Attorney General, with respect to the conflict of interest code of the commission.

(e) The Chief Justice of California or the Chief Justice’s designee, with respect to the conflict of interest code of the members of the Judicial Council, Commission on Judicial Performance, and Board of Trustees of the State Bar of California.

(f) The Board of Trustees of the State Bar of California with respect to the conflict of interest code of the State Bar of California.

(g) The Chief Justice of California, the administrative presiding judges of the courts of appeal, and the presiding judges of superior courts, or their designees, with respect to the conflict of interest code of any agency of the judicial branch of government subject to the immediate administrative supervision of that court.

(h) The Judicial Council of California, with respect to the conflict of interest code of any state agency within the judicial branch of government not included under subdivisions (e), (f), and (g).

History: Amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 779; amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 727, operative July 1, 1985; amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 775; amended by Stats. 1995, Ch. 587; amended by Stats. 2003, Ch. 62; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 489.

§ 82012. Commission.

“Commission” means the Fair Political Practices Commission.

§ 82013. Committee.

“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;

(b) Makes independent expenditures totaling one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more in a calendar year; or

(c) Makes contributions totaling ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) 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.

History: Amended by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1213; amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289; amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 670; amended by Stats. 1987, Ch. 632; amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 364, effective January 1, 2016.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18402.2, 18404.2, 18420.1, 18421.10, 18428, 18450.3, 18521.5

Opinions: *In re Johnson* (1989) 12 FPPC Ops. 1
In re Welsh (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 78
In re Kahn (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 151
In re Lumsdon (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 140
In re Cannon (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 133
In re Masini (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 38
In re Fontana (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 25
In re Christiansen (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 170
In re Augustine (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 69

§ 82014. Conflict of Interest Code.

“Conflict of Interest Code” means a set of rules and regulations adopted by an agency pursuant to Chapter 7 of this title.

§ 82015. Contribution.*

(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 or if it is clear from the surrounding circumstances that the payment is not made for political purposes.

(b) “Contribution” includes all of the following:

(1) 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 the candidate’s 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.

(2) The transfer of anything of value received by a committee from another committee, unless full and adequate consideration is received.

(3) The payment of public moneys by a state or local governmental agency for a communication to the public that satisfies both of the following:

(A) 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.

(B) The communication is made at the behest of the affected candidate or committee.

(4) A payment made by a person to a multipurpose organization as defined and described in Section 84222.

(5)(A) 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 is attributable to the lobbyist for purposes of Section 85702.

(B) 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.

(c) “Contribution” does not include any of the following:

(1) 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.

(2) Except as provided in paragraph (5) of subdivision (b), 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.

(3) Volunteer personal services or payments made by any individual for the individual’s own travel expenses if the payments are made voluntarily without any understanding or agreement that they will be, directly or indirectly, repaid to the individual.

(4) A behested payment, as defined in Section 82004.5, but only as to the behesting committee, elected officer, or member of the Public Utilities Commission.

History: Amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289; amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 450, effective September 24, 1997; amended by Stats. 2008, Ch. 418; amended by Stats. 2009, Ch. 363; amended by Stats. 2013, Ch. 16, effective July 1, 2014; amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 882 and 930; amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 756, effective October 10, 2015; amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 749; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18215, 18215.2, 18216, 18225.7, 18402.2, 18420.1, 18421.1, 18421.31, 18422,

18422.1 18423, 18428, 18521.5, 18530.3, 18531.7, 18540, 18572, 18950, 18950.3

Opinions:

In re Leiderman (2022)
In re California State Association of Counties (2021)
In re Montoya (1989) 12 FPPC Ops. 7
In re Johnson (1989) 12 FPPC Ops. 1
In re Bell (1988) 11 FPPC Ops. 1
In re Nielsen (1979) 5 FPPC Ops. 18
In re Buchanan (1979) 5 FPPC Ops. 14
In re Reinhardt (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 83
In re Cannon (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 133
In re Willmarth (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 130
In re Adams (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 127
In re Dixon (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 70
In re McCormick (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 42
In re Burciaga (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 17
In re Hayes (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 210
In re Christiansen (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 170
In re Cory (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 137

§ 82015.5. Contribution; Aggregation.

(a) To determine when contributions are aggregated under this title, “entity” means any person other than an individual, and “majority owned” means ownership of more than 50 percent.

(b) If an individual directs or controls an entity’s contributions, the entity’s contributions shall be aggregated with contributions made by both of the following:

(1) That individual.

(2) Any other entity whose contributions that individual directs or controls.

(c) If two or more entities make contributions that are directed or controlled by a majority of the same persons, the contributions of those entities shall be aggregated.

(d) Contributions made by entities that are majority owned by a person shall be aggregated with the contributions of the majority owner and all other entities majority owned by that person, unless those entities act independently in their contribution-making decisions.

History: Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 312.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18428, 18450.1, 18450.3

*Section 82015 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 82016. Controlled Committee.

(a) “Controlled committee” means a committee that is controlled directly or indirectly by a candidate or state measure proponent or that acts jointly with a candidate, controlled committee, or state measure proponent in connection with the making of expenditures. A candidate or state measure proponent controls a committee if the candidate or state measure proponent, the candidate or state measure proponent’s agent, or any other committee the candidate or state measure proponent controls has a significant influence on the actions or decisions of the committee.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a political party committee, as defined in Section 85205, is not a controlled committee.

History: Amended by Stats. 1983, Ch. 898; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18217, 18405, 18521.5

§ 82017. County.

“County” includes a city and county.

§ 82018. Cumulative Amount.*

(a) Except as provided in subdivisions (b), (c), and (d), “cumulative amount” means the amount of contributions received or expenditures made in the calendar year.

(b) For a filer required to file a campaign statement or independent expenditure report in one year in connection with an election to be held in another year, the period over which the cumulative amount is calculated shall end on the closing date of the first semiannual statement filed after the election.

(c) For a filer required to file a campaign statement in connection with the qualification of a measure which extends into two calendar years, the period over which the cumulative amount is calculated shall end on December 31 of the second calendar year.

(d) For a person filing a campaign statement with a period modified by the provisions of this section, the next period over which the cumulative amount is calculated shall begin on the day after the closing date of the statement.

History: Amended by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1106; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289; amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1456; amended by Stats. 1992, Ch. 405; amended by Stats. 1993, Ch. 769.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18421.4

*Section 82018 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 82019. Designated Employee.

(a) “Designated employee” means any officer, employee, member, or consultant of any agency whose position with the agency:

(1) Is exempt from the state civil service system by virtue of subdivision (a), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), or (m) of Section 4 of Article VII of the Constitution, unless the position is elective or solely secretarial, clerical, or manual.

(2) Is elective, other than an elective state office.

(3) Is designated in a Conflict of Interest Code because the position entails the making or participation in the making of decisions which may foreseeably have a material effect on any financial interest.

(4) Is involved as a state employee at other than a clerical or ministerial level in the functions of negotiating or signing any contract awarded through competitive bidding, in making decisions in conjunction with the competitive bidding process, or in negotiating, signing, or making decisions on contracts executed pursuant to Section 10122 of the Public Contract Code.

(b)(1) “Designated employee” does not include an elected state officer, any unsalaried member of any board or

commission which serves a solely advisory function, any public official specified in Section 87200, and also does not include any unsalaried member of a nonregulatory committee, section, commission, or other such entity of the State Bar of California.

(2) “Designated employee” does not include a federal officer or employee serving in an official federal capacity on a state or local government agency. The state or local government agency shall annually obtain, and maintain in its files for public inspection, a copy of any public financial disclosure report filed by the federal officer or employee pursuant to federal law.

History: Amended by Stats. 1979, Ch. 674; amended by Stats. 1983, Ch. 1108; amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 727, operative July 1, 1985; amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 611; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 484.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18219, 18700.3, 18723.1, 18730

§ 82020. Elected Officer.

“Elected officer” means any person who holds an elective office or has been elected to an elective office but has not yet taken office. A person who is appointed to fill a vacant elective office is an elected officer.

§ 82021. Elected State Officer.

“Elected state officer” means any person who holds an elective state office or has been elected to an elective state office but has not yet taken office. A person who is appointed to fill a vacant elective state office is an elected state officer.

§ 82022. Election.

“Election” means any primary, general, special or recall election held in this state. The primary and general or special elections are separate elections for purposes of this title.

§ 82022.5. Election-Related Activities.*

“Election-related activities” include, but are not limited to, the following with respect to candidate-based elections:

(a) Communications that contain express advocacy of the nomination or election of a candidate or the defeat of a candidate’s opponent.

(b) Communications that contain reference to a candidate’s candidacy for elective office, the candidate’s election campaign, or the candidate’s or the candidate’s opponent’s qualifications for elective office.

(c) Solicitation of contributions to the candidate or to third persons for use in support of the candidate or in opposition to the candidate’s opponent.

(d) Arranging, coordinating, developing, writing, distributing, preparing, or planning of any communication or activity described in subdivisions (a) to (c), inclusive.

(e) Recruiting or coordinating campaign activities of campaign volunteers on behalf of the candidate.

(f) Preparing campaign budgets.

(g) Preparing campaign finance disclosure statements.

(h) 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 the candidate's opponent.

History: Added by Stats. 2017, Ch. 749; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50,

*Section 82022.5 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 82023. Elective Office.

"Elective office" means any state, regional, county, municipal, district or judicial office that is filled at an election. "Elective office" also includes membership on a county central committee of a qualified political party, and membership through election on the Board of Administration of the Public Employees' Retirement System or the Teachers' Retirement Board.

History: Amended by Stats. 1998, Ch. 923; amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 633.

§ 82024. Elective State Office.

"Elective state office" means the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Insurance Commissioner, Controller, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Member of the Legislature, member elected to the Board of Administration of the Public Employees' Retirement System, member elected to the Teachers' Retirement Board, and member of the State Board of Equalization.

History: Amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 674; amended by Stats. 1998, Ch. 923; amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 633.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18723

§ 82025. Expenditure.*

(a) "Expenditure" 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, unless it is clear from the surrounding circumstances that it is not made for political purposes. "Expenditure" does not include a candidate's use of the candidate's own money to pay for either a filing fee for a declaration of candidacy or a candidate statement prepared pursuant to Section 13307 of the Elections Code. An expenditure is made on the date the payment is made or on the date consideration, if any, is received, whichever is earlier.

(b) A payment is made for political purposes if it is any of the following:

(1) For purposes of influencing or attempting to influence the action of the voters for or against the nomination or election of a candidate or candidates, or the qualification or passage of any measure.

(2) Made by any of the following:

(A) A candidate, unless it is clear from surrounding circumstances that the payment was made for personal purposes unrelated to the candidate's candidacy or status as an officeholder.

(B) A controlled committee.

(C) An official committee of a political party, including a state central committee, county central committee, assembly district committee, or any subcommittee of such committee.

(D) An organization formed or existing primarily for political purposes, as described in paragraph (1), including, but not limited to, a political action committee established by any membership organization, labor union, or corporation.

(c) "Expenditure" includes any monetary or nonmonetary payment made by any person, other than the persons or organizations described in subdivision (b), that is used for communications that expressly advocate the nomination, election, or defeat of a clearly identified candidate or candidates, or the qualification, passage, or defeat of a clearly identified ballot measure.

(1) "Clearly identified" is defined as follows:

(A) A candidate is clearly identified if the communication states the candidate's name, makes unambiguous reference to the candidate's office or status as a candidate, or unambiguously describes the candidate in any manner.

(B) A group of candidates is clearly identified if the communication makes unambiguous reference to some well-defined characteristic of the group, even if the communication does not name each candidate. A communication that clearly identifies a group of candidates and expressly advocates their election or defeat is reportable as an expenditure, but the expenditure need not be allocated among all members of the class or group on the campaign statement reporting the expenditure.

(C) A measure that has qualified to be placed on the ballot is clearly identified if the communication states a proposition number, official title, or popular name associated with the measure. In addition, the measure is clearly identified if the communication refers to the subject matter of the measure and either states that the measure is before the people for a vote or, taken as a whole and in context, unambiguously refers to the measure.

(D) A measure that has not qualified to be placed on the ballot is clearly identified if the communication refers to the subject matter of the measure and the qualification drive.

(2) A communication "expressly advocates" the nomination, election, or defeat of a candidate or the qualification, passage, or defeat of a measure if it contains express words of advocacy such as "vote for," "elect," "support," "cast your ballot," "vote against," "defeat," "reject," "sign petitions for," or, within 60 days before an election in which the candidate or measure appears on the ballot, the communication otherwise refers to a clearly identified candidate or measure so that the communication, taken as a whole, unambiguously urges a particular result in an election.

(A) Except for those communications paid for with public moneys by a state or local government agency, a communication, taken as a whole, unambiguously urges a particular result in an election if it is not susceptible of any reasonable interpretation other than as an appeal to vote for or against a specific candidate or measure. A communication is not susceptible of any reasonable interpretation other than as

an appeal to vote for or against a specific candidate or measure when, taken as a whole, it could only be interpreted by a reasonable person as containing an appeal to vote for or against a specific candidate or measure because of both of the following:

(i) The electoral portion of the communication is unmistakable, unambiguous, and suggestive of only one meaning.

(ii) Reasonable minds could not differ as to whether it encourages a vote for or against a clearly identified candidate or measure, or encourages some other kind of action on a legislative, executive, or judicial matter or issue.

(B) The following nonexhaustive examples, referring to candidates or measures on the ballot in an upcoming election, illustrate statements that in most contexts would not be susceptible of any reasonable interpretation other than as an appeal to vote for or against a specific candidate or measure: “Smith’s the One”; “No Measure A”; “Rally ‘round O’Malley”; “Create jobs with Measure X”; “Only Nancy Brown can clean out City Hall”; “Proposition 123 - your last chance to save California”; “Joe Green will earn your trust”; “Bob Boone is unqualified for office and a special-interest puppet”; “Shirley Hall - bad for California, bad for you.”

(C) The following nonexhaustive examples, referring to candidates or measures on the ballot in an upcoming election, illustrate statements that would be susceptible of a reasonable interpretation other than as an appeal to vote for or against a specific candidate or measure: “Assembly Member Nancy Brown needs to be tough on criminals. Call her and tell her to stand firm on AB 100”; “Poor children need a home too. Support the Mayor’s stance against more budget cuts”; “Thank you, Supervisor Smith, for continuing to support our farmers.”

(D) Safe Harbor. A communication does not expressly advocate the nomination, election, or defeat of a candidate, or the qualification, passage, or defeat of a measure, within the meaning of this section, if both of the following apply:

(i) The communication does not mention an election, candidacy, political party unless required by law, opposing candidate, or voting by the general public, and it does not take a position on the character, qualifications, or fitness for office of a candidate or officeholder, or the merits of a ballot measure.

(ii) The communication focuses on a legislative, executive, or judicial matter or issue, either urging a candidate to take a particular position or action with respect to the matter or issue, or urging the public to adopt a particular position and to contact the candidate with respect to the matter or issue.

(E) Rules of Interpretation. If a communication does not qualify for the safe harbor described in subparagraph (D), the commission shall consider if the communication has an interpretation other than as an appeal to vote for or against a clearly identified candidate or measure, in order to determine if, on balance, the communication is not susceptible of any reasonable interpretation other than as an appeal to vote for or against a clearly identified candidate or measure.

(3) Reporting Expenditures.

(A) The amount of an expenditure reportable pursuant to this subdivision shall include all costs directly attributable to the communication, including, but not limited to, salaries, production, postage, space or time purchased, agency fees, printing, and any additional administrative or overhead costs attributable to the communication. The expenditure does not include any of the regular ongoing business overhead that will be incurred in similar amounts regardless of the communication.

(B) When a printed or broadcast communication circulates outside the state, the expenditure may be calculated on the basis of the fraction of the total cost attributable to circulation within the state.

(C) Costs directly traceable to the communication are reportable when the communication is made, or when payments are made in connection with the development, production, or dissemination of the communication, whichever occurs first.

(D) The costs of printing and distributing petitions, recruiting, training, and paying expenses of petition circulators, and other costs incurred in connection with the qualification of a measure are reportable expenditures.

(4) Except for those communications paid for with public moneys by a state or local government agency, notwithstanding this subdivision, “expenditure” does not include costs incurred for communications that expressly advocate the nomination, election, or defeat of a clearly identified candidate or candidates, or the qualification, passage, or defeat of a clearly identified measure or measures by either of the following:

(A) A broadcasting station, including a cable or satellite television operation, programmer, or producer, internet website, or a regularly published newspaper, magazine, or other periodical of general circulation, including an internet or electronic publication, that routinely carries news and commentary of general interest, for the cost of covering or carrying a news story, commentary, or editorial.

(B) A regularly published newsletter or regularly published periodical, other than those specified in subparagraph (A), whose circulation is limited to an organization’s members, employees, shareholders, other affiliated individuals, and those who request or purchase the publication. This subparagraph applies only to the costs regularly incurred in publishing the newsletter or periodical. If additional costs are incurred because the newsletter or periodical is issued on other than its regular schedule, expanded in circulation, or substantially altered in style, size, or format, the additional costs are expenditures.

(5) The term “expenditure” also does not include uncompensated internet activity by an individual supporting or opposing a candidate or measure as stated in Section 18215.2 of Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations.

(d) A payment used to make contributions, as defined in Section 82015, is an expenditure.

History: Amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 394; amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 102.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18215.2, 18225.4, 18225.7, 18421.1, 18421.6, 18423, 18450.11, 18526, 18530.3, 18531.7

Opinions: *In re Lui* (1987) 10 FPPC Ops. 10
In re Buchanan (1979) 5 FPPC Ops. 14
In re Welsh (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 78
In re Cannon (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 133
In re Juvinall, Stull, Meyers, Republican Central Committee of Orange County, Tuteur (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 110
In re Sobieski (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 73
In re Hayes (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 210
In re Christiansen (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 170
In re Kelly, Masini (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 162

*Section 82025 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 82025.3. External Manager.

(a) “External manager” means either of the following:

(1) A person who is seeking to be, or is, retained by a state public retirement system in California or an investment vehicle to manage a portfolio of securities or other assets for compensation.

(2) A person who manages an investment fund and who offers or sells, or has offered or sold, an ownership interest in the investment fund to a state public retirement system in California or an investment vehicle.

(b) For purposes of this section, “investment fund” has the same meaning as set forth in Section 7513.8.

(c) For purposes of this section, “investment vehicle” has the same meaning as set forth in Section 82047.3.

History: Added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 668; amended by Stats. 2011, Ch. 704, effective October 9, 2011.

§ 82025.5. Fair Market Value.

“Fair market value” means the estimated fair market value of goods, services, facilities or anything of value other than money. Whenever the amount of goods, services, facilities, or anything of value other than money is required to be reported under this title, the amount reported shall be the fair market value, and a description of the goods, services, facilities, or other thing of value shall be appended to the report or statement. “Full and adequate consideration” as used in this title means fair market value.

History: Added by Stats. 1985, Ch. 775.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Opinions: *In re Hopkins* (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 107
In re Stone (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 52
In re Thomas (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 30
In re Cory (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 153

§ 82026. Filer.

“Filer” means the person filing or required to file any statement or report under this title.

§ 82027. Filing Officer.

“Filing officer” means the office or officer with whom any statement or report is required to be filed under this title. If copies of a statement or report are required to be filed with more than one office or officer, the one first named is the

filing officer, and the copy filed with that officer shall be signed in the original and shall be deemed the original copy.

History: Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18227, 18227.5

§ 82027.5. General Purpose Committee.

(a) “General purpose committee” means all committees pursuant to subdivision (b) or (c) of Section 82013, and any committee pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 82013 which is formed or exists primarily to support or oppose more than one candidate or ballot measure, except as provided in Section 82047.5.

(b) A “state general purpose committee” is a political party committee, as defined in Section 85205, or a committee to support or oppose candidates or measures voted on in a state election, or in more than one county.

(c) A “county general purpose committee” is a committee to support or oppose candidates or measures voted on in only one county, or in more than one jurisdiction within one county.

(d) A “city general purpose committee” is a committee to support or oppose candidates or measures voted on in only one city.

History: Added by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1456; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 623, effective September 21, 2004.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18227.518421.8, 18521.5

§ 82028. Gift.

(a) “Gift” means, except as provided in subdivision (b), any payment that confers a personal benefit on the recipient, to the extent that consideration of equal or greater value is not received and includes a rebate or discount in the price of anything of value unless the rebate or discount is made in the regular course of business to members of the public without regard to official status. Any person, other than a defendant in a criminal action, who claims that a payment is not a gift by reason of receipt of consideration has the burden of proving that the consideration received is of equal or greater value.

(b) The term “gift” does not include:

(1) Informational material such as books, reports, pamphlets, calendars, or periodicals. No payment for travel or reimbursement for any expenses shall be deemed “informational material.”

(2) Gifts which are not used and which, within 30 days after receipt, are either returned to the donor or delivered to a nonprofit entity exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code without being claimed as a charitable contribution for tax purposes.

(3) Gifts from an individual’s spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister, parent-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, nephew, niece, aunt, uncle, or first cousin or the spouse of any such person; provided that a gift from any such person shall be considered a gift if the donor is acting as an agent or intermediary for any person not covered by this paragraph.

(4) Campaign contributions required to be reported under Chapter 4 of this title.

(5) Any devise or inheritance.

(6) Personalized plaques and trophies with an individual value of less than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250).

History: Amended by Stats. 1978, Ch. 641; amended by Stats. 1986, Ch. 654; amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 450, effective September 24, 1997.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18229.1, 18730.1, 18932.4, 18940, 18940.1, 18941, 18942, 18942.1, 18942.2, 18942.3, 18943, 18944, 18944.1, 18944.2, 18944.3, 18945, 18945.2, 18946, 18946.1, 18946.2, 18946.3, 18946.4, 18946.5, 18950, 18950.1, 18950.2, 18950.3

Opinions: *In re Roberts* (2004) 17 FPPC Ops. 9
In re Hopkins (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 107
In re Stone (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 52
In re Gutierrez (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 44
In re Thomas (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 30
In re Nida (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 1
In re Torres (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 31
In re Brown (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 677
In re Hayes (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 210
In re Russel (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 191
In re Cory (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 153
In re Cory (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 137
In re Cory (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 48
In re Spellman (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 16
In re Lunardi (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 97

§ 82029. Immediate Family.

“Immediate family” means the spouse and dependent children.

History: Amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 1000.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18234
 Opinions: *In re Roberts* (2004) 17 FPPC Ops. 9

§ 82030. Income.

(a) “Income” means, except as provided in subdivision (b), a payment received, including, but not limited to, any salary, wage, advance, dividend, interest, rent, proceeds from any sale, gift, including any gift of food or beverage, loan, forgiveness or payment of indebtedness received by the filer, reimbursement for expenses, per diem, or contribution to an insurance or pension program paid by any person other than an employer, and including any community property interest in the income of a spouse. Income also includes an outstanding loan. Income of an individual also includes a pro rata share of any income of any business entity or trust in which the individual or spouse owns, directly, indirectly, or beneficially, a 10-percent interest or greater. “Income,” other than a gift, does not include income received from any source outside the jurisdiction and not doing business within the jurisdiction, not planning to do business within the jurisdiction, or not having done business within the jurisdiction during the two years prior to the time any statement or other action is required under this title.

(b) “Income” also does not include:

(1) Campaign contributions required to be reported under Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 84100).

(2) Salary and reimbursement for expenses or per diem, and social security, disability, or other similar benefit payments received from a state, local, or federal government agency and reimbursement for travel expenses and per diem received from a bona fide nonprofit entity exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(3) Any devise or inheritance.

(4) Interest, dividends, or premiums on a time or demand deposit in a financial institution, shares in a credit union or any insurance policy, payments received under any insurance policy, or any bond or other debt instrument issued by any government or government agency.

(5) Dividends, interest, or any other return on a security which is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission of the United States government or a commodity future registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission of the United States government, except proceeds from the sale of these securities and commodities futures.

(6) Redemption of a mutual fund.

(7) Alimony or child support payments.

(8) Any loan or loans from a commercial lending institution which are made in the lender’s regular course of business on terms available to members of the public without regard to official status.

(9) Any loan from or payments received on a loan made to an individual’s spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister, parent-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, nephew, niece, uncle, aunt, or first cousin, or the spouse of any such person, provided that a loan or loan payment received from any such person shall be considered income if that person is acting as an agent or intermediary for any person not covered by this paragraph.

(10) Any indebtedness created as part of a retail installment or credit card transaction if made in the lender’s regular course of business on terms available to members of the public without regard to official status.

(11) Payments received under a defined benefit pension plan qualified under Internal Revenue Code Section 401(a).

(12) Proceeds from the sale of securities registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission of the United States government or from the sale of commodities futures registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission of the United States government if the filer sells the securities or the commodities futures on a stock or commodities exchange and does not know or have reason to know the identity of the purchaser.

History: Amended by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1161; amended by Stats. 1977, Ch. 230, effective July 7, 1977; amended by Stats. 1977, Ch. 344, effective August 20, 1977; amended by Stats. 1978, Ch. 641; amended by Stats. 1979, Ch. 686; amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 183; amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 931; amended by Stats. 1987, Ch. 936; amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 455, effective September 24, 1997; amended by Stats. 2002, Ch. 172; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 484; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18230, 18232, 18234, 18235, 18728.5, 18940, 18944, 18950.1, 18950.2, 18950.3

Opinions: *In re Roberts* (2004) 17 FPPC Ops. 9
In re Elmore (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 8

In re Carey (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 99
In re Moore (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 33
In re Hayes (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 210
In re Brown (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 67

§ 82030.5. Income; Earned.

(a) For purposes of this title, “earned income” means, except as provided in subdivision (b), income from wages, salaries, professional fees, and other amounts received or promised to be received as compensation for personal services rendered.

(b) Income which is not “earned income” includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(1) Any income derived from stocks, bonds, property, or other investments, or from retail or wholesale sales.

(2) Any amount paid by, or on behalf of, an elected state officer to a tax-qualified pension, profit sharing, or stock bonus plan and received by the elected state officer from the plan.

(3) The community property interest in the income of a spouse.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 1075.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18229

Opinions: *In re Roberts* (2004) 17 FPPC Ops. 9

§ 82031. Independent Expenditure.

“Independent expenditure” means an expenditure made by any person, including a payment of public moneys by a state or local governmental agency, in connection with a communication which 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 but which is not made to or at the behest of the affected candidate or committee.

History: Formerly titled “Independent Committee.” Repealed by Stats. 1979, Ch. 779. Added by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289. (Formerly Section 82031.5.) Amended by Stats. 2009, Ch. 363.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18225.7, 18420.1, 18521.5, 18530.3

Opinions: *In re California State Association of Counties* (2021)

§ 82032. Influencing Legislative or Administrative Action.

“Influencing legislative or administrative action” means promoting, supporting, influencing, modifying, opposing or delaying any legislative or administrative action by any means, including but not limited to the provision or use of information, statistics, studies or analyses.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Opinions: *In re Evans* (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 54
In re Leonard (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 54
In re Nida (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 1

§ 82033. Interest in Real Property.

“Interest in real property” includes any leasehold, beneficial or ownership interest, or an option to acquire such an

interest in real property located in the jurisdiction owned directly, indirectly, or beneficially by the public official, or other filer, or that person’s immediate family if the fair market value of the interest is two thousand dollars (\$2,000) 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.

History: Amended by Stats. 1978, Ch. 607; amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 1000; amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 931; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 130; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18229.1, 18233, 18234, 18235, 18729

Opinions: *In re Overstreet* (1981) 6 FPPC Ops. 12

§ 82034. Investment.*

(a) “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 that person’s 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.

(b) An asset shall not be deemed an investment unless its fair market value equals or exceeds two thousand dollars (\$2,000).

(c) 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 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.

(d) 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.

(e) The term “parent, subsidiary or otherwise related business entity” shall be specifically defined by regulations of the commission.

(f) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2027, and as of that date is repealed.

History: Amended by Stats. 1978, Ch. 607; amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 1000; amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 931; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 130; amended by Stats. 2007, Ch. 348; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50; amended, repealed, and added by Stats. 2025, Ch. 85.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18229.1, 18230, 18234, 18235, 18237

Opinions: *In re Nord* (1983) 8 FPPC Ops. 6

In re Baty (1979) 5 FPPC Ops. 10
In re Elmore (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 8

*Section 82034 was amended, repealed, and added by AB 1029 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 85) and will be repealed and replaced on January 1, 2027. For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 82035. Jurisdiction.

“Jurisdiction” means the state with respect to a state agency and, with respect to a local government agency, the region, county, city, district or other geographical area in which it has jurisdiction. Real property shall be deemed to be “within the jurisdiction” with respect to a local government agency if the property or any part of it is located within or not more than two miles outside the boundaries of the jurisdiction or within two miles of any land owned or used by the local government agency.

History: Amended by Stats. 1975, Ch. 499, effective September 5, 1975; amended by Stats. 1993, Ch. 769.

§ 82035.5. LAFCO Proposal.

“LAFCO proposal” means a proposal, as defined in Section 56069, including a proceeding, as defined by Section 56067.

History: Added by Stats. 2008, Ch. 192; amended by Stats. 2009, Ch. 113.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18417

§ 82036. Late Contribution.

“Late contribution” means any of the following:

(a) A contribution, including a loan, that totals in the aggregate one thousand dollars (\$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 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 one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more and is made to or received by a political party committee, as defined in Section 85205, within 90 days before the date of a state election or on the date of the election.

History: Amended by Stats. 1977, Ch. 344, effective August 20, 1977; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 623, effective September 21, 2004; amended by Stats. 2005, Ch. 22; amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 633; amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 496; amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 364, effective January 1, 2016.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18425, 18531.5

§ 82036.5. Late Independent Expenditure.

“Late independent expenditure” means an independent expenditure that totals in the aggregate one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more and is made for or against a specific candidate or measure involved in an election 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.

History: Added by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289; amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 633; amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 496; amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 364, effective January 1, 2016.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18550

§ 82037. Legislative Action.

“Legislative action” means the drafting, introduction, consideration, modification, enactment, or defeat of any bill, resolution, amendment, report, nomination, or other matter by the Legislature or by either house or any committee, subcommittee, joint or select committee thereof, or by a Member or employee of the Legislature acting in that person’s official capacity. “Legislative action” also means the action of the Governor in approving or vetoing any bill.

History: Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Opinions: *In re Cohen* (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 10

§ 82038. Legislative Official.

“Legislative official” means any employee or consultant of the Legislature whose duties are not solely secretarial, clerical or manual.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Opinions: *In re Morrissey* (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 120

§ 82038.3. Lobbying Coalition.

(a) “Lobbying coalition” means a group of 10 or more persons formed primarily to influence legislative or administrative action, whose members make payments to the coalition for sharing the expenses of employing a lobbyist or contracting for the services of a lobbying firm.

(b) For purposes of Sections 86115 and 86116, a lobbying coalition shall file the same statements and reports as a lobbyist employer.

(c) A bona fide federation, confederation, or trade, labor, or membership organization is not a lobbying coalition if it is ongoing in nature and its membership services are not limited to influencing legislative or administrative action.

(d) A person making payments to a lobbying coalition does not qualify as a lobbying firm or lobbyist employer as a result of those payments.

History: Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 312.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18616.4

§ 82038.5. Lobbying Firm.

(a) “Lobbying firm” means any business entity, including an individual contract lobbyist, which meets either of the following criteria:

(1) The business entity receives or becomes entitled to receive any compensation, other than reimbursement for reasonable travel expenses, for the purpose of influencing legislative or administrative action on behalf of any other person, and any partner, owner, officer, or employee of the business entity is a lobbyist.

(2) The business entity receives or becomes entitled to receive any compensation, other than reimbursement for reasonable travel expenses, to communicate directly with any elective state official, agency official, or legislative official for the purpose of influencing legislative or administrative action on behalf of any other person, if a substantial or regular portion of the activities for which the business entity receives compensation is for the purpose of influencing legislative or administrative action.

(b) No business entity is a lobbying firm by reason of activities described in Section 86300.

History: Added by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985; amended by Stats. 1986, Ch. 905.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18238.5

§ 82039. Lobbyist.

(a) “Lobbyist” means either of the following:

(1) Any individual who receives two thousand dollars (\$2,000) or more in economic consideration in a calendar month, other than reimbursement for reasonable travel expenses, or whose principal duties as an employee are, to communicate directly or through that individual’s agents with any elective state official, agency official, or legislative official for the purpose of influencing legislative or administrative action.

(2) A placement agent, as defined in Section 82047.3.

(b) An individual is not a lobbyist by reason of activities described in Section 86300.

(c) For the purposes of subdivision (a), a proceeding before the Public Utilities Commission constitutes “administrative action” if it meets any of the definitions set forth in subdivision (b) or (c) of Section 82002. However, a communication made for the purpose of influencing this type of Public Utilities Commission proceeding is not within subdivision (a) if the communication is made at a public hearing, public workshop, or other public forum that is part of the proceeding, or if the communication is included in the official record of the proceeding.

History: Amended by Stats. 1975, Ch. 915, effective September 20, 1975, operative January 7, 1975; amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 161; amended by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 921; amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 668; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18239, 18601

Opinions: *In re Evans* (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 54
In re Morrissey (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 84
In re Leonard (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 54
In re Zenz (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 195
In re Hardie (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 140
In re Stern (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 59
In re McCarthy (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 50
In re Carson (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 46
In re California Labor Federation (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 28
In re Cohen (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 10

§ 82039.5. Lobbyist Employer.

“Lobbyist employer” means any person, other than a lobbying firm, who:

(a) Employs one or more lobbyists for economic consideration, other than reimbursement for reasonable travel expenses, for the purpose of influencing legislative or administrative action, or

(b) Contracts for the services of a lobbying firm for economic consideration, other than reimbursement for reasonable travel expense, for the purpose of influencing legislative or administrative action.

History: Added by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, Effective September 29, 1985.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18239.5

§ 82041. Local Government Agency.

“Local government agency” means a county, city or district of any kind including school district, or any other local or regional political subdivision, or any department, division, bureau, office, board, commission or other agency of the foregoing.

History: Amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 727, effective July 1, 1985.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18754

Opinions: *In re Rotman* (1987) 10 FPPC Ops. 1
In re Leach (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 48
In re Siegel (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 62
In re Witt (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 1

§ 82041.3. Made at the Behest of.

“Made at the behest of” means made under the control or at the direction of, in cooperation, consultation, coordination, or concert with, at the request or suggestion of, or with the express, prior consent of.

History: Added by Stats. 2017, Ch. 749.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18225.7, 18424, 18424.1, 18424.2

§ 82041.5. Mass Mailing.

“Mass mailing” means over two hundred substantially similar pieces of mail, but does not include a form letter or other mail which is sent in response to an unsolicited request, letter or other inquiry.

History: Amended by Proposition 73 on the June 1988 statewide primary ballot, effective June 8, 1988; amended by Stats. 1988, Ch. 1027.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18435, 18901.1

Opinions: *In re Welsh* (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 78
In re Juvinal, Stull, Meyers, Republican Central Committee of Orange County, Tuteur (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 110
In re Sobieski (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 73
In re Valdez (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 21

§ 82042. Mayor.

“Mayor” of a city includes mayor of a city and county.

§ 82043. Measure.

“Measure” means any constitutional amendment or other proposition which is submitted to a popular vote at an election by action of a legislative body, or which is submitted or is intended to be submitted to a popular vote at an

election by initiative, referendum or recall procedure whether or not it qualifies for the ballot.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18531.5

Opinions: *In re Fontana* (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 25

§ 82044. Payment.

“Payment” means a payment, distribution, transfer, loan, advance, deposit, gift or other rendering of money, property, services or anything else of value, whether tangible or intangible.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18944, 18950.1

Opinions: *In re Johnson* (1989) 12 FPPC Ops. 1

In re Gutierrez (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 44

In re McCormick (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 42

In re Burciaga (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 17

In re Cory (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 137

§ 82045. Payment to Influence Legislative or Administrative Action.

“Payment to influence legislative or administrative action” means any of the following types of payment:

(a) Direct or indirect payment to a lobbyist whether for salary, fee, compensation for expenses, or any other purpose, by a person employing or contracting for the services of the lobbyist separately or jointly with other persons;

(b) Payment in support or assistance of a lobbyist or the lobbyist’s activities, including, but not limited to, the direct payment of expenses incurred at the request or suggestion of the lobbyist;

(c) Payment which directly or indirectly benefits any elective state official, legislative official, or agency official or a member of the immediate family of any such official;

(d) Payment, including compensation, payment, or reimbursement for the services, time, or expenses of an employee, for or in connection with direct communication with any elective state official, legislative official, or agency official;

(e) Payment for or in connection with soliciting or urging other persons to enter into direct communication with any elective state official, legislative official, or agency official.

History: Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18229.1

Opinions: *In re Kovall* (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 95

In re Nida (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 1

In re Morrissey (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 84

In re Naylor (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 65

In re Leonard (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 54

In re Gillies (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 165

In re Morrissey (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 130

§ 82046. Period Covered.*

(a) “Period covered” by a statement or report required to be filed by this title, other than a campaign statement, means, unless a different period is specified, the period beginning with the day after the closing date of the most recent

statement or report which was required to be filed, and ending with the closing date of the statement or report in question. If the person filing the statement or report has not previously filed a statement or report of the same type, the period covered begins on the day on which the first reportable transaction occurred. Nothing in this chapter shall be interpreted to exempt any person from disclosing transactions which occurred prior to the effective date of this title according to the laws then in effect.

(b) “Period covered” by a campaign statement required to be filed by this title means, unless a different period is specified, the period beginning the day after the closing date of the most recent campaign statement which was required to be filed and ending with the closing date of the statement in question. If a person has not previously filed a campaign statement, the period covered begins on January 1.

History: Amended by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1106; amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Opinions: *In re Welsh* (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 78

In re Juvinall, Stull, Meyers, Republican Central Committee of Orange County, Tuteur (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 110

In re Sobieski (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 73

In re Valdez (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 21

*Section 82046 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 82047. Person.

“Person” means an individual, proprietorship, firm, partnership, joint venture, syndicate, business trust, company, corporation, limited liability company, association, committee, and any other organization or group of persons acting in concert.

History: Amended by Stats. 1994, Ch. 1010.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs., Sections 18432.5

Opinions: *In re Lumsdon* (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 140

In re Witt (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 1

§ 82047.3. Placement Agent.

(a) “Placement agent” means an individual directly or indirectly hired, engaged, or retained by, or serving for the benefit of or on behalf of, an external manager or an investment fund managed by an external manager, and who acts or has acted for compensation as a finder, solicitor, marketer, consultant, broker, or other intermediary in connection with the offer or sale to a state public retirement system in California or an investment vehicle either of the following:

(1) In the case of an external manager within the meaning of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 82025.3, the investment management services of the external manager.

(2) In the case of an external manager within the meaning of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 82025.3, an ownership interest in an investment fund managed by the external manager.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), an individual who is an employee, officer, director, equityholder, partner, member, or trustee of an external manager and who spends one-third or more of the individual's time, during a calendar year, managing the securities or assets owned, controlled, invested, or held by the external manager is not a placement agent.

(c) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), an employee, officer, or director of an external manager, or of an affiliate of an external manager, is not a placement agent with respect to an offer or sale of investment management services described in subdivision (a) if all of the following apply:

(1) The external manager is registered as an investment adviser or a broker-dealer with the Securities and Exchange Commission or, if exempt from or not subject to registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission, any appropriate state securities regulator.

(2) The external manager is participating in a competitive bidding process, such as a request for proposals, subject to subdivision (a) of Section 22364 of the Education Code or subdivision (a) of Section 20153 of this code, as applicable, or has been selected through that process, and is providing services pursuant to a contract executed as a result of that competitive bidding process.

(3) The external manager, if selected through a competitive bidding process described in paragraph (2), has agreed to a fiduciary standard of care, as defined by the standards of conduct applicable to the retirement board of a public pension or retirement system and set forth in Section 17 of Article XVI of the California Constitution, when managing a portfolio of assets of a state public retirement system in California.

(d) For purposes of this section, "investment fund" has the same meaning as set forth in Section 7513.8.

(e) For purposes of this section, "investment vehicle" means a corporation, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, association, or other entity, either domestic or foreign, managed by an external manager in which a state public retirement system in California is the majority investor and that is organized in order to invest with, or retain the investment management services of, other external managers.

History: Added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 668; amended by Stats. 2011, Ch. 704, effective October 9, 2011; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

§ 82047.5. Primarily Formed Committee.

"Primarily formed committee" means a committee pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 82013 which is formed or exists primarily to support or oppose any of the following:

- (a) A single candidate.
- (b) A single measure.
- (c) A group of specific candidates being voted upon in the same city, county, or multicounty election.
- (d) Two or more measures being voted upon in the same city, county, multicounty, or state election.

History: Added by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1456; amended by Stats. 1990, Ch. 626; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 191; amended by Stats. 1995, Ch. 295.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18247.5, 18421.8, 18521.5

§ 82047.6. Principal Officer.

(a) "Principal officer" means the individual primarily responsible for approving the political activities of a committee, including, but not limited to, the following activities:

(1) Authorizing the content of communications made by the committee.

(2) Authorizing expenditures, including contributions, on behalf of the committee.

(3) Determining the committee's campaign strategy.

(b) If two or more individuals share the primary responsibility for approving the political activities of a committee, each individual is a principal officer.

History: Added by Stats. 2012, Ch. 496.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18400, 18421.10

§ 82047.7. Proponent of a State Ballot Measure.

"Proponent of a state ballot measure" means "proponent" as defined in Section 9001 of the Elections Code.

History: Added by Stats. 1988, Ch. 704; amended by Stats. 1994, Ch. 923; renumbered by Stats. 2012, Ch. 496; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 317. (Formerly Section 82047.6.)

§ 82048. Public Official.

(a)(1) "Public official" means every member, officer, employee, or consultant of a state or local government agency.

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (e) of Section 6001 of the Business and Professions Code, "public official" includes a designated employee of, and a Member of the Board of Trustees of, the State Bar of California.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), "public official" does not include the following:

(1) A judge or court commissioner in the judicial branch of government.

(2) A member of the Judicial Council.

(3) A member of the Commission on Judicial Performance, provided that the member is subject to the provisions of Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 6035) of Chapter 4 of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code as provided in Section 6038 of that article.

(4) A federal officer or employee serving in an official federal capacity on a state or local government agency.

History: Amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 727, operative July 1, 1985; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 484; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 489.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18700.3, 18940.1

Opinions: *In re Rotman* (1987) 10 FPPC Ops. 1
In re Maloney (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 69
In re Siegel (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 62

§ 82048.3. Slate Mailer.

"Slate mailer" means a mass mailing which supports or opposes a total of four or more candidates or ballot measures.

History: Added by Stats. 1987, Ch. 905.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18401.1

§ 82048.4. Slate Mailer Organization.

(a) “Slate mailer organization” means, except as provided in subdivision (b), any person who, directly or indirectly, does all of the following:

(1) Is involved in the production of one or more slate mailers and exercises control over the selection of the candidates and measures to be supported or opposed in the slate mailers.

(2) Receives or is promised payments totaling five hundred dollars (\$500) or more in a calendar year for the production of one or more slate mailers.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a slate mailer organization shall not include any of the following:

(1) A candidate or officeholder or a candidate’s or officeholder’s controlled committee.

(2) An official committee of any political party.

(3) A legislative caucus committee.

(4) A committee primarily formed to support or oppose a candidate, officeholder, or ballot measure.

(c) The production and distribution of slate mailers by a slate mailer organization shall not be considered making contributions or expenditures for purposes of subdivision (b) or (c) of Section 82013. If a slate mailer organization makes contributions or expenditures other than by producing or distributing slate mailers, and it reports those contributions and expenditures pursuant to Sections 84218 and 84219, no additional campaign reports shall be required of the slate mailer organization pursuant to Section 84200 or 84200.5.

History: Added by Stats. 1987, Ch. 905; renumbered by Stats. 1988, Ch. 160.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18401.1

§ 82048.5. Special District.

“Special district” means any agency of the state established for the local performance of governmental or proprietary functions within limited boundaries. “Special district” includes a county service area, a maintenance district or area, an improvement district or zone, an air pollution control district, or a redevelopment agency. “Special district” shall not include a city, county, city and county, or school district.

History: Added by Stats. 1994, Ch. 36.

§ 82048.7. Sponsored Committee.

(a) “Sponsored committee” means a committee, other than a candidate controlled committee, that has one or more sponsors. Any person, except a candidate or other individual, may sponsor a committee.

(b) A person sponsors a committee if any of the following apply:

(1) The committee receives 80 percent or more of its contributions from the person or its members, officers, employees, or shareholders.

(2) The person collects contributions for the committee by use of payroll deductions or dues from its members, officers, or employees.

(3) The person, alone or in combination with other organizations, provides all or nearly all of the administrative services for the committee.

(4) The person, alone or in combination with other organizations, sets the policies for soliciting contributions or making expenditures of committee funds.

(c) A sponsor that is a multipurpose organization, as defined in subdivision (a) of Section 84222, and that makes contributions or expenditures from its general treasury funds shall comply with Section 84222.

History: Added by Stats. 1985, Ch. 498; amended by Stats. 1988, Ch. 1155; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 130; amended by Stats. 2005, Ch. 200; amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 16, effective July 1, 2014.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18419, 18421.1

§ 82048.8. Spouse.

“Spouse” includes registered domestic partners recognized by state law.

History: Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 312.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18943

§ 82049. State Agency.

“State agency” means every state office, department, division, bureau, board and commission, and the Legislature.

History: Amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 727, operative July 1, 1985.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18249, 18754

§ 82050. State Candidate.

“State candidate” means a candidate who seeks nomination or election to any elective state office.

§ 82051. State Measure.

“State measure” means any measure which is submitted or is intended to be submitted to the voters of the state.

§ 82052. Statewide Candidate.

“Statewide candidate” means a candidate who seeks election to any statewide elective office.

§ 82053. Statewide Elective Office.

“Statewide elective office” means the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Insurance Commissioner, Controller, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Superintendent of Public Instruction and member of the State Board of Equalization.

History: Amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 674; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election].

§ 82054. Statewide Petition.

“Statewide petition” means a petition to qualify a proposed state measure.

Chapter 3. Fair Political Practices

Commission.

§ 83100 – 83124

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§ 83100. Establishment; Membership.

There is hereby established in state government the Fair Political Practices Commission. The Commission shall have five members, including the chair. No more than three members of the Commission shall be members of the same political party.

History: Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

§ 83101. Appointment by Governor.

The chair and one additional member of the Commission shall be appointed by the Governor. The Governor's appointees shall not be members of the same political party.

History: Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

§ 83102. Appointment by Attorney General, Secretary of State and Controller.

(a) The Attorney General, the Secretary of State, and the Controller shall each appoint one member of the Commission.

(b) If the Attorney General, the Secretary of State, and the Controller are all members of the same political party, the chair of the state central committee of any other political party with a registration of more than five hundred thousand may submit to the Controller a list of not less than five persons who are qualified and willing to be members of the Commission. The list shall be submitted not less than ten days after the effective date of this chapter for the Controller's initial appointment, and not later than January 2 immediately prior to any subsequent appointment by the Controller. If the Controller receives one or more lists pursuant to this section, the Controller's appointment shall be made from one of such lists.

History: Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

§ 83103. Terms of Office.

Members and the chair of the Commission shall serve four-year terms beginning on February 1 and ending on January 31 or as soon thereafter as their successors are qualified, except that the initial appointees under Section 83102 shall serve six-year terms. A member or chair who has been appointed at the beginning of a term is not eligible for reappointment.

History: Amended by Stats. of 1987, Ch. 624; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

§ 83104. Vacancies; Quorum.

Vacancies on the Commission shall be filled, within thirty days, by appointment of the same official who appointed the prior holder of the position. The provisions of Section 83102 (b) are not applicable to the filling of vacancies. Appointments to fill vacancies shall be for the unexpired term of the member or chair whom the appointee succeeds. A vacancy or vacancies shall not impair the right of the remaining members to exercise all of the powers of the board. Three members shall constitute a quorum.

History: Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

§ 83105. Qualifications; Removal.

Each member of the commission shall be an elector. A member of the commission, during the member's tenure, shall not hold any other public office, serve as an officer of any political party or partisan organization, participate in or contribute to an election campaign, or employ or be employed as a lobbyist nor, during the member's term of appointment, seek election to any other public office. Members of the commission may be removed by the Governor, with concurrence of the Senate, for substantial neglect of duty, gross misconduct in office, inability to discharge the powers and duties of office or violation of this section, after written notice and opportunity for a reply.

History: Amended by Stats. 1986, Ch. 620; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

§ 83106. Compensation; Expenses.

The chair of the Commission shall be compensated at the same rate as the president of the Public Utilities Commission. Each remaining member shall be compensated at the rate of one hundred dollars (\$100) for each day on which

the member engages in official duties. The members and chair of the Commission shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred in performance of their official duties.

History: Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18307

§ 83107. Executive Officer; Staff; Staff Compensation.

The Commission shall appoint an executive director who shall act in accordance with Commission policies and regulations and with applicable law. The Commission shall appoint and discharge officers, counsel and employees, consistent with applicable civil service laws, and shall fix the compensation of employees and prescribe their duties.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18327

§ 83108. Delegation of Authority.

The Commission may delegate authority to the chair or the executive director to act in the name of the Commission between meetings of the Commission.

History: Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18319, 18361.9, 18363, 18751

§ 83109. Civil Service Classification.

For purposes of Section 19818.6, a nonclerical position under the Commission shall not be included in the same class in the civil service classification plan with any position of any other department or agency.

History: Amended by Stats. 2013, Ch. 654.

§ 83110. Offices; Public Meetings.

The principal office of the Commission shall be in Sacramento but it may establish offices, meet, and exercise its powers at any other place in the state. Meetings of the Commission shall be public except that the Commission may provide otherwise for discussions of personnel and litigation.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18310, 18310.1

§ 83111. Administration and Implementation of Title.

The Commission has primary responsibility for the impartial, effective administration and implementation of this title.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18200, 18310.1, 18361.10

§ 83111.5. Actions to Implement Title.

The commission shall take no action to implement this title that would abridge constitutional guarantees of freedom of speech, that would deny any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, or that would deny any person the equal protection of the laws.

History: Added by Stats. 1999, Ch. 225.

§ 83112. Rules and Regulations.

The Commission may adopt, amend and rescind rules and regulations to carry out the purposes and provisions of this title, and to govern procedures of the Commission. These rules and regulations shall be adopted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (Government Code, Title 2, Division 3, Part 1, Chapter 4.5, Sections 11371 et seq.) and shall be consistent with this title and other applicable law.

History: Fair Political Practices Commission v. Office of Administrative Law and Linda Stockdale Brewer, Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 512795 (affirmed by Court of Appeal, Third District (April 27, 1992), Case No. C010924).

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18200, 18312, 18327, 18351, 18402, 18420, 18420.1, 18423, 18435, 18440, 18450.1, 18450.5, 18521.5, 18531.5, 18535, 18539.2

§ 83113. Additional Duties.*

The commission shall, in addition to its other duties, do all of the following:

(a) Prescribe forms for reports, statements, notices and other documents required by this title.

(b) Prepare and publish manuals and instructions setting forth methods of bookkeeping and preservation of records to facilitate compliance with and enforcement of this title, and explaining the duties of persons and committees under this title.

(c) Provide assistance to agencies and public officials in administering the provisions of this title.

(d) Maintain a central file of local campaign contribution and expenditure ordinances forwarded to it by local government agencies.

(e) Annually publish a booklet not later than March 1 that sets forth the provisions of this title and includes other information the commission deems pertinent to the interpretation and enforcement of this title. The commission shall provide a reasonable number of copies of the booklet at no charge for the use of governmental agencies and subdivisions thereof that request copies of the booklet.

The commission may charge a fee, not to exceed the prorated cost of producing the booklet, for providing copies of the booklet to other persons and organizations.

History: Amended by Stats. 1979, Ch. 531; amended by Stats. 1999, Ch. 855.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18313, 18313.5, 18313.6

*Section 83113 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 83114. Requests For and Issuances of Opinions; Advice.

(a) Any person may request the commission to issue an opinion with respect to that person's duties under this title. The commission shall, within 14 days, either issue the opinion or advise the person who made the request whether

an opinion will be issued. Any person who acts in good faith on an opinion issued to that person by the commission shall not be subject to criminal or civil penalties for so acting, provided that the material facts are as stated in the opinion request. The commission's opinions shall be public records and may from time to time be published.

(b) Any person may request the commission to provide written advice with respect to the person's duties under this title. Such advice shall be provided within 21 working days of the request, provided that the time may be extended for good cause. It shall be a complete defense in any enforcement proceeding initiated by the commission, and evidence of good faith conduct in any other civil or criminal proceeding, if the requester, at least 21 working days prior to the alleged violation, requested written advice from the commission in good faith, disclosed truthfully all the material facts, and committed the acts complained of either in reliance on the advice or because of the failure of the commission to provide advice within 21 days of the request or such later extended time.

History: Amended by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1080; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18320, 18321, 18322, 18324, 18326, 18329, 18329.5

§ 83115. Investigations; Notice.

Upon the sworn complaint of any person or on its own initiative, the commission shall investigate possible violations of this title relating to any agency, official, election, lobbyist or legislative or administrative action. Within 14 days after receipt of a complaint under this section, the commission shall notify in writing the person who made the complaint of the action, if any, the commission has taken or plans to take on the complaint, together with the reasons for such action or nonaction. If no decision has been made within 14 days, the person who made the complaint shall be notified of the reasons for the delay and shall subsequently receive notification as provided above.

History: Amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 775.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18315, 18360, 18361, 18361.1, 18361.2, 18361.3, 18361.4, 18361.5, 18361.6, 18361.7, 18361.8, 18362

§ 83115.5. Findings of Probable Cause; Requirements.

A finding of probable cause to believe this title has been violated shall not be made by the commission unless, at least 21 days prior to the commission's consideration of the alleged violation, the person alleged to have violated this title is notified of the violation by service of process or registered mail with return receipt requested, provided with a summary of the evidence, and informed of that person's right to be present in person and represented by counsel at any proceeding of the commission held for the purpose of considering whether probable cause exists for believing the person violated this title. Notice to the alleged violator shall be deemed

made on the date of service, the date the registered mail receipt is signed, or, if the registered mail receipt is not signed, the date returned by the post office. A proceeding held for the purpose of considering probable cause shall be private unless the alleged violator files with the commission a written request that the proceeding be public.

History: Added by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1080; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18361, 18361.1, 18361.2, 18361.3, 18361.4, 18361.5, 18361.6, 18361.7, 18361.8, 18362

§ 83116. Violation of Title.

When the commission determines there is probable cause for believing this title has been violated, it may hold a hearing to determine if a violation has occurred. Notice shall be given and the hearing conducted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500), Part 1, Division 3, Title 2, Government Code). The commission shall have all the powers granted by that chapter. When the commission determines on the basis of the hearing that a violation has occurred, it shall issue an order that may require the violator to do all or any of the following:

(a) Cease and desist violation of this title.

(b) File any reports, statements, or other documents or information required by this title.

(c) Pay a monetary penalty of up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per violation to the General Fund of the state. When the Commission determines that no violation has occurred, it shall publish a declaration so stating.

History: Amended by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election].

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18316.5, 18316.6, 18318, 18360.2, 18360.3, 18361, 18361.1, 18361.2, 18361.3, 18361.4, 18361.5, 18361.6, 18361.7, 18361.8, 18361.9, 18361.10, 18361.11, 18362

§ 83116.3. Administrative Law Judge; Rejection.

Whenever the commission rejects the decision of an administrative law judge made pursuant to Section 11517, the commission shall state the reasons in writing for rejecting the decision.

History: Added by Stats. 1999, Ch. 297.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18327

§ 83116.5. Liability for Violations; Administrative.

Any person who violates any provision of this title, who purposely or negligently causes any other person to violate any provision of this title, or who aids and abets any other person in the violation of any provision of this title, shall be liable under the provisions of this chapter. However, this section shall apply only to persons who have filing or reporting obligations under this title, or who are compensated for services involving the planning, organizing, or directing any

activity regulated or required by this title, and a violation of this section shall not constitute an additional violation under Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 91000).

History: Added by Stats. 1984, Ch. 670; amended by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election].

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18316.5, 18316.6, 18402.2

§ 83116.7. Political Reform Education Program.

(a) As an alternative to an administrative proceeding under this chapter, the Commission may establish and administer a political reform education program for persons who violate this title subject to the limitations in this section and other limitations imposed by the Commission.

(b) (1) Requirements for eligibility in the political reform education program include, but are not limited to, all of the following:

(A) The person has little or no experience with the section of this title that the person violated.

(B) The underlying violation resulted in minimal or no public harm.

(C) The person has not been ordered to pay a penalty for the same type of violation in the previous five years.

(D) There is no evidence of an intent to violate this title or to conceal a violation of this title.

(2) The Commission may impose additional eligibility requirements for participation in the political reform education program.

(c)(1) If a person meets the requirements to participate in the political reform education program specified by the Commission and completes the program, the person shall not be subject to administrative, civil, or criminal penalties under this title for that same violation and it shall not be deemed a prior violation of this title in any subsequent proceeding against the person.

(2) If a person fails to complete the political reform education program specified by the Commission, the Commission may pursue an administrative action for that violation.

(d) To offset the costs to the state of the political reform education program, the Commission may charge a fee to a person who participates in the political reform education program that shall not exceed the reasonable cost to the Commission to administer the political reform education program. The fee shall be payable to the General Fund.

(e) It is the intent of the Legislature that funds be appropriated annually to the Commission to administer the political reform education program. This funding shall not supplant or offset funding appropriated to the Commission to discharge its other duties under the Political Reform Act of 1974. History: Added by Stats. 2023, Ch. 696, effective October 10, 2023.

§ 83117. Authority of Commission.

The Commission may:

(a) Accept grants, contributions and appropriations;

(b) Contract for any services which cannot satisfactorily be performed by its employees;

(c) Employ legal counsel. Upon request of the Commission, the Attorney General shall provide legal advice and representation without charge to the Commission.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18327

§ 83117.5. Receipt of Gift.

It shall be unlawful for a member of the commission to receive a gift of ten dollars (\$10) or more per month.

“Gift” as used in this section means a gift made directly or indirectly by a state candidate, an elected state officer, a legislative official, an agency official, or a lobbyist or by any person listed in Section 87200.

History: Added by Stats. 1975, Ch. 797, effective September 16, 1975.

§ 83118. Subpoena Powers.

The Commission may subpoena witnesses, compel their attendance and testimony, administer oaths and affirmations, take evidence and require by subpoena the production of any books, papers, records or other items material to the performance of the Commission’s duties or exercise of its powers.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18363

§ 83119. Self-Incrimination.

The Commission may refuse to excuse any person from testifying, or from producing books, records, correspondence, documents, or other evidence in obedience to the subpoena of the Commission notwithstanding an objection that the testimony or evidence required of that person may tend to incriminate that person. An individual shall not be prosecuted in any manner or subjected to any penalty or forfeiture whatever for or on account of any transaction, act, matter, or thing concerning which that person is compelled, after having claimed that person’s privilege against self-incrimination, to testify or produce evidence, except that the individual so testifying shall not be exempt from prosecution and punishment for perjury committed in so testifying. Immunity shall not be granted to any witness under this section unless the Commission has notified the Attorney General of its intention to grant immunity to the witness at least thirty days in advance, or unless the Attorney General waives this requirement.

History: Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

§ 83120. Judicial Review.

An interested person may seek judicial review of any action of the Commission.

§ 83121. Judicial Advancement of Action.

If judicial review is sought of any action of the Commission relating to a pending election, the matter shall be advanced on the docket of the court and put ahead of other actions. The court may, consistent with due process of law, shorten deadlines and take other steps necessary to permit a timely decision.

§ 83122. Fair Political Practices Commission; Appropriation.

There is hereby appropriated from the General Fund of the state to the Fair Political Practices Commission the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) during the fiscal year of 1974-1975, and the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000), adjusted for cost-of-living changes, during each fiscal year thereafter, for expenditure to support the operations of the commission pursuant to this title. The expenditure of funds under this appropriation shall be subject to the normal administrative review given to other state appropriations. The Legislature shall appropriate such additional amounts to the commission and other agencies as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this title.

The Department of Finance, in preparing the state budget and the Budget Bill submitted to the Legislature, shall include an item for the support of the Political Reform Act of 1974, which item shall indicate all of the following: (1) the amounts to be appropriated to other agencies to carry out their duties under this title, which amounts shall be in augmentation of the support items of such agencies; (2) the additional amounts required to be appropriated by the Legislature to the commission to carry out the purposes of this title, as provided for in this section; and (3) in parentheses, for informational purposes, the continuing appropriation during each fiscal year of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) adjusted for cost-of-living changes made to the commission by this section.

The definition of "expenditure" in Section 82025 is not applicable to this section.

History: Amended by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1075, effective September 21, 1976.

§ 83123.6. Enforcement of Local Government Campaign and Ethics Ordinance.

(a)(1) Upon mutual agreement between the Commission and the governing body of a local government agency, the Commission may assume primary responsibility for the impartial, effective administration, implementation, and enforcement of a local campaign finance or government ethics law passed by the local government agency.

(2) Upon approval of an agreement pursuant to paragraph (1), the Commission shall be the civil prosecutor responsible for the civil enforcement of the local campaign finance or government ethics law of the local government agency in accordance with this title.

(b)(1) The Commission may do all of the following with respect to the local campaign finance or government ethics law:

(A) Provide advice.

(B) Conduct audits.

(C) Investigate possible violations.

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

(E) Bring civil actions.

(2) The Commission shall not be required to obtain authorization from the local government agency to bring an administrative or civil action pursuant to paragraph (1).

(c) A local campaign finance or government ethics law of the local government agency enforced by the Commission pursuant to this section shall comply with this title.

(d) The governing body of the local government agency shall consult with the Commission before adopting and amending any local campaign finance or government ethics law that is subsequently enforced by the Commission pursuant to this section.

(e)(1) The governing body of the local government agency and the Commission shall enter into any agreements necessary and appropriate to carry out the provisions of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a), including agreements pertaining to any necessary local reimbursement of direct and indirect costs incurred by the Commission in administering, implementing, or enforcing a local campaign finance or government ethics law pursuant to this section. Before approving an agreement for local reimbursement, the Commission shall submit the proposed agreement to the Department of General Services for review. The Commission may approve the agreement 90 days after submitting it to the Department of General Services or after receiving the department's written review of the agreement, whichever occurs first. The Commission shall submit an approved agreement, along with any review received, to the Department of Finance.

(2) An agreement entered into pursuant to this subdivision shall not contain a cancellation fee, a liquidated damages provision, or other financial disincentive to terminate the agreement pursuant to subdivision (f), except that, if the local government agency terminates the agreement, the Commission may require the governing body of the local government 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.

(f) The governing body of the local government agency or the Commission may, at any time, by ordinance or resolution, terminate an agreement made pursuant to this section for the Commission to administer, implement, or enforce a local campaign finance ordinance or any provision thereof. The termination shall be effective 90 days after the enactment of the ordinance or resolution unless an agreement between the local government and the Commission requires a longer period.

(g) The Commission shall conspicuously post on its internet website a list of every local government agency that it has entered into agreement with pursuant to this section.

(h) This section does not apply to a jurisdiction with a population of 3,000,000. History: Added by Stats. 2015, Ch. 186, effective January 1, 2016; repealed and added by Stats. 2018, Ch. 394; amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 257.

§ 83124. Cost of Living Adjustment.

The commission shall adjust the contribution limitations and voluntary expenditure limitations provisions in Sections 85301, 85302, 85303, and 85400 in January of every odd-numbered year to reflect any increase or decrease in the Consumer Price Index. Those adjustments shall be

rounded to the nearest one hundred dollars (\$100) for limitations on contributions and one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for limitations on expenditures.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election].

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18544, 18545, 18531.10

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Article 1. Organization of Committees.

§ 84100 – 84109

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§ 84100. Treasurer.*

Every recipient committee, as defined by subdivision (a) of Section 82013, shall have a treasurer. An expenditure shall not be made by or on behalf of a committee without the authorization of the treasurer or the treasurer's designated agents. A contribution or expenditure shall not be accepted or made by or on behalf of a committee when the office of treasurer is vacant.

(b) A recipient committee, as defined by subdivision (a) of Section 82013, may designate one assistant treasurer on the committee's statement of organization. The assistant treasurer may sign and verify a campaign statement on behalf of the committee if the assistant uses reasonable diligence to prepare and review the statement and signs to that effect under penalty of perjury as required by Section 81004.

History: Repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1979, Ch. 779, amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 312.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18316.6, 18400, 18401, 18426.1, 18427

Opinions: *In re Augustine* (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 69

*Section 84100 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84101. Statement of Organization; Filing.*

(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

an original campaign statement 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, with the information specified in paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) redacted, to the county elections official of each county that the Secretary of State 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 the county elections official 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 an original campaign statement 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 one thousand dollars (\$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 by this section shall be filed with the filing officer with whom the committee is required to file an original campaign statement 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 thousand dollars (\$2,000) in contributions has been received, payments for a filing fee or for a statement of qualifications to appear in a **state or county voter information guide** shall not be included if these payments have been made from the candidate's personal funds.

(e) (1) A committee may redact, or otherwise omit, a bank account number included on the copy of the statement of organization filed with the local filing officer pursuant to subdivision (a). A local filing officer shall not require a committee to disclose a bank account number on the copy of the

statement of organization filed with the local filing officer as a condition of accepting that filing.

(2) Notwithstanding Section 81008 or the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1 of the Government Code), the Secretary of State shall redact the bank account number on a statement of organization filed with the Secretary of State before making the statement available to the public in any form.

History: Amended by Stats. 1978, Ch. 551; amended by Stats. 1979, Ch. 531; amended by Stats. 1986, Ch. 544; amended by Stats. 1992, Ch. 405; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 901; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 478, effective September 10, 2004; amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 633; amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 364, effective January 1, 2016; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 180; amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 249.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18402.1, 18404, 18410, 18421.8, 18503, 18520, 18521

*Section 84101 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84101.5. Annual Fees.*

(a) Notwithstanding Section 81006, the Secretary of State shall charge each committee that is required to file a statement of organization pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 84101 an annual fee of fifty dollars (\$50) until the committee is terminated pursuant to Section 84214.

(b)(1) A committee subject to the annual fee pursuant to subdivision (a) shall pay the fee no later than 15 days after filing its statement of organization and no later than January 15 of each year thereafter, except as provided in paragraph (2).

(2) A committee that is created, and pays the initial fee pursuant to paragraph (1), in October, November, or December of a calendar year is not subject to the annual fee for the following calendar year.

(c)(1) A committee that fails to timely pay the annual fee required by this section is subject to an administrative penalty of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150).

(2) The Secretary of State shall enforce the requirements of this section.

History: Added by Stats. 2012, Ch. 506; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 317.

*Section 84101.5 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84102. Statement of Organization; Contents.*

The statement of organization required by Section 84101 shall include all of the following:

(a) The name, street address, email address, and telephone number, if any, of the committee. In the case of a sponsored committee, the name of the committee shall include the name of its sponsor. If a committee has more than one sponsor, and the sponsors are members of an industry or other identifiable group, a term identifying that industry or group shall be included in the name of the committee.

(b) In the case of a sponsored committee, the name, street address, and telephone number of each sponsor.

(c) The full name, street address, email address, and telephone number of the treasurer and any other principal officers.

(1) A committee with more than one principal officer shall identify its principal officers as follows:

(A) A committee with three or fewer principal officers shall identify all principal officers.

(B) A committee with more than three principal officers shall identify no fewer than three principal officers.

(2) If no individual other than the treasurer is a principal officer, the treasurer shall be identified as both the treasurer and the principal officer.

(d) (1) An acknowledgment by any person identified as a treasurer or assistant treasurer on the statement of organization of the following:

(A) By serving as treasurer or assistant treasurer, the person must comply with all applicable duties stated in this title and the regulations of the Commission.

(B) A violation of these duties could result in criminal, civil, or administrative penalties.

(2) A failure to complete the acknowledgment pursuant to paragraph (1) is not a violation of this title. However, the Secretary of State shall not accept a statement of organization unless the acknowledgment has been completed.

(3) This subdivision shall not become operative until the Secretary of State certifies an online filing and disclosure system pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 84602.

(e) The full name and office sought by a candidate, and the title and ballot number, if any, of any measure, that the committee supports or opposes as its primary activity. A committee that does not support or oppose one or more candidates or ballot measures as its primary activity shall provide a brief description of its political activities, including whether it supports or opposes candidates or measures and whether such candidates or measures have common characteristics, such as a political party preference.

(f) A statement whether the committee is independent or controlled and, if it is controlled, the name of each candidate or state measure proponent by which it is controlled, or the name of any controlled committee with which it acts jointly. If a committee is controlled by a candidate for partisan or voter-nominated office, the controlled committee shall indicate the political party, if any, for which the candidate has disclosed a preference.

(g) For a committee that is a committee by virtue of subdivision (a) or (b) of Section 82013, the name and address of the financial institution in which the committee has established an account and the account number.

(h) Other information as shall be required by the rules or regulations of the Commission consistent with the purposes and provisions of this chapter.

History: Amended by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1095; amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 498; amended by Stats. 1986, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 1990, Ch. 655; amended by Stats. 1992, Ch. 223; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 853; amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 496; amended by Stats. 2013, Ch. 654; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 313.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18402, 18402.1, 18404.1, 18410, 18419, 18421.8, 18430, 18503, 18521.5

Opinions: *In re Petris* (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 20

*Section 84102 was amended by AB 909 (Stats. 2019, Ch. 313); subdivision (d) is not operative until the Secretary of State certifies an online filing and disclosure system under Section 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84103. Statement of Organization; Amendment.*

(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 online or electronically 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 file an amendment to its statement of organization within 24 hours if the change requiring the amendment occurs within 16 days before the date of the election in connection with which the committee is required to file a preelection statement, and if any of the following information is changed:

- (1) The name of the committee.
- (2) The name of the treasurer or other principal officers.
- (3) The name of any candidate or committee by which the committee is controlled or with which it acts jointly.

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

The committee shall file the original of the amendment online or electronically with the Secretary of State and a copy with the local filing officer, if any, with whom the committee is required to file the original of its campaign reports, by email, fax, online transmission, guaranteed overnight delivery, or personal delivery.

(c)(1) If an amendment to a statement of organization identifies a new treasurer or assistant treasurer that person shall complete the acknowledgment required by subdivision (d) of Section 84102.

(2) A failure to complete the acknowledgment pursuant to paragraph (1) is not a violation of this title. However, the Secretary of State shall not accept an amendment to a statement of organization that identifies a new treasurer or assistant treasurer unless the acknowledgment has been completed.

(3) This subdivision shall not become operative until the Secretary of State certifies an online filing and disclosure system pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 84602.

History: Amended by Stats. 1986, Ch. 544; amended by Stats. 1987, Ch. 479; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 853; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 478, effective September 10, 2004; amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 364, effective January 1, 2016; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 313.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18402.1, 18404.1, 18404.3, 18410, 18503, 18521.5

*Section 84103 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) and AB 909 (Stats. 2019, Ch. 313); subdivision (c) is not operative until the Secretary of State certifies an online filing and disclosure system under Section 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84104. Recordkeeping.*

It shall be the duty of each candidate, treasurer, principal officer, and elected officer to maintain detailed accounts, records, bills, and receipts necessary to prepare campaign statements, to establish that campaign statements were properly filed, and to otherwise comply with the provisions of this chapter. The detailed accounts, records, bills, and receipts shall be retained by the filer for a period specified by the Commission. However, the Commission shall not require retention of records for a period longer than the statute of limitations specified in Section 91000.5 or two years after the adoption of an audit report pursuant to Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 90000), whichever is less.

History: Added by Stats. 1979, Ch. 779; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 483; amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 496.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18360.1, 18360.3, 18401, 18421.31, 18422.1, 18426.1, 18531.62

*Section 84104 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84105. Notification to Contributors.

(a) A candidate or committee that receives contributions totaling five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more from a person in a calendar year shall inform that contributor within two weeks of receipt that the contributor may be required to file campaign reports. The notice shall include a reference to the filing requirements for multipurpose organizations under Section 84222.

(b) A candidate or committee that receives a contribution of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or more from a person during a period in which late-contribution reports are required to be filed under Section 84203 shall provide the information in subdivision (a) of that section to the contributor within one week.

(c) The notifications required by this section need not be sent to a contributor who has an identification number assigned by the Secretary of State issued under Section 84101.

History: Added by Stats. 1984, Ch. 670; amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 16, effective July 1, 2014; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 312.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18427.1

§ 84106. Sponsored Committee; Identification.*

(a) Whenever identification of a sponsored committee is required by this title, the identification shall include the full name of the committee as required in its statement of organization.

(b) A sponsored committee shall use only one name in its statement of organization.

History: Added by Stats. 1985, Ch. 498; amended by Stats. 1986, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 484.

*Section 84106 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84107. Ballot Measure Committee; Identification.

Within 30 days of the designation of the numerical order of propositions appearing on the ballot, any committee which is primarily formed to support or oppose a ballot measure, shall, if supporting the measure, include the statement, “a committee for Proposition __,” or, if opposing the measure, include the statement, “a committee against Proposition __,” in any reference to the committee required by law.

History: Added by Stats. 1985, Ch. 498; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 853.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18521.5, 18531.5

§ 84108. Slate Mailer Organization; Statement of Organization.*

(a) Every slate mailer organization shall comply with the requirements of Sections 84100, 84101, 84103, and 84104.

(b) The statement of organization of a slate mailer organization shall include:

(1) The name, street address, and telephone number of the organization. In the case of an individual or business entity that qualifies as a slate mailer organization, the name of the slate mailer organization shall include the name by which the individual or entity is identified for legal purposes. Whenever identification of a slate mailer organization is required by this title, the identification shall include the full name of the slate mailer organization as contained in its statement of organization.

(2) The full name, street address, and telephone number of the treasurer and other principal officers.

(3) The full name, street address, and telephone number of each person with final decisionmaking authority as to which candidates or measures will be supported or opposed in the organization’s slate mailers.

(c) The statement of organization shall be filed with the Secretary of State within 10 days after the slate mailer organization receives or is promised five hundred dollars (\$500) or more for producing one or more slate mailers. However, if an entity qualifies as a slate mailer organization before the date of an election in which it 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 84218, the slate mailer organization shall file with the Secretary of State, by facsimile transmission, guaranteed overnight delivery, or personal delivery within 24 hours of qualifying as a slate mailer organization, the information required to be reported in the statement of organization.

History: Added by Stats. 1987, Ch. 905; amended by Stats. 1996, Ch. 892; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 478, effective September 10, 2004.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18402.1

*Section 84108 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84109. Limited Liability Company; Member Disclosure.

(a) A limited liability company that qualifies as a committee pursuant to Section 82013, or qualifies as a sponsor of a committee pursuant to Section 82048.7, shall file a statement of members with the Secretary of State.

(b) The statement of members shall include a list of all persons who either:

(1) Have a membership interest in the limited liability company equal to or greater than 10 percent of the total outstanding membership interests.

(2) Made a cumulative capital contribution of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or more to the limited liability company after it qualified as a committee or sponsor of a committee, or within the preceding 12 months before it qualified.

(c) The statement of members shall include all of the following:

(1) The name of the limited liability company and the contact information for its responsible officer or principal officer.

(2) The name of each member required to be identified by subdivision (b).

(3) The dollar amount of the cumulative capital contributions made by each member identified in the statement of members.

(4) The date of each capital contribution made by a member identified pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (b).

(5) The percentage ownership interest in the limited liability company of each member identified in the statement of members.

(d)(1)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), a statement of members is due within 10 days of the limited liability company qualifying as a committee or sponsor of a committee.

(B) A statement of members is due within 24 hours of the limited liability company qualifying as a committee or sponsor of a committee if the limited liability company qualifies within 30 days of an election and the limited liability company has made a contribution to, or an independent expenditure supporting or opposing, a candidate or ballot measure on the ballot in that election, or made a contribution to a committee that made a contribution to, or an independent expenditure supporting or opposing, a candidate or ballot measure on the ballot in that election.

(2)(A) A limited liability company required to file a statement of members under subdivision (a) shall file an amended statement if it receives a capital contribution of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or more after qualifying as a committee or sponsor of a committee.

(B)(i) Except as provided in clause (ii), a limited liability company required to file an amended statement of members shall file the amended statement within 10 days of receiving the additional capital contribution.

(ii) A limited liability company required to file an amended statement of members shall file the amended statement within 24 hours of receiving the additional capital contribution if the limited liability company receives the contribution within 90 days of an election and the limited liability company has made a contribution to, or independent expenditure supporting or opposing, a candidate or ballot measure on the ballot in that election.

(C) A capital contribution or other payment made to a limited liability company that qualified as a committee or sponsor of a committee that is earmarked, in whole or in part, for political purposes shall be deemed a contribution to the committee.

(e) If a member listed on a statement of members is a limited liability company, the statement shall list all members of that limited liability company who would be listed on a statement of members pursuant to subdivision (b) if the member limited liability company qualified as a committee or sponsor of a committee.

(f) Contributions from a member of a limited liability company identified in a statement of members shall be aggregated with contributions from the limited liability company pursuant to Section 82015.5.

(g)(1) A statement of members shall be filed by email with the Secretary of State and shall be signed by using a secure electronic signature. The Secretary of State shall post all statements received pursuant to this subdivision on its internet website within five business days, or if the Secretary of State receives the statement during the 16 days before the election, within 48 hours.

(2) This subdivision shall become inoperative on the date the Secretary of State makes the statement of members available for filing using the Secretary of State's online filing and disclosure system described in Section 84602.

(h)(1) No later than one year after the Secretary of State certifies the online filing and disclosure system pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 84602, the Secretary of State shall make the statement of members available for filing using that online filing and disclosure system.

(2)(A) A statement of members shall be filed online or electronically with the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State shall make a statement of members filed pursuant to this subdivision available to the public in the online filing and disclosure system described in Section 84602.

(B) This paragraph shall become operative on the date the Secretary of State makes the statement of members available for filing using the Secretary of State's online filing and disclosure system described in Section 84602.

(i) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) "Capital contribution" means money, or the fair market value of any other property, contributed to a limited liability company in exchange for a membership interest in the limited liability company.

(2) "Limited liability company" means an entity defined in subdivision (j) or (k) of Section 17701.02 of the Corporations Code.

(3) "Member" has the same meaning as defined in subdivision (p) of Section 17701.02 of the Corporations Code.

History: Added by Stats. 2021, Ch. 321, effective January 1, 2022.

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§ 84200. Semi-Annual Statements.*

(a) Except as provided in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3), elected officers, candidates, and committees pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 82013 shall file semiannual statements each year no later than July 31 for the period ending June 30, and no later than January 31 for the period ending December 31.

(1) A candidate who, during the past six months has filed a declaration pursuant to Section 84206 shall not be required to file a semiannual statement for that six-month period.

(2) Elected officers whose salaries are less than two hundred dollars (\$200) a month, judges, judicial candidates, and their controlled committees shall not file semiannual statements pursuant to this subdivision for any six-month period in which they have not made or received any contributions or made any expenditures.

(3) A judge who is not listed on the ballot for reelection to, or recall from, any elective office during a calendar year shall not file semiannual statements pursuant to this subdivision for any six-month period in that year if both of the following apply:

(A) The judge has not received any contributions.

(B) The only expenditures made by the judge during the calendar year are contributions from the judge's personal funds to other candidates or committees totaling less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

(b) All committees pursuant to subdivision (b) or (c) of Section 82013 shall file campaign statements each year no later than July 31 for the period ending June 30, and no later than January 31 for the period ending December 31, if they have made contributions or independent expenditures, including payments to a slate mailer organization, during the six-month period before the closing date of the statements.

History: Amended by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1193; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289. (Formerly titled "Time for Filing Campaign Statements in Connection with Elections Held at Times Other Than the State Direct Primary or the State General Election.") Amended by Stats. 1981, Ch. 78; amended by Stats. 1982, Ch. 1069; amended by Stats. 1983, Ch. 898; amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 1368; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1456; amended by Stats. 1988, Ch. 708; amended by Stats. 1990, Ch. 581; amended by Stats. 1994, Ch. 1129; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 130.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18405, 18420, 18426

Opinions: *In re Lui* (1987) 10 FPPC Ops. 10
In re Sampson (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 183
In re Kelly, Masini (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 162
In re Goodwin (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 24

*Section 84200 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84200.5. Preelection Statements.*

(a) In addition to the semiannual campaign statements required by Section 84200, the following elected officers, candidates, and committees shall file preelection statements under Section 84200.8:

(1) All candidates appearing on the ballot at the next election, their controlled committees, and committees primarily formed to support or oppose an elected officer, candidate, or measure appearing on the ballot for the next election.

(2) All elected state officers and candidates for elective state office who are not appearing on the ballot at the next state primary or general election, and who, during the preelection reporting periods covered by Section 84200.8, make contributions or independent expenditures totaling five hundred dollars (\$500) or more to a state or county general purpose committee, or to support or oppose a candidate

or measure appearing on the ballot at the next state primary or general election.

(3) A state or county general purpose committee formed pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 82013, other than a political party committee as defined in Section 85205, that, during the preelection reporting periods covered by Section 84200.8, makes contributions or independent expenditures totaling five hundred dollars (\$500) or more to a state or county general purpose committee, or to support or oppose a candidate or measure appearing on the ballot at the next state primary or general election. 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.

(4) A political party committee as defined in Section 85205 that, during the preelection reporting periods covered by Section 84200.8, receives contributions totaling one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more, or makes contributions or independent expenditures totaling five hundred dollars (\$500) or more, to a state or county general purpose committee, or to support or oppose a candidate or measure appearing on the ballot at a state election.

(5) A city general purpose committee formed pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 82013 that, during the preelection reporting periods covered by Section 84200.8, makes contributions or independent expenditures totaling five hundred dollars (\$500) or more to a city general purpose committee formed within the same jurisdiction, or to support or oppose a candidate or measure appearing on the ballot at the next city election. 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.

(b) During an election period for the Board of Administration of the Public Employees' Retirement System or the Teachers' Retirement Board, the following candidates and committees shall file the preelection statements specified in Section 84200.9:

(1) All candidates for these boards, their controlled committees, and committees primarily formed to support or oppose the candidates.

(2) A state or county general purpose committee formed pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 82013 that, during the preelection reporting periods covered by Section 84200.9, makes contributions or independent expenditures totaling five hundred dollars (\$500) or more to support or oppose a candidate for the Board of Administration of the Public Employees' Retirement System or the Teachers' Retirement Board. 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.

History: Added by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1456; amended by Stats. 1986, Ch. 542; amended by Stats. 1988, Ch. 1281 effective September 26, 1988; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 505; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 1077; amended by Stats. 1993, Ch. 769; amended by Stats. 1999, Ch. 158, effective July 23, 1999; amended by Stats. 1999, Ch. 855; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 623, effective September 21, 2004; amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 633; repealed and adopted by Stats. 2015, Ch. 364, effective January 1, 2016; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 102.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18405, 18531.5

*Section 84200.5 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84200.8. Timing for Filing Preelection Statements.*

Preelection statements shall be filed under this section as follows:

(a) For the period ending 45 days before the election, the statement shall be filed no later than 40 days before the election.

(b) For the period ending 17 days before the election, the statement shall be filed no later than 12 days before the election. All candidates being voted upon in the election in connection with which the statement is filed, their controlled committees, and committees formed primarily to support or oppose a candidate or measure being voted upon in that election shall file this statement by guaranteed overnight delivery service or by personal delivery.

(c) For runoff elections held within 60 days of the qualifying election, an additional preelection statement for the period ending 17 days before the runoff election shall be filed no later than 12 days before the election. All candidates being voted upon in the election in connection with which the statement is filed, their controlled committees, and committees formed primarily to support or oppose a candidate or measure being voted upon in that election shall file this statement by guaranteed overnight delivery service or personal delivery.

History: Added by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1456; amended by Stats. 1986, Ch. 984.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18405, 18531.5

*Section 84200.8 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84200.9. Time for Filing Preelection Statements for Candidates for the Board of Administration of the Public Employees' Retirement System and Teachers' Retirement Board.*

Preelection statements for an election period for the Board of Administration of the Public Employees' Retirement System or the Teachers' Retirement Board shall be filed as follows:

(a) For the period ending five days before the beginning of the ballot period, as determined by the relevant board, a statement shall be filed no later than two days before the beginning of the ballot period.

(b) For the period ending five days before the deadline to return ballots, as determined by the relevant board, a statement shall be filed no later than two days before the deadline to return ballots.

(c) In the case of a runoff election, for the period ending five days before the deadline to return runoff ballots, as

determined by the relevant board, a statement shall be filed no later than two days before the deadline to return runoff ballots.

(d) All candidates being voted upon, their controlled committees, and committees primarily formed to support or oppose a candidate being voted upon in that election shall file the statements specified in subdivisions (b) and (c) by guaranteed overnight delivery service or by personal delivery.

History: Added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 633.

*Section 84200.9 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84202.3. Campaign Statements; Ballot Measure Committees.*

(a) In addition to the campaign statements required by Section 84200, committees pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 82013 that are primarily formed to support or oppose the qualification, passage, or defeat of a measure and proponents of a state ballot measure who control a committee formed or existing primarily to support the qualification, passage, or defeat of a state ballot measure, shall file campaign statements on the following dates:

(1) No later than April 30 for the period January 1 through March 31.

(2) No later than October 31 for the period July 1 through September 30.

(b) This section does not apply to a committee during any semiannual period in which the committee is required to file preelection statements pursuant to paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 84200.5.

(c) This section does not apply to a committee following the election at which the measure is voted upon unless the committee makes contributions or expenditures to support or oppose the qualification or passage of another ballot measure.

History: Added by Stats. 1991, Ch. 696; amended by Stats. 1993, Ch. 769; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 102.

*Section 84202.3 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84202.7. Time for Filing by Committees of Odd-Numbered Year Reports.*

During an odd-numbered year, any committee by virtue of Section 82013 that makes contributions totaling ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or more to elected state officers, their controlled committees, or committees primarily formed to support or oppose any elected state officer during a period specified below shall file campaign statements on the following dates:

(a) No later than April 30 for the period of January 1 through March 31.

(b) No later than October 31 for the period of July 1 through September 30.

History: Added by Stats. 1986, Ch. 984; amended by Stats. 1993, Ch. 218; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 130; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 315.

*Section 84202.7 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84203. Late Contribution; Reports.*

(a) Each candidate or committee that makes or receives a late contribution, as defined in Section 82036, shall report the late contribution to each office with which the candidate or committee is required to file its next campaign statement pursuant to Section 84215. The candidate or committee that makes the late contribution shall report the candidate or committee's full name and street address and the full name and street address of the person to whom the late contribution has been made, the office sought if the recipient is a candidate, or the ballot measure number or letter if the recipient is a committee primarily formed to support or oppose a ballot measure, and the date and amount of the late contribution. The recipient of the late contribution shall report the recipient's full name and street address, the date and amount of the late contribution, and whether the contribution was made in the form of a loan. The recipient shall also report the full name of the contributor, the contributor's street address, occupation, and the name of the contributor's employer, or, if self-employed, the name of the business.

(b) A late contribution shall be reported by facsimile transmission, guaranteed overnight delivery, or personal delivery within 24 hours of the time it is made in the case of the candidate or committee that makes the contribution and within 24 hours of the time it is received in the case of the recipient. If a late contribution is required to be reported to the Secretary of State, the report to the Secretary of State shall be by online or electronic transmission only. A late contribution shall be reported on subsequent campaign statements without regard to reports filed pursuant to this section.

(c) A late contribution need not be reported nor shall it be deemed accepted if it is not cashed, negotiated, or deposited and is returned to the contributor within 24 hours of its receipt.

(d) A report filed pursuant to this section shall be in addition to any other campaign statement required to be filed by this chapter.

(e) The report required pursuant to this section is not required to be filed by a candidate or committee that has disclosed the late contribution pursuant to subdivision (a) or (b) of Section 85309.

History: Amended and renumbered by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1193. (Formerly Section 84201.) (Former Section 84203, titled "Measure; Committee; Time for Filing Campaign Statement," repealed by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1193.) Repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289. (Formerly titled "Time for Filing When a Special, General or Runoff Election is Held Less than 60 Days Following the Primary Election.") Repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1456. (Formerly titled "Designation of Final Committee Preelection Statement."); amended by Stats. 1992, Ch. 89; amended by Stats. 2002, Ch. 211; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 478, effective September 10, 2004; amended by Stats. 2005, Ch. 200; amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 18; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18401, 18421.1, 18425, 18435, 18531.5

*Section 84203 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84203.3. Late In-Kind Contributions.

(a) Any candidate or committee that makes a late contribution that is an in-kind contribution shall notify the recipient in writing of the value of the in-kind contribution. The notice shall be received by the recipient within 24 hours of the time the contribution is made.

(b) Nothing in this section shall relieve a candidate or committee that makes a late in-kind contribution or the recipient of a late in-kind contribution from the requirement to file late contribution reports pursuant to Section 84203. However, a report filed by the recipient of a late in-kind contribution shall be deemed timely filed if it is received by the filing officer within 48 hours of the time the contribution is received.

History: Added by Stats. 1995, Ch. 77.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18421.1, 18425

§ 84204. Late Independent Expenditures; Reports.*

(a) A committee that makes a late independent expenditure, as defined in Section 82036.5, shall report the late independent expenditure by facsimile transmission, guaranteed overnight delivery, or personal delivery within 24 hours of the time it is made. If a late independent expenditure is required to be reported to the Secretary of State, the report to the Secretary of State shall be by online or electronic transmission only. A late independent expenditure shall be reported on subsequent campaign statements without regard to reports filed pursuant to this section.

(b) A committee that makes a late independent expenditure shall report its full name and street address, as well as the name, office, and district of the candidate if the report is related to a candidate, or if the report is related to a measure, the number or letter of the measure, the jurisdiction in which the measure is to be voted upon, and the amount and the date, as well as a description of goods or services for which the late independent expenditure was made. In addition to the information required by this subdivision, a committee that makes a late independent expenditure shall include with its late independent expenditure report the information required by paragraphs (1) to (5), inclusive, of subdivision (f) of Section 84211, covering the period from the day after the closing date of the last campaign report filed to the date of the late independent expenditure, or if the committee has not previously filed a campaign statement, covering the period from the previous January 1 to the date of the late independent expenditure. No information required by paragraphs (1) to (5), inclusive, of subdivision (f) of Section 84211 that is required to be reported with a late independent expenditure report by this subdivision is required to be reported on more than one late independent expenditure report.

(c) A committee that makes a late independent expenditure shall file a late independent expenditure report in the places where it would be required to file campaign statements under this article as if it were formed or existing primarily to support or oppose the candidate or measure for or against which it is making the late independent expenditure.

(d) A report filed pursuant to this section shall be in addition to any other campaign statement required to be filed by this article.

(e) Expenditures that have been disclosed by candidates and committees pursuant to Section 85500 are not required to be disclosed pursuant to this section.

History: Former Section 84204, titled "Support of Both Candidates and Measures; Filing Requirements," repealed by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1193; former Section 84202 amended by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1106; renumbered to 84204 by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1193; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289. (Formerly titled "Time for Filing; Committees Supporting or Opposing the Qualification of a Measure and Proponents of State Measures"); repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1456. (Formerly titled "Designation of Final Candidate Preelection Statement"); amended by Stats. 1992, Ch. 89; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 241, effective September 4, 2001; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 478, effective September 10, 2004; amended by Stats. 2005, Ch. 200; amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 18.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18421.11, 18550

*Section 84204 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix V.

§ 84204.5. Ballot Measure Contributions and Expenditures; Reports.*

(a) In addition to any other report required by this title, a committee pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 82013 that is required to file reports pursuant to Section 84605 shall file online or electronically with the Secretary of State each time it makes contributions totaling five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more or each time it makes independent expenditures totaling five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more to support or oppose the qualification or passage of a single state ballot measure. The report shall be filed within 10 business days of making the contributions or independent expenditures and shall contain all of the following:

(1) The full name, street address, and identification number of the committee.

(2) The number or letter of the measure if the measure has qualified for the ballot and has been assigned a number or letter; the title of the measure if the measure has not been assigned a number or letter but has been issued a title by the Attorney General; or the subject of the measure if the measure has not been assigned a number or letter and has not been issued a title by the Attorney General.

(3) In the case of a contribution, the date and amount of the contribution and the name, address, and identification number of the committee to whom the contribution was made. In addition, the report shall include the information required by paragraphs (1) to (5), inclusive, of subdivision

(f) of Section 84211, regarding contributions or loans received from a person described in that subdivision, covering the period from the day after the closing date of the last campaign report filed to the date of the contribution requiring a report under this section, or if the committee has not previously filed a campaign statement, covering the period from the previous January 1 to the date of the contribution requiring a report under this section. No information described in paragraphs (1) to (5), inclusive, of subdivision (f) of Section 84211 that is required to be reported pursuant to this subdivision is required to be reported in more than one report provided for in this subdivision for each contribution or loan received from a person described in subdivision (f) of Section 84211.

(4) In the case of an independent expenditure, the date, amount, and a description of the goods or services for which the expenditure was made. In addition, the report shall include the information required by paragraphs (1) to (5), inclusive, of subdivision (f) of Section 84211 regarding contributions or loans received from a person described in that subdivision, covering the period from the day after the closing date of the last campaign report filed to the date of the expenditure, or if the committee has not previously filed a campaign statement, covering the period from the previous January 1 to the date of the expenditure. No information described in paragraphs (1) to (5), inclusive, of subdivision (f) of Section 84211 that is required to be reported pursuant to this subdivision is required to be reported in more than one report provided for in this subdivision for each contribution or loan received from a person described in subdivision (f) of Section 84211.

(b) In addition to any other report required by this title, a committee pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 82013 shall file a report each time it makes contributions totaling five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more or independent expenditures aggregating five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more to support or oppose the qualification of a single local initiative or referendum ballot measure. A committee that is required to file a report under this subdivision shall file the report in the places where it would be required to file campaign statements under this article as if it were formed or existing primarily to support or oppose the local initiative or referendum ballot measure. The report shall be filed within 10 business days of reaching the aggregate dollar threshold and shall contain all of the following:

(1) The full name, street address, and identification number of the committee.

(2) The name or subject of the measure.

(3) In the case of an independent expenditure, the date, amount, and a description of the goods or services for which the expenditure was made. In the case of a contribution, the date and amount of the contribution and the name, address, and identification number of the committee to which the contribution was made. In addition, the report shall include the information required by paragraphs (1) to (5), inclusive, of subdivision (f) of Section 84211 regarding contributions or loans received from a person described in that subdivision, covering the period from the day after the closing date

of the last campaign report filed to the date of the contribution or expenditure, or if the committee has not previously filed a campaign statement, covering the period from the previous January 1 to the date of the contribution or expenditure. The information described in paragraphs (1) to (5), inclusive, of subdivision (f) of Section 84211 that is required to be reported pursuant to this subdivision is not required to be reported in more than one report provided for in this subdivision for each contribution or loan received from a person described in subdivision (f) of Section 84211.

(c) Reports required by this section are not required to be filed by a committee primarily formed to support or oppose the qualification or passage of a state ballot measure or the qualification of a local initiative or referendum ballot measure for expenditures made on behalf of the ballot measure or measures for which it is formed.

(d) Independent expenditures that have been disclosed by a committee pursuant to Section 84204 or 85500 are not required to be disclosed pursuant to this section.

History: Added by Stats. 2006, Ch. 438; amended by Stats. 2017 Ch. 183.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18466

*Section 84204.5 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84205. Combination of Statements.*

The commission may by regulation or written advice permit candidates and committees to file campaign statements combining statements and reports required to be filed by this title.

History: Amended by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1193; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289. (Formerly titled "Closing Dates"); amended by Stats. 1981, Ch. 78; repealed and reenacted by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1456. (Formerly titled "Candidates Who Receive or Spend Less than \$500.")

*Section 84205 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84206. Candidates Who Receive or Spend Less Than \$2,000.*

(a) The commission shall provide by regulation for a short form for filing reports required by this article for candidates or officeholders who receive contributions of less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000), and who make expenditures of less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000), in a calendar year.

(b) For the purposes of this section, in calculating whether two thousand dollars (\$2,000) in expenditures have been made, payments for a filing fee or for a statement of qualification shall not be included if these payments have been made from the candidate's personal funds.

(c) Every candidate or officeholder who has filed a short form pursuant to subdivision (a), and who thereafter receives contributions or makes expenditures totaling two thousand dollars (\$2,000) or more in a calendar year, shall send written notification to the Secretary of State, the local

filing officer, and each candidate contending for the same office within 48 hours of receiving or expending a total of two thousand dollars (\$2,000). The written notification shall revoke the previously filed short form statement.

History: Repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289. (Formerly titled "Semi-Annual Campaign Statements"); repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1456. (Formerly titled "Late Contributions; Reports"); amended by Stats. 1987, Ch. 632; amended by Stats. 1993, Ch. 391; amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 364, effective January 1, 2016.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18406

Opinions: *In re Lui* (1987) 10 FPPC Ops. 10

*Section 84206 was repealed by SB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84207. County Central Committee Candidates Who Receive or Spend Less Than \$2,000.*

(a) An elected member of, or a candidate for election to, a county central committee of a qualified political party who receives contributions of less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) and who makes expenditures of less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) in a calendar year shall not be required to file any campaign statements required by this title.

(b) Notwithstanding Sections 81009.5 and 81013, a local government agency shall not impose any filing requirements on an elected member of, or a candidate for election to, a county central committee of a qualified political party who receives contributions of less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) and who makes expenditures of less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) in a calendar year.

History: Amended by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1193, effective January 1, 1978; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289. (Formerly titled "Candidate for Reelection to Judicial Office"); repealed by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1456; reenacted as amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 502. (Formerly titled "Late Independent Expenditures; Reports."); amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 364, effective January 1, 2016.

*Section 84207 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84209. Consolidated Statements.*

A candidate or state measure proponent and any committee or committees which the candidate or a state measure proponent controls may file consolidated campaign statements under this chapter. Such consolidated statements shall be filed in each place each of the committees and the candidate or state measure proponent would be required to file campaign statements if separate statements were filed.

History: Added by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289.

*Section 84209 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84211. Contents of Campaign Statement.*

Each campaign statement required by this article shall contain all of the following information:

(a) The total amount of contributions received during the period covered by the campaign statement and the total cumulative amount of contributions received.

(b) The total amount of expenditures made during the period covered by the campaign statement and the total cumulative amount of expenditures made.

(c) The total amount of contributions received during the period covered by the campaign statement from persons who have given a cumulative amount of one hundred dollars (\$100) or more.

(d) The total amount of contributions received during the period covered by the campaign statement from persons who have given a cumulative amount of less than one hundred dollars (\$100).

(e) The balance of cash and cash equivalents on hand at the beginning and the end of the period covered by the campaign statement.

(f) If the cumulative amount of contributions (including loans) received from a person is one hundred dollars (\$100) or more and a contribution or loan has been received from that person during the period covered by the campaign statement, all of the following:

(1) That person's full name.

(2) That person's street address.

(3) That person's occupation.

(4) The name of that person's employer, or, if self-employed, the name of the business.

(5) The date and amount received for each contribution received during the period covered by the campaign statement and, if the contribution is a loan, the interest rate for the loan.

(6) The cumulative amount of contributions.

(g) If the cumulative amount of loans received from or made to a person is one hundred dollars (\$100) or more, and a loan has been received from or made to a person during the period covered by the campaign statement, or is outstanding during the period covered by the campaign statement, all of the following:

(1) That person's full name.

(2) That person's street address.

(3) That person's occupation.

(4) The name of that person's employer, or, if self-employed, the name of the business.

(5) The original date and amount of each loan.

(6) The due date and interest rate of the loan.

(7) The cumulative payment made or received to date at the end of the reporting period.

(8) The balance outstanding at the end of the reporting period.

(9) The cumulative amount of contributions.

(h) For each person, other than the filer, who is directly, indirectly, or contingently liable for repayment of a loan received or outstanding during the period covered by the campaign statement, all of the following:

(1) That person's full name.

(2) That person's street address.

(3) That person's occupation.

(4) The name of that person's employer, or, if self-employed, the name of the business.

(5) The amount of that person's maximum liability outstanding.

(i) The total amount of expenditures made during the period covered by the campaign statement to persons who have received one hundred dollars (\$100) or more.

(j) The total amount of expenditures made during the period covered by the campaign statement to persons who have received less than one hundred dollars (\$100).

(k) For each person to whom an expenditure of one hundred dollars (\$100) or more has been made during the period covered by the campaign statement, all of the following:

(1) That person's full name.

(2) That person's street address.

(3) The amount of each expenditure.

(4) A brief description of the consideration for which each expenditure was made.

(5) In the case of an expenditure which is a contribution to a candidate, elected officer, or committee or an independent expenditure to support or oppose a candidate or measure, in addition to the information required in paragraphs (1) to (4) above, the date of the contribution or independent expenditure, the cumulative amount of contributions made to a candidate, elected officer, or committee, or the cumulative amount of independent expenditures made relative to a candidate or measure; the full name of the candidate, and the office and district for which the candidate seeks nomination or election, or the number or letter of the measure; and the jurisdiction in which the measure or candidate is voted upon.

(6) The information required in paragraphs (1) to (4), inclusive, for each person, if different from the payee, who has provided consideration for an expenditure of five hundred dollars (\$500) or more during the period covered by the campaign statement.

For purposes of subdivisions (i), (j), and (k) only, the terms "expenditure" or "expenditures" mean any individual payment or accrued expense, unless it is clear from surrounding circumstances that a series of payments or accrued expenses are for a single service or product.

(l) In the case of a controlled committee, an official committee of a political party, or an organization formed or existing primarily for political purposes, the amount and source of any miscellaneous receipt.

(m) If a committee is listed pursuant to subdivision (f), (g), (h), (k), (l), or (q), the number assigned to the committee by the Secretary of State shall be listed, or, if no number has been assigned, the full name and street address of the treasurer of the committee.

(n) In a campaign statement filed by a candidate who is a candidate in both a state primary and general election, such a candidate's controlled committee, or a committee primarily formed to support or oppose such a candidate, the total amount of contributions received and the total amount of expenditures made for the period January 1 through June 30 and the total amount of contributions received and expenditures made for the period July 1 through December 31.

(o) The full name, residential or business address, and telephone number of the filer, or in the case of a campaign

statement filed by a committee defined by subdivision (a) of Section 82013, the name, street address, and telephone number of the committee and of the committee treasurer. In the case of a committee defined by subdivision (b) or (c) of Section 82013, the name that the filer uses on campaign statements shall be the name by which the filer is identified for other legal purposes or any name by which the filer is commonly known to the public.

(p) If the campaign statement is filed by a candidate, the name, street address, and treasurer of any committee of which that candidate has knowledge which has received contributions or made expenditures on behalf of the candidate's candidacy and whether the committee is controlled by the candidate.

(q) A contribution need not be reported nor shall it be deemed accepted if it is not cashed, negotiated, or deposited and is returned to the contributor before the closing date of the campaign statement on which the contribution would otherwise be reported.

(r) If a committee primarily formed for the qualification or support of, or opposition to, an initiative or ballot measure is required to report an expenditure to a business entity pursuant to subdivision (k) and 50 percent or more of the business entity is owned by a candidate or person controlling the committee, by an officer or employee of the committee, or by a spouse of any of these individuals, the committee's campaign statement shall also contain, in addition to the information required by subdivision (k), that person's name, the relationship of that person to the committee, and a description of that person's ownership interest or position with the business entity.

(s) If a committee primarily formed for the qualification or support of, or opposition to, an initiative or ballot measure is required to report an expenditure to a business entity pursuant to subdivision (k), and a candidate or person controlling the committee, an officer or employee of the committee, or a spouse of any of these individuals is an officer, partner, consultant, or employee of the business entity, the committee's campaign statement shall also contain, in addition to the information required by subdivision (k), that person's name, the relationship of that person to the committee, and a description of that person's ownership interest or position with the business entity.

(t) If the campaign statement is filed by a committee, as defined in subdivision (b) or (c) of Section 82013, information sufficient to identify the nature and interests of the filer, including:

(1) If the filer is an individual, the name and address of the filer's employer, if any, or the filer's principal place of business if the filer is self-employed, and a description of the business activity in which the filer or the filer's employer is engaged.

(2) If the filer is a business entity, a description of the business activity in which it is engaged.

(3) If the filer is an industry, trade, or professional association, a description of the industry, trade, or profession which it represents, including a specific description of any portion or faction of the industry, trade, or profession which the association exclusively or primarily represents.

(4) If the filer is not an individual, business entity, or industry, trade, or professional association, a statement of the person's nature and purposes, including a description of any industry, trade, profession, or other group with a common economic interest which the person principally represents or from which its membership or financial support is principally derived.

History: Amended by Stats. 1978, Ch. 650; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289; (Formerly titled "Consideration of Cumulative Amount"); amended by Stats. 1982, Ch. 377; amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 899; amended by Stats. 1988, Ch. 704; amended by Stats. 1989, Ch. 1452; amended by Stats. 1990, Ch. 581; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 674; amended by Stats. 1993, Ch. 1140; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 161; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 853; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18229.1, 18421, 18421.1, 18421.3, 18421.4, 18421.5, 18421.6, 18421.7, 18421.8, 18421.9, 18421.10, 18421.11, 18423, 18428, 18430, 18431, 18526 18531.5, 18537

Opinions: *In re Roberts* (2004) 17 FPPC Ops. 9
In re Nielsen (1979) 5 FPPC Ops. 18
In re Buchanan (1979) 5 FPPC Ops. 14
In re Kahn (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 151
In re Lumsdon (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 140
In re McCormick (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 42
In re Burciaga (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 17
In re Hayes (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 210
In re Cory (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 137

*Section 84211 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84212. Forms; Loans.*

The forms promulgated by the commission for disclosure of the information required by this chapter shall provide for the reporting of loans and similar transactions in a manner that does not result in substantial overstatement or understatement of total contributions and expenditures.

History: Amended by Stats. 1975, Ch. 915, effective September 20, 1975, operative January 7, 1975; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289. (Formerly titled "Candidates Who Receive and Spend \$200 or Less."); amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1456.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18404.2

*Section 84212 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84213. Verification.*

(a) A candidate or state measure proponent shall verify the candidate's or proponent's campaign statement and the campaign statement of each committee subject to the candidate or state measure proponent's control. The verification shall be in accordance with the provisions of Section 81004 except that it shall state that to the best of the candidate or state measure proponent's knowledge the treasurer of each controlled committee used all reasonable diligence in the preparation of the committee's statement. This section does not relieve the treasurer of any committee from the obligation to verify each campaign statement filed by the committee pursuant to Section 81004.

(b) If a committee is required to file a campaign statement or report disclosing an independent expenditure pursuant to this title, a principal officer of the committee or, in the case of a controlled committee, the candidate or state measure proponent or opponent who controls the committee shall sign a verification on a report prescribed by the Commission. Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, the report containing the verification required by this subdivision shall be filed only with the Commission. The verification shall read as follows:

I have not received any unreported contributions or reimbursements to make these independent expenditures. I have not coordinated any expenditure made during this reporting period with the candidate or the opponent of the candidate who is the subject of the expenditure, with the proponent or the opponent of the state measure that is the subject of the expenditure, or with the agents of the candidate or the opponent of the candidate or the state measure proponent or opponent.

History: Former Section 84213, titled "Consolidated Statements; Candidates and Committees," amended by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1106; repealed by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289. Former Section 84209 amended and renumbered Section 84216.5 by Stats. 1979; Section 84216.5 renumbered Section 84213 by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289; amended by Stats. 1983, Ch. 898; amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 496; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18427, 18465.1, 18570

*Section 84213 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84214. Termination.*

Committees and candidates shall terminate their filing obligation pursuant to regulations adopted by the commission which insure that a committee or candidate will have no activity which must be disclosed pursuant to this chapter subsequent to the termination. Such regulations shall not require the filing of any campaign statements other than those required by this chapter. In no case shall a committee which qualifies solely under subdivision (b) or (c) of Section 82013 be required to file any notice of its termination.

History: Repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1977, Ch. 344, effective August 20, 1977; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289. (Formerly titled "Late Contributions; Reports.")

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18401, 18404, 18404.1, 18404.3, 18531.5, 18537.1

*Section 84214 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84215. Campaign Statements; Where to File.*

All candidates and elected officers and their controlled committees, except as provided in subdivisions (d) and (e), shall file one copy of the campaign statements required by Section 84200 with the elections official of the county in which the candidate or elected official is domiciled, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 349 of the Elections

Code. In addition, campaign statements shall be filed at the following places:

(a) Statewide elected officers, including members of the State Board of Equalization; Members of the Legislature; Supreme Court justices, court of appeal justices, and superior court judges; candidates for those offices and their controlled committees; committees formed or existing primarily to support or oppose these candidates, elected officers, justices and judges, or statewide measures, or the qualification of state ballot measures; and all state general purpose committees and filers not specified in subdivisions (b) to (e), inclusive, shall file a campaign statement by online or electronic means, as specified in Section 84605, and shall file the original campaign statement in paper format with the Secretary of State.

(b) Elected officers in jurisdictions other than legislative districts, State Board of Equalization districts, or appellate court districts that contain parts of two or more counties, candidates for these offices, their controlled committees, and committees formed or existing primarily to support or oppose candidates or local measures to be voted upon in one of these jurisdictions shall file the original and one copy with the elections official of the county with the largest number of registered voters in the jurisdiction.

(c) County elected officers, candidates for these offices, their controlled committees, committees formed or existing primarily to support or oppose candidates or local measures to be voted upon in any number of jurisdictions within one county, other than those specified in subdivision (d), and county general purpose committees shall file the original and one copy with the elections official of the county.

(d) City elected officers, candidates for city office, their controlled committees, committees formed or existing primarily to support or oppose candidates or local measures to be voted upon in one city, and city general purpose committees shall file the original and one copy with the clerk of the city and are not required to file with the local elections official of the county in which they are domiciled.

(e) Elected members of the Board of Administration of the Public Employees' Retirement System, elected members of the Teachers' Retirement Board, candidates for these offices, their controlled committees, and committees formed or existing primarily to support or oppose these candidates or elected members shall file the original with the Secretary of State, and a copy shall be filed at the relevant board's office in Sacramento. These elected officers, candidates, and committees need not file with the elections official of the county in which they are domiciled.

(f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a committee, candidate, or elected officer is not required to file more than the original and one copy, or one copy, of a campaign statement with any one county elections official or city clerk or with the Secretary of State.

(g) If a committee is required to file campaign statements required by Section 84200 or 84200.5 in places designated in subdivisions (a) to (d), inclusive, it shall continue to file these statements in those places, in addition to any

other places required by this title, until the end of the calendar year.

History: Added by Stats. 1978, Ch. 1408, effective October 1, 1978; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289. (Formerly titled "Combination of Pre-election and Semiannual Statements"); amended by Stats. 1982, Ch. 1060; amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1456; amended by Stats. 1986, Ch. 490; amended by Stats. 1990, Ch. 581; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 241, effective September 4, 2001; amended by Stats. 2007, Ch. 54; amended by Stats. 2010; Ch.18, amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 633; Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 111; amended by Stats. 2022, Ch. 328.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18227, 18404.1, 18404.3, 18405, 18451

*Section 84215 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84216. Loans.

(a) Notwithstanding Section 82015, a loan received by a candidate or committee is a contribution unless the loan is received from a commercial lending institution in the ordinary course of business, or it is clear from the surrounding circumstances that it is not made for political purposes.

(b) A loan, whether or not there is a written contract for the loan, shall be reported as provided in Section 84211 when any of the following apply:

- (1) The loan is a contribution.
- (2) The loan is received by a committee.
- (3) The loan is received by a candidate and is used for political purposes.

History: Added by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1119; amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289; amended by Stats. 1982, Ch. 29; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 899; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 853.

§ 84216.5. Loans Made by a Candidate or Committee.

A loan of campaign funds, whether or not there is a written contract for the loan, made by a candidate or committee shall be reported as provided in Section 84211.

History: Former Section 84216.5 renumbered 84213 by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289; new section added by Stats. 1985, Ch. 899; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 853.

§ 84217. Federal Office Candidates; Places Filed.*

When the Secretary of State receives any campaign statement filed pursuant to the federal Election Campaign Act, (52 U.S.C.A. Section 30101 et seq.) the Secretary of State shall send a copy of the statement to the following officers:

(a) Statements of candidates for President, Vice President, or United States Senator and committees supporting such candidates - one copy with the Registrar-Recorder of Los Angeles County and one copy with the Registrar of Voters of the City and County of San Francisco;

(b) Statements of candidates for United States Representative in Congress and committees supporting such candidates - one copy with the clerk of the county which contains the largest percentage of the registered voters in the election district which the candidate or any of the candidates seek nomination or election and one copy with the clerk of

the county within which the candidate resides or in which the committee is domiciled, provided that if the committee is not domiciled in California the statement shall be sent to the Registrar-Recorder of Los Angeles County. No more than one copy of each statement need be filed with the clerk of any county.

History: Amended by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1095; amended and renumbered Section 84226 by Stats. 1979, Ch. 779. (Formerly Section 84208); amended and renumbered by Stats. 1980, Ch. 289. (Formerly Section 84226.) Amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 249.

*Section 84217 was repealed by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84218. Slate Mailer Organization; Campaign Statements.*

(a) A slate mailer organization shall file semiannual campaign statements no later than July 31 for the period ending June 30, and no later than January 31 for the period ending 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 five hundred dollars (\$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.

(c) A slate mailer organization shall file two copies of its campaign reports with the clerk of the county in which it is domiciled. A slate mailer organization is domiciled at the address listed on its statement of organization unless it is domiciled outside California, in which case its domicile shall be deemed to be Los Angeles County for purposes of this section.

In addition, slate mailer organizations shall file campaign reports as follows:

(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.

History: Added by Stats. 1987, Ch. 905; amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 18; amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 77; amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 364, effective January 1, 2016.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18401.1

*Section 84218 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84219. Slate Mailer Organization; Semi-Annual Statements; Contents.*

Whenever a slate mailer organization is required to file campaign reports pursuant to Section 84218, the campaign report shall include the following information:

(a) The total amount of receipts during the period covered by the campaign statement and the total cumulative amount of receipts. For purposes of this section only, “receipts” means payments received by a slate mailer organization for production and distribution of slate mailers.

(b) The total amount of disbursements made during the period covered by the campaign statement and the total cumulative amount of disbursements. For purposes of this section only, “disbursements” means payment made by a slate mailer organization for the production or distribution of slate mailers.

(c) For each candidate or committee that is a source of receipts totaling one hundred dollars (\$100) or more during the period covered by the campaign statement:

(1) The name of the candidate or committee, identification of the jurisdiction and the office sought or ballot measure number or letter, and, if the source is a committee, the committee’s identification number, street address, and the name of the candidate or measure on whose behalf or in opposition to which the payment is made.

(2) The date and amount received for each receipt totaling one hundred dollars (\$100) or more during the period covered by the campaign statement.

(3) The cumulative amount of receipts on behalf of or in opposition to the candidate or measure.

(d) For each person other than a candidate or committee who is a source of receipts totaling one hundred dollars (\$100) or more during the period covered by the campaign statement:

(1) Identification of the jurisdiction, office or ballot measure, and name of the candidate or measure on whose behalf or in opposition to which the payment was made.

(2) Full name, street address, name of employer, or, if self-employed, name of business of the source of receipts.

(3) The date and amount received for each receipt totaling one hundred dollars (\$100) or more during the period covered by the campaign statement.

(4) The cumulative amount of receipts on behalf of or in opposition to the candidate or measure.

(e) For each candidate or ballot measure not reported pursuant to subdivision (c) or (d), but who was supported or opposed in a slate mailer sent by the slate mailer organization during the period covered by the report, identification of jurisdiction, office or ballot measure, and name of the candidate or measure who was supported or opposed.

(f) The total amount of disbursements made during the period covered by the campaign statement to persons who have received one hundred dollars (\$100) or more.

(g) The total amount of disbursements made during the period covered by the campaign statement to persons who have received less than one hundred dollars (\$100).

(h) For each person to whom a disbursement of one hundred dollars (\$100) or more has been made during the period covered by the campaign statement:

(1) That person’s full name.

(2) That person’s street address.

(3) The amount of each disbursement.

(4) A brief description of the consideration for which each disbursement was made.

(5) The information required in paragraphs (1) to (4), inclusive, for each person, if different from the payee, who has provided consideration for a disbursement of five hundred dollars (\$500) or more during the period covered by the campaign statement.

(i) Cumulative disbursements, totaling one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more, made directly or indirectly to any person listed in the slate mailer organization’s statement of organization. For purposes of this subdivision, a disbursement is made indirectly to a person if it is intended for the benefit of or use by that person or a member of the person’s immediate family, or if it is made to a business entity in which the person or member of the person’s immediate family is a partner, shareholder, owner, director, trustee, officer, employee, consultant, or holds any position of management or in which the person or member of the person’s immediate family has an investment of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more. This subdivision does not apply to any disbursement made to a business entity whose securities are publicly traded.

(j) The full name, street address, and telephone number of the slate mailer organization and of the treasurer.

(k) Whenever a slate mailer organization also qualifies as a general purpose committee pursuant to Section 82027.5, the campaign report shall include, in addition to the information required by this section, the information required by Section 84211.

History: Added by Stats. 1987, Ch. 905; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 853; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18229.1, 18401.1

*Section 84219 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84220. Slate Mailer Organization; Late Payments.

If a slate mailer organization receives a payment of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) or more for purposes

of supporting or opposing any candidate or ballot measure in a slate mailer, and the payment is received at a time when, if the payment were a contribution it would be considered a late contribution, then the slate mailer organization shall report the payment in the manner set forth in Section 84203 for candidates and committees when reporting late contributions received. The slate mailer organization shall, in addition to reporting the information required by Section 84203, identify the candidates or measures whose support or opposition is being paid for, in whole or in part, by each late payment.

History: Added by Stats. 1987, Ch. 905.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18401.1

§ 84221. Slate Mailer Organization; Termination.

Slate mailer organizations shall terminate their filing obligations in the same manner as applies to committees qualifying under subdivision (a) of Section 82013.

History: Added by Stats. 1987, Ch. 905.

§ 84222. Multipurpose Organizations.*

(a) For purposes of this title, “multipurpose organization” means an organization described in Sections 501(c)(3) to 501(c)(10), inclusive, of the Internal Revenue Code and that is exempt from taxation under Section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, a federal or out-of-state political organization, a trade association, a professional association, a civic organization, a religious organization, a fraternal society, an educational institution, or any other association or group of persons acting in concert, that is operating for purposes other than making contributions or expenditures. “Multipurpose organization” does not include a business entity, an individual, or a federal candidate’s authorized committee, as defined in Section 431 of Title 2 of the United States Code, that is registered and filing reports pursuant to the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (Public Law 92-225).

(b) A multipurpose organization that makes expenditures or contributions and does not qualify as a committee pursuant to subdivision (c) may qualify as an independent expenditure committee or major donor committee if the multipurpose organization satisfies subdivision (b) or (c) of Section 82013.

(c) Except as provided in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (5), a multipurpose organization is a recipient committee within the meaning of subdivision (a) of Section 82013 only under one or more of the following circumstances:

(1) The multipurpose organization is a political committee registered with the Federal Election Commission, except as provided in subdivision (a) of this section, or a political committee registered with another state, and the multipurpose organization makes contributions or expenditures in this state in an amount equal to or greater than the amount identified in subdivision (a) of Section 82013.

(2) The multipurpose organization solicits and receives payments from donors in an amount equal to or greater than

the amount identified in subdivision (a) of Section 82013 for the purpose of making contributions or expenditures.

(3) The multipurpose organization accepts payments from donors in an amount equal to or greater than the amount identified in subdivision (a) of Section 82013 subject to a condition, agreement, or understanding with the donor that all or a portion of the payments may be used for making contributions or expenditures.

(4) The multipurpose organization has existing funds from a donor and a subsequent agreement or understanding is reached with the donor that all or a portion of the funds may be used for making contributions or expenditures in an amount equal to or greater than the amount identified in subdivision (a) of Section 82013. The date of the subsequent agreement or understanding is deemed to be the date of receipt of the payment.

(5) The multipurpose organization makes contributions or expenditures totaling more than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) in a period of 12 months or more than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in a period of four consecutive calendar years.

(A) A multipurpose organization shall not qualify as a committee within the meaning of subdivision (a) of Section 82013 pursuant to this paragraph if the multipurpose organization makes contributions or expenditures using only available nondonor funds. A multipurpose organization that makes contributions or expenditures with nondonor funds shall briefly describe the source of the funds used on its major donor or independent expenditure report.

(B) For purposes of this paragraph, “nondonor funds” means investment income, including capital gains, or income earned from providing goods, services, or facilities, whether related or unrelated to the multipurpose organization’s program, sale of assets, or other receipts that are not donations.

(d) A multipurpose organization that is a committee pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) shall comply with the registration and reporting requirements of this chapter, subject to the following:

(1) The multipurpose organization is not required to comply with subdivision (k) of Section 84211 for contributions and expenditures made to influence federal or out-of-state elections, which shall instead be reported as a single expenditure and be described as such on the campaign statement.

(2) A multipurpose organization registered with the Federal Election Commission is not subject to subdivisions (d) and (f) of Section 84211 but shall disclose the total amount of contributions received pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 84211, and shall disclose the multipurpose organization’s name and identification number registered with the Federal Election Commission on the campaign statement.

(e)(1) A multipurpose organization that is a committee pursuant to paragraph (2), (3), (4), or (5) of subdivision (c) shall comply with the registration and reporting requirements of this chapter, subject to the following, except that if the multipurpose organization is the sponsor of a committee

as described in subdivision (f) it may report required information on its sponsored committee statement pursuant to subdivision (f):

(A) The multipurpose organization shall register in the calendar year in which it satisfies any of the criteria in subdivision (c). The statement of organization filed pursuant to Section 84101 shall indicate that the organization is filing pursuant to this section as a multipurpose organization and state the organization's nonprofit tax exempt status, if any. The statement of organization shall also describe the organization's mission or most significant activities, and describe the organization's political activities. A multipurpose organization may comply with the requirement to describe the mission or significant activities and political activities by referencing where the organization's Internal Revenue Service Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax form may be accessed.

(B) Except as provided in this subparagraph, the registration of a multipurpose organization that meets the criteria of paragraph (5) of subdivision (c) shall terminate automatically on December 31 of the calendar year in which the multipurpose organization is registered. The multipurpose organization shall not be required to file a semiannual statement pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 84200, unless the multipurpose organization has undisclosed contributions or expenditures to report, in which case termination shall occur automatically upon filing the semiannual statement that is due no later than January 31. After the multipurpose organization's registration has terminated, the multipurpose organization's reporting obligations are complete, unless the organization qualifies as a committee for purposes of subdivision (a) of Section 82013 again in the following calendar year pursuant to subdivision (c) of this section. Notwithstanding this subdivision, a multipurpose organization may elect to remain registered as a committee by submitting written notification to the Secretary of State prior to the end of the calendar year.

(C) A multipurpose organization shall report all contributions received that satisfy the criteria of paragraph (2), (3), or (4) of subdivision (c) of this section in the manner required by subdivision (f) of Section 84211, and for the balance of its contributions or expenditures shall further report contributors based on a last in, first out accounting method.

(2) A multipurpose organization reporting pursuant to this subdivision shall disclose total contributions received in an amount equal to the multipurpose organization's total contributions and expenditures made in the reporting period. When a multipurpose organization reports donors based on the last in, first out accounting method, it shall attribute to and include the information required by subdivision (f) of Section 84211 for any donor who donates one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more in a calendar year, except for the following:

(A) A donor who designates or restricts the donation for purposes other than contributions or expenditures.

(B) A donor who prohibits the multipurpose organization's use of its donation for contributions or expenditures.

(C) A private foundation, as defined by subdivision (a) of Section 509 of the Internal Revenue Code, that provides

a grant that does not constitute a taxable expenditure for purposes of paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (d) of Section 4945 of the Internal Revenue Code.

(3) A multipurpose organization that qualifies as a committee pursuant to paragraph (5) of subdivision (c) shall not be required to include contributions or expenditures made in a prior calendar year on the reports filed for the calendar year in which the multipurpose organization qualifies as a committee.

(4) If a multipurpose organization qualifies as a committee solely pursuant to paragraph (5) of subdivision (c) and the committee is required to report donors based on a last in, first out accounting method pursuant to paragraph (1), the multipurpose organization shall not be required to disclose donor information for a donation received by the multipurpose organization prior to July 1, 2014. This paragraph shall not apply with respect to a donation made by a donor who knew that the multipurpose organization would use the donation to support or oppose a candidate or ballot measure in the state by requesting that the donation be used for that purpose or by making the donation in response to a message or solicitation indicating the multipurpose organization's intent to use the donation for that purpose.

(5) A contributor identified and reported in the manner provided in subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) that is a multipurpose organization and receives contributions that satisfy the criteria in subdivision (c) shall be subject to the requirements of this subdivision.

(6) The commission shall adopt regulations establishing notice requirements and reasonable filing deadlines for donors reported as contributors based on the last in, first out accounting method.

(f) A multipurpose organization that is the sponsor of a committee as defined in Section 82048.7, that is a membership organization, that makes all of its contributions and expenditures from funds derived from dues, assessments, fees, and similar payments that do not exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per calendar year from a single source, and that elects to report its contributions and expenditures on its sponsored committee's campaign statement pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (e) shall report as follows:

(1) The sponsored committee shall report all contributions and expenditures made from the sponsor's treasury funds on statements and reports filed by the committee. The sponsor shall use a last in, first out accounting method and disclose the information required by subdivision (f) of Section 84211 for any person who pays dues, assessments, fees, or similar payments of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more to the sponsor's treasury funds in a calendar year and shall disclose all contributions and expenditures made, as required by subdivision (k) of Section 84211, on the sponsored committee's campaign statements.

(2) The sponsored committee shall report all other contributions and expenditures in support of the committee by the sponsor, its intermediate units, and the members of those entities. A sponsoring organization makes contributions and expenditures in support of its sponsored committee when it provides the committee with money from its treasury funds, with the exception of establishment or administrative costs.

With respect to dues, assessments, fees, and similar payments channeled through the sponsor or an intermediate unit to a sponsored committee, the original source of the dues, assessments, fees, and similar payments is the contributor.

(3) A responsible officer of the sponsor, as well as the treasurer of the sponsored committee, shall verify the committee's campaign statement pursuant to Section 81004.

(g) For purposes of this section, "last in, first out accounting method" means an accounting method by which contributions and expenditures are attributed to the multi-purpose organization's contributors in reverse chronological order beginning with the most recent of its contributors or, if there are any prior contributions or expenditures, beginning with the most recent contributor for which unattributed contributions remain.

History: Added by Stats of 2014, Ch. 16, effective July 1, 2014.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18422, 18422.1, 18427.1

*Section 84222 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84222.5. Publicly Funded Nonprofit Organizations.

(a) A publicly funded nonprofit organization that makes contributions or expenditures, either directly or through the control of another entity, shall establish and deposit into a separate bank account all funds that will be used to make contributions and expenditures, and those contributions and expenditures shall come from that separate bank account.

(b) In addition to subdivisions (b) and (c) of Section 84222, a publicly funded nonprofit organization is a recipient committee within the meaning of subdivision (a) of Section 82013 if any of the following occur:

(1) It makes contributions or expenditures totaling fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or more related to statewide candidates or ballot measures or makes contributions or expenditures totaling two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) or more related to local candidates or ballot measures, either directly or through the control of another entity, during the prior quarter.

(2) By January 31 of each odd-numbered year, it makes contributions or expenditures totaling one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) or more related to statewide candidates or ballot measures or makes contributions or expenditures totaling ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or more related to local candidates or ballot measures, either directly or through the control of another entity, during the previous two years.

(c) If a publicly funded nonprofit organization qualifies as a recipient committee pursuant to subdivision (b), it shall comply with the registration and reporting requirements of Section 84222.

(d) Each publicly funded nonprofit organization that makes contributions or expenditures, either directly or through the control of another entity, shall provide to the Commission, and display on the organization's Internet Web

site, the information it is required to disclose under this section. The information shall be clearly described and identified on a separate Internet Web page that is linked from the homepage of the organization's Internet Web site. The link to this Internet Web page from the homepage shall be as visible as all similar links.

(e) The Commission may require an audit of a publicly funded nonprofit organization that is required to provide records to the Commission pursuant to this section. The Commission shall require an audit of any publicly funded nonprofit organization that makes contributions or expenditures in excess of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) in a calendar year. The publicly funded nonprofit organization shall provide records to the Commission to substantiate the information required to be disclosed by this section.

(f) If the Commission determines at the conclusion of an audit that a publicly funded nonprofit organization has violated this section, the Commission, the Attorney General, or the district attorney for the county in which the organization is domiciled may impose a civil fine upon the organization in an amount up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for each violation.

(g) The definitions in subdivision (b) of Section 54964.5 apply to this section.

History: Added by Stats. 2016, Ch. 825.

§ 84223. Top Ten Contributor Lists.*

(a) A committee primarily formed to support or oppose a state ballot measure or state candidate that raises one million dollars (\$1,000,000) or more for an election shall maintain an accurate list of the committee's top 10 contributors, as specified by Commission regulations. A current list of the top 10 contributors shall be provided to the Commission for disclosure on the Commission's internet website, as provided in subdivision (c).

(b)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (4), the list of top 10 contributors shall identify the names of the 10 persons who have made the largest cumulative contributions to the committee, the total amount of each person's contributions, the city and state of the person, the person's committee identification number, if any, and any other information deemed necessary by the Commission. If any of the top 10 contributors identified on the list are committees pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 82013, the Commission may require, by regulation, that the list also identify the top 10 contributors to those contributing committees.

(2)(A) A committee primarily formed to support or oppose a state ballot measure shall count the cumulative amount of contributions received by the committee from a person for the period beginning 12 months prior to the date the committee made its first expenditure to qualify, support, or oppose the measure and ending with the current date.

(B) A committee primarily formed to support or oppose a state candidate shall count the cumulative amount of contributions received by the committee from a person for the primary and general elections combined.

(3) The aggregation rules of Section 82015.5 and any implementing regulations adopted by the Commission shall

apply in identifying the persons who have made the top 10 cumulative contributions to a committee.

(4) A person who makes contributions to a committee in a cumulative amount of less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) shall not be identified or disclosed as a top 10 contributor to a committee pursuant to this section.

(c)(1) The Commission shall adopt regulations to govern the manner in which the Commission shall display top 10 contributor lists provided by a committee that is subject to this section, and the Commission shall post the top 10 contributor lists on its internet website in the manner prescribed by those regulations. The Commission shall provide the top 10 contributor lists to the Secretary of State, upon the request of the Secretary of State, for the purpose of additionally posting the contributor lists on the Secretary of State's internet website.

(2) A committee shall provide an updated top 10 contributor list to the Commission when any of the following occurs:

(A) A new person qualifies as a top 10 contributor to the committee.

(B) A person who is an existing top 10 contributor makes additional contributions of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more in the aggregate to the committee.

(C) A change occurs that alters the relative ranking order of the top 10 contributors.

(3) The 10 persons who have made the largest cumulative contributions to a committee shall be listed in order from largest contribution amount to smallest amount. If two or more contributors of identical amounts meet the threshold for inclusion in the list of top 10 contributors, the order of disclosure shall be made beginning with the most recent contributor of that amount.

(4) The Commission shall post or update a top 10 contributor list within five business days or, during the 16 days before the election, within 48 hours of a contributor qualifying for the list or of any change to the list.

(d) In listing the top 10 contributors, a committee shall use reasonable efforts to identify and state the actual individuals or corporations that are the true sources of the contributions made to the committee from other persons or committees.

(e) In addition to any other lists that the Commission is required to post on its internet website, the Commission shall compile, maintain, and display on its internet website a current list of the top 10 contributors supporting and opposing each state ballot measure, as prescribed by Commission regulations.

(f) This section shall remain in effect only until the Secretary of State certifies an online filing and disclosure system pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 84602 of the Government Code, and as of that date is repealed.

History: Added by Stats. of 2014, Ch. 16, effective July 1, 2014; repealed and added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 312.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18422.5

*Section 84223 was repealed and added by AB 902 (Stats. 2019, Ch. 312) with a repeal and replacement date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84224. Behested Payment Disclosure.

(a) A behested payment described in subdivision (b) 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 behesting officer or member of the Public Utilities Commission with the officer's or member's agency and is a public record subject to inspection and copying pursuant to Section 81008. The report shall contain all of the following information: name of payor; address of payor; amount of the payment or payments; 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, state agencies, including the Public Utilities Commission, shall forward a copy of these reports to the Fair Political Practices Commission, and local agencies shall forward a copy of these reports to the officer with whom elected officers of that agency file their campaign statements.

(b) The reporting requirement imposed by this section applies to a behested payment that satisfies each of the following:

(1) The payment is made at the behest of an elected officer or member of the Public Utilities Commission.

(2) The behesting elected officer or member of the Public Utilities Commission does not provide full and adequate consideration in exchange for the payment.

(3) The payment is made principally for a legislative, governmental, or charitable purpose.

(4) If made principally for a legislative or governmental purpose, the payment is made by a person other than a state, local, or federal governmental agency.

(c) (1) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a report is not required if the payment results from an officer or member of the Public Utilities Commission making a public appeal for payment by any of the following means:

(A) Television.

(B) Radio.

(C) Billboard.

(D) A public message on an online platform.

(E) A public speech, unless the speech is given at an event that the officer or member knows is being held for the purpose of raising funds for the recipient organization and any of the following apply:

(i) The officer or member consents in advance to be a speaker.

(ii) The officer or member consents to be featured in a solicitation.

(iii) The officer or member publicly solicits contributions to the recipient organization.

(2) Paragraph (1) does not apply if either of the following conditions is satisfied:

(A) The payee organization is not a governmental agency and the elected officer or member of the Public Utilities Commission knows that they, or a member of their immediate family, campaign staff, or officeholder staff, holds a position, including any of the following, with that payee organization:

(i) Any position with decisionmaking capacity within the organization, such as a board member or executive officer position.

(ii) Salaried employment at the organization.

(iii) Status as a founding member of the organization.

(iv) A position on an honorary or advisory board of the organization.

(B) The behesting officer or member of the Public Utilities Commission knows, within two years of the payment, that a specific payment was made in response to the officer or member’s public appeal.

(3) If an officer or member of the Public Utilities Commission does not know at the time that a payment was made in response to their public appeal, the deadline described in subdivision (a) shall commence on the date that the officer or member first learns that the payment was made in response to that public appeal.

History: Added by Stats. 2017, Ch. 749; amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 551, Sec. 1.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18225.7, 18424, 18424.1, 18424.2, 18424.3

§ 84225. Public Employees’ Retirement Board and Teachers’ Retirement Board Candidates.

The provisions of this title apply to candidates for election to the Board of Administration of the Public Employees’ Retirement System or the Teachers’ Retirement Board, and to committees formed or existing primarily to support or oppose those candidates. The Commission may adopt regulations to tailor the reporting and disclosure requirements for these candidates and committees consistent with the purposes and provisions of this title.

History: Added by Stats. 1998, Ch. 923; amended by Stats. 2010; Ch. 18, repealed and added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 633.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18451

§ 84226. Electronic Filing for Elected Local Government Officers and Candidates for Elective Local Government Office.*

(a) This section applies to any elected local government officer or candidate for elective local government office who meets both of the following criteria:

(1) The officer or candidate is required to file a statement, report, or other document required by this chapter, with their local filing officer or otherwise, but whose filing requirements do not include filing with the Secretary of State.

(2) The officer or candidate has received campaign contributions to support their candidacy for office in an upcoming election that equal or exceed fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000).

(b) (1) Notwithstanding any other law, and subject to paragraph (2) of this subdivision and subdivisions (c) and (d), an elected local government officer or candidate for elective local government office specified in subdivision (a) shall, in addition to filing with any other person required by this title, file a copy of a statement, report, or other document specified in Section 84200, 84200.5, 84203, or 84204 online or electronically with the Secretary of State through the online filing and disclosure system specified in subdivision (b) of Section 84602.

(2) An elected local government officer or candidate for elective local government office specified in subdivision (a) is required to file a copy of a statement, report, or other document online or electronically with the Secretary of State pursuant to paragraph (1) only if the persons specified in subdivisions (a) and (e) of Section 84215 are also required to file that same category of statement, report, or other document online or electronically with the Secretary of State.

(c) By the first January 1st after the date the Secretary of State certifies an online filing and disclosure system pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 84602, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Legislature in compliance with Section 9795 that specifies the changes to that system, if any, that are required to accommodate filings by local officers and candidates pursuant to this section. The report shall include a date by which the Secretary of State expects to certify that those changes have been made. In preparing this report, the Secretary of State shall consult with the Fair Political Practices Commission and the Department of Technology.

(d) Subdivisions (a) and (b) shall become operative on the first January 1st after the date the Secretary of State certifies that the changes specified in the report described in subdivision (c) have been made.

History: Added by Stats. 2022, Ch. 500.

*Section 84226 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

Article 2.5. LAFCO Proposal Requirements.
§ 84250 – 84252

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§ 84250. Applicability to LAFCO Proposals.

All requirements of this title applicable to a measure, as defined in Section 82043, also apply to a LAFCO proposal, as defined in Section 82035.5, except as set forth in Section 84252.

History: Added by Stats. 2008, Ch. 192.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18417

§ 84251. Payment for Political Purposes.

A payment made for “political purposes,” as that term is used in Sections 82015 and 82025, includes a payment made for the purpose of influencing or attempting to influence the actions of voters or a local agency formation commission for or against the qualification, adoption, or passage of a LAFCO proposal.

History: Added by Stats. 2008, Ch. 192.

§ 84252. LAFCO Proposals; Campaign Reporting.*

A committee primarily formed to support or oppose a LAFCO proposal shall file all statements required under this chapter except that, in lieu of the statements required by Sections 84200 and 84202.3, the committee shall file monthly campaign statements from the time circulation of a petition begins until a measure is placed on the ballot or, if a measure is not placed on the ballot, until the committee is terminated pursuant to Section 84214. The committee shall file an original and one copy of each statement on the 15th day of each calendar month, covering the prior calendar month, with the clerk of the county in which the measure may be voted on. If the petition results in a measure that is placed on the ballot, the committee thereafter shall file campaign statements required by this chapter.

History: Added by Stats. 2008, Ch. 192; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 315.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18417

*Section 84252 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

Article 3. Prohibitions.
§ 84300 – 84310

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§ 84300. Cash and In-Kind Contributions; Cash Expenditures.

(a) No contribution of one hundred dollars (\$100) or more shall be made or received in cash.

A cash contribution shall not be deemed received if it is not negotiated or deposited and is returned to the contributor before the closing date of the campaign statement on which the contribution would otherwise be reported. If a cash contribution, other than a late contribution, as defined in Section 82036, is negotiated or deposited, it shall not be deemed received if it is refunded within 72 hours of receipt. In the case of a late contribution, as defined in Section 82036, it shall not be deemed received if it is returned to the contributor within 48 hours of receipt.

(b) No expenditure of one hundred dollars (\$100) or more shall be made in cash.

(c) No contribution of one hundred dollars (\$100) or more other than an in-kind contribution shall be made unless in the form of a written instrument containing the name of the donor and the name of the payee and drawn from the account of the donor or the intermediary, as defined in Section 84302.

(d) The value of all in-kind contributions of one hundred dollars (\$100) or more shall be reported in writing to the recipient upon the request in writing of the recipient.

History: Amended by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1213; amended by Stats. 1978, Ch. 650; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1979, Ch. 779; amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 759; amended by Stats. 1996, Ch. 898.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18215.4, 18430.1

§ 84301. Contributions Made Under Legal Name.

No contribution shall be made, directly or indirectly, by any person in a name other than the name by which such person is identified for legal purposes.

§ 84302. Contributions by Intermediary or Agent.

A person shall not make a contribution on behalf of another, or while acting as the intermediary or agent of another, without disclosing to the recipient of the contribution both that person’s own full name and street address, occupation, and the name of that person’s employer, if any, or that per-

son's principal place of business if that person is self-employed, and the full name and street address, occupation, and the name of employer, if any, or principal place of business if self-employed, of the other person for whom the contribution is made. The recipient of the contribution shall include in the recipient's campaign statement the full name and street address, occupation, and the name of the employer, if any, or the principal place of business if self-employed, of both the intermediary and the contributor.

History: Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18402.2, 18432.5

*Section 84302 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84303. Expenditure by Agent or Independent Contractor.*

(a) An expenditure of five hundred dollars (\$500) or more shall not be made, other than for overhead or normal operating expenses, by an agent or independent contractor, including, but not limited to, an advertising agency, on behalf of or for the benefit of a candidate or committee unless it is reported by the candidate or committee as if the expenditure were made directly by the candidate or committee.

(b) A subagent or subcontractor who provides goods or services to or for the benefit of a candidate or committee shall make known to the agent or independent contractor all of the information required to be reported by this section, and the agent or independent contractor shall then make known to the candidate or committee all of the information required to be reported by this section no later than three working days prior to the time the campaign statement reporting the expenditure is required to be filed, except that an expenditure that is required to be reported by Section 84203 or 84204 shall be reported to the candidate or committee within 24 hours of the time that it is made.

History: Amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 161; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 853; amended by Stats. 2013, Ch. 9, effective July 1, 2014.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18421.5, 18421.7, 18421.8, 18421.9, 18421.11, 18431

*Section 84303 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84304. Anonymous Contributions; Prohibition.

No person shall make an anonymous contribution or contributions to a candidate, committee or any other person totaling one hundred dollars (\$100) or more in a calendar year. An anonymous contribution of one hundred dollars (\$100) or more shall not be kept by the intended recipient but instead shall be promptly paid to the Secretary of State for deposit in the General Fund of the state.

History: Amended by Stats. 1978, Ch. 650.

§ 84305. Requirements for Mass Mailing.

(a)(1) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a candidate, candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate, or political party committee shall not send a mass mailing unless the name, street address, and city of the candidate or committee are shown on the outside of each piece of mail in the mass mailing and on at least one of the inserts included within each piece of mail of the mailing in no less than 6-point type that is in a color or print that contrasts with the background so as to be easily legible. A post office box may be stated in lieu of a street address if the candidate's, candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate's, or political party committee's address is a matter of public record with the Secretary of State.

(2) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a committee, other than a candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate or a political party committee, shall not send a mass mailing that is not required to include a disclosure pursuant to Section 84504.2 unless the name, street address, and city of the committee is shown on the outside of each piece of mail in the mass mailing and on at least one of the inserts included within each piece of mail of the mailing in no less than 6-point type that is in a color or print that contrasts with the background so as to be easily legible. A post office box may be stated in lieu of a street address if the committee's address is a matter of public record with the Secretary of State.

(b) If the sender of the mass mailing is a single candidate or committee, the name, street address, and city of the candidate or committee need only be shown on the outside of each piece of mail.

(c)(1) A candidate, candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate, or political party committee shall not send a mass electronic mailing unless the name of the candidate or committee is shown in the electronic mailing preceded by the words "Paid for by" in at least the same size font as a majority of the text in the electronic mailing.

(2) A committee, other than a candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate or a political party committee, shall not send a mass electronic mailing that is not required to include a disclosure pursuant to Section 84502 or 84504.3 unless the name of the committee is shown in the electronic mailing preceded by the words "Paid for by" in at least the same size font as a majority of the text in the electronic mailing.

(d) If the sender of a mass mailing is a controlled committee, the name of the person controlling the committee shall be included in addition to the information required by subdivision (a) or (c).

(e) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) "Mass electronic mailing" means sending more than 200 substantially similar pieces of electronic mail within a calendar month. "Mass electronic mailing" does not include a communication that was solicited by the recipient,

including, but not limited to, acknowledgments for contributions or information that the recipient communicated to the organization.

(2) “Sender” means the candidate, candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate, or political party committee who pays for the largest portion of expenditures attributable to the designing, printing, and posting of the mailing which are reportable pursuant to Sections 84200 to 84216.5, inclusive.

(3) To “pay for” a share of the cost of a mass mailing means to make, to promise to make, or to incur an obligation to make, any payment: (A) to any person for the design, printing, postage, materials, or other costs of the mailing, including salaries, fees, or commissions, or (B) as a fee or other consideration for an endorsement or, in the case of a ballot measure, support or opposition, in the mailing.

(f) This section does not apply to a mass mailing or mass electronic mailing that is paid for by an independent expenditure.

History: Amended by Stats. 1975, Ch. 915, effective September 20, 1975, operative January 7, 1975; amended by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1106; amended by Stats. 1977, Ch. 230, effective July 7, 1977; amended by Stats. 1978, Ch. 1408, effective October 1, 1978; amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 1368; amended by Stats. 1989, Ch. 764; amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 315; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 558.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18435, 18531.5

Opinions: *In re Kaufman* (2018) FPPC Ops. No. O-18-001
In re Juvinall, Stull, Republican Central Committee of Orange County, Tuteur (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 110
In re Sobieski (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 73
In re Valdez (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 21

§ 84305.5. Slate Mailer Identification and Disclosure Requirements.

(a) No slate mailer organization or committee primarily formed to support or oppose one or more ballot measures shall send a slate mailer unless:

(1) The name, street address, and city of the slate mailer organization or committee primarily formed to support or oppose one or more ballot measures are shown on the outside of each piece of slate mail and on at least one of the inserts included with each piece of slate mail in no less than 8-point roman type which shall be in a color or print which contrasts with the background so as to be easily legible. A post office box may be stated in lieu of a street address if the street address of the slate mailer organization or the committee primarily formed to support or oppose one or more ballot measure is a matter of public record with the Secretary of State’s Political Reform Division.

(2) At the top or bottom of the front side or surface of at least one insert or at the top or bottom of one side or surface of a postcard or other self-mailer, there is a notice in at least 8-point roman boldface type, which shall be in a color or print which contrasts with the background so as to be easily legible, and in a printed or drawn box and set apart from any other printed matter. The notice shall consist of the following statement:

NOTICE TO VOTERS

THIS DOCUMENT WAS PREPARED BY (name of slate mailer organization or committee primarily formed to support or oppose one or more ballot measures), NOT AN OFFICIAL POLITICAL PARTY ORGANIZATION. Appearance in this mailer does not necessarily imply endorsement of others appearing in this mailer, nor does it imply endorsement of, or opposition to, any issues set forth in this mailer. Appearance is paid for and authorized by each candidate and ballot measure which is designated by an *.

(3) The name, street address, and city of the slate mailer organization or committee primarily formed to support or oppose one or more ballot measures as required by paragraph (1) and the notice required by paragraph (2) may appear on the same side or surface of an insert.

(4) Each candidate and each ballot measure that has paid to appear in the slate mailer is designated by an *. Any candidate or ballot measure that has not paid to appear in the slate mailer is not designated by an *.

The * required by this subdivision shall be of the same type size, type style, color or contrast, and legibility as is used for the name of the candidate or the ballot measure name or number and position advocated to which the * designation applies except that in no case shall the * be required to be larger than 10-point boldface type. The designation shall immediately follow the name of the candidate, or the name or number and position advocated on the ballot measure where the designation appears in the slate of candidates and measures. If there is no slate listing, the designation shall appear at least once in at least 8-point boldface type, immediately following the name of the candidate, or the name or number and position advocated on the ballot measure.

(5) The name of any candidate appearing in the slate mailer who is a member of a political party differing from the political party which the mailer appears by representation or indicia to represent is accompanied, immediately below the name, by the party designation of the candidate, in no less than 9-point roman type which shall be in a color or print that contrasts with the background so as to be easily legible. The designation shall not be required in the case of candidates for nonpartisan office.

(b) For purposes of the designations required by paragraph (4) of subdivision (a), the payment of any sum made reportable by subdivision (c) of Section 84219 by or at the behest of a candidate or committee, whose name or position appears in the mailer, to the slate mailer organization or committee primarily formed to support or oppose one or more ballot measures, shall constitute a payment to appear, requiring the * designation. The payment shall also be deemed to constitute authorization to appear in the mailer.

History: Added by Stats. 1987, Ch. 905; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 403; amended by Stats. 1992, Ch. 1143; amended by Stats. 1993, Ch. 472; amended by Stats. 1994, Ch. 923; amended by Stats. 1996, Ch. 893; amended by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; Proposition 208 version preliminarily enjoined January 6, 1998;

Proposition 208 version permanently enjoined March 1, 2001; pre-Proposition 208 version revived by operation of law; On September 20, 2002, the Federal District Court for the Eastern District of California issued a preliminary injunction prohibiting the FPPC from enforcing this subdivision against the slate mail organizations which had sought the injunction; repealed and new section added by Stats. 2004, Ch. 478, effective September 10, 2004.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18229.1, 18401.1, 18435.5

§ 84305.7. Slate Mailer Requirements; Use of Logos or “Public Safety” Names.

(a) If a slate mailer organization sends a slate mailer or other mass mailing that displays a logo, insignia, emblem, or trademark that is identical or substantially similar to the logo, insignia, emblem, or trademark of a governmental agency, and that would reasonably be understood to imply the participation or endorsement of that governmental agency, the slate mailer organization shall obtain express written consent from the governmental agency associated with the logo, insignia, emblem, or trademark prior to using the logo, insignia, emblem, or trademark in the slate mailer or other mass mailing.

(b) If a slate mailer organization sends a slate mailer or other mass mailing that displays a logo, insignia, emblem, or trademark that is identical or substantially similar to the logo, insignia, emblem, or trademark of a nongovernmental organization that represents law enforcement, firefighting, emergency medical, or other public safety personnel, and that would reasonably be understood to imply the participation or endorsement of that nongovernmental organization, the slate mailer organization shall obtain express written consent from the nongovernmental organization associated with the logo, insignia, emblem, or trademark prior to using the logo, insignia, emblem, or trademark in the slate mailer or other mass mailing.

(c) If a slate mailer organization sends a slate mailer or other mass mailing that identifies itself or its source material as representing a nongovernmental organization with a name that includes the term “peace officer,” “reserve officer,” “deputy,” “deputy sheriff,” “sheriff,” “police,” “highway patrol,” “California Highway Patrol,” “law enforcement,” “firefighter,” “fire marshal,” “paramedic,” “emergency medical technician,” “public safety,” or any other term that would reasonably be understood to imply that the nongovernmental organization is composed of, represents, or is affiliated with, law enforcement, firefighting, emergency medical, or other public safety personnel, the slate mailer or mass mailing shall disclose the total number of law enforcement, firefighting, emergency medical, or other public safety members in the nongovernmental organization identified in the slate mailer or mass mailing, as provided in paragraph (1) of subdivision (d). If the slate mailer organization is not composed of or does not represent any members who are law enforcement, firefighting, emergency medical, or other public safety personnel, the slate mailer or mass mailing shall disclose that the slate mailer organization does not represent

public safety personnel, as provided in paragraph (2) of subdivision (d).

(d) A disclosure pursuant to subdivision (c) shall include one of the following statements:

(1) If the slate mailer organization represents public safety personnel members: “This organization represents _____ public safety personnel.” The slate mailer organization shall fill in the blank part of the statement with the number of public safety personnel members it represents.

(2) If the slate mailer organization does not represent public safety personnel members: “This organization does not represent any public safety personnel.”

(e) A disclosure pursuant to subdivision (d) shall be in a format that satisfies all of the following:

(1) Printed in roman type that is no less than 14-point font.

(2) Located on the outside of the slate mailer or mass mailing within one-half of an inch of the recipient’s name and address.

(3) Contained in a box with an outline that has a line weight of at least 3.25 pt. The background color of the box shall be in a contrasting color to the background of the slate mailer or mass mailing. The outline of the box shall be in a contrasting color to both the background color of the mailing and the background color of the box. The color of the text of the disclosure shall be in a contrasting color to the background color of the box.

(f)(1) For purposes of subdivision (c), “member” means any of the following:

(A) A person who, pursuant to a specific provision of an organization’s articles or bylaws, may vote directly or indirectly for the election of a director or officer or for the disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the organization in a merger or dissolution.

(B) A person designated as a member in the articles or bylaws of an organization that is tax exempt under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code (26 U.S.C. Sec. 501(c)) and who has the right to vote to change the organization’s articles or bylaws or has paid dues to the organization.

(C) Members of a local union are considered to be members of any national or international union of which the local union is a part and of any federation with which the local, national, or international union is affiliated.

History: Added by Stats. 2012, Ch. 865; Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 855.

§ 84306. Contributions Received by Agents of Candidates or Committees.*

All contributions received by a person acting as an agent of a candidate shall be reported promptly to the candidate or any of the candidate’s designated agents. All contributions received by a person acting as an agent of a committee shall be reported promptly to the committee’s treasurer or any of the treasurer’s designated agents. “Promptly” as used in this section means not later than the closing date of any campaign statement the committee or candidate for whom the contribution is intended is required to file.

History: Added by Stats. 1979, Ch. 779; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18421.1, 18421.3, 18421.31

*Section 84306 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84307. Commingling with Personal Funds.

No contribution shall be commingled with the personal funds of the recipient or any other person.

History: Added by Stats. 1979, Ch. 779.

§ 84307.5. Payments Made to a Spouse or Domestic Partner.

A spouse or domestic partner of an elected officer or a candidate for elective office shall not receive, in exchange for services rendered, compensation from campaign funds held by a controlled committee of the elected officer or candidate for elective office.

History: Added by Stats. 2009, Ch. 360; amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 902.

§ 84308. Contributions to Officers; Disqualification.

(a) The definitions set forth in this subdivision shall govern the interpretation of this section.

(1) "Party" means any person who files an application for, or is the subject of, a proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use.

(2) "Participant" means any person who is not a party but who actively supports or opposes a particular decision in a proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use and who has a financial interest in the decision, as described in Article 1 (commencing with Section 87100) of Chapter 7. A person actively supports or opposes a particular decision in a proceeding if that person lobbies in person the officers or employees of the agency, testifies in person before the agency, or otherwise acts to influence officers of the agency. A person is not a "participant" under this paragraph if their financial interest in the decision results solely from an increase or decrease in membership dues.

(3) "Agency" means an agency as defined in Section 82003 except that it does not include the courts or any agency in the judicial branch of government, the Legislature, the Board of Equalization, or constitutional officers. However, this section applies to any person who is a member of an exempted agency but is acting as a voting member of another agency.

(4) "Officer" means any elected or appointed officer of an agency, any alternate to an elected or appointed officer of an agency, and any candidate for elective office in an agency, other than a city attorney or county counsel providing legal advice to the agency who does not have the authority to make a final decision in the proceeding.

(5)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), "license, permit, or other entitlement for use" means all business, professional, trade, and land use licenses and permits and all other entitlements for use, including all entitlements for land use, all contracts, and all franchises.

(B) "License, permit, or other entitlement for use" does not include any of the following:

(i) Competitively bid contracts that are required by law, agency policy, or agency rule to be awarded pursuant to a competitive process.

(ii) Labor contracts.

(iii) Personal employment contracts.

(iv) Contracts valued under fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000).

(v) Contracts where no party receives financial compensation.

(vi) Contracts between two or more agencies.

(vii) The periodic review or renewal of development agreements unless there is a material modification or amendment proposed to the agreement. Non-material modifications or amendments may be approved by agency staff.

(viii) The periodic review or renewal of competitively bid contracts unless there are material modifications or amendments proposed to the agreement that are valued at more than 10 percent of the value of the contract or fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), whichever is less. Non-material modifications or amendments may be approved by agency staff.

(ix) Modification of or amendments to contracts that are exempt under this subparagraph, other than competitively bid contracts.

(6) "Contribution" includes contributions to candidates and committees in federal, state, or local elections.

(7) "Pending" in a proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use means either of the following:

(A) For an officer, when either of the following occurs:

(i) An item involving the license, permit, or other entitlement for use is placed on the agenda for discussion or decision at a public meeting of the body of which the officer is a member.

(ii) The officer knows a proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use is within the jurisdiction of the officer's agency for its decision or other action, and it is reasonably foreseeable that the decision will come before the officer in the officer's decisionmaking capacity.

(B) For a party or party's agent, or a participant or participant's agent, when an application is filed with an agency, or, if the proceeding process does not require an application, when the proceeding is before the agency for its decision or other action.

(b)(1) While a proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use is pending, and for 12 months following the date a final decision is rendered in the proceeding, an officer of an agency shall not accept, solicit, or direct a contribution of more than five hundred dollars (\$500) from any party or a party's agent, or from any participant or a participant's agent if the officer knows or has reason to know that the participant has a financial interest, as that term is used in Article 1 (commencing with Section 87100) of Chapter 7. This prohibition applies regardless of whether the officer accepts, solicits, or directs the contribution on the officer's own behalf, or on behalf of any other

officer, or on behalf of any candidate for office or on behalf of any committee.

(2) With respect to elected officers, paragraph (1) applies only if the elected officer or the body of which they are a member has the authority to make any decision or recommendation in the proceeding.

(c)(1) Before rendering any decision in a proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use, each officer of the agency who received a contribution within the preceding 12 months in an amount of more than five hundred dollars (\$500) from a party or from any participant shall disclose that fact on the record of the proceeding. An officer of an agency shall not make, participate in making, or in any way attempt to use the officer's official position to influence the decision in a proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use if the officer has willfully or knowingly received a contribution in an amount of more than five hundred dollars (\$500) within the preceding 12 months from a party or a party's agent, or from any participant or a participant's agent if the officer knows or has reason to know that the participant has a financial interest in the decision, as that term is described with respect to public officials in Article 1 (commencing with Section 87100) of Chapter 7.

(2) With respect to elected officers, paragraph (1) applies only if the elected officer or the body of which they are a member has the authority to make any decision or recommendation in the proceeding.

(d)(1) If an officer receives a contribution that would otherwise require disqualification under this section, and returns the contribution within 30 days from the time the officer makes any decision, or knows, or should have known, about the contribution and the proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use, whichever comes last, the officer shall be permitted to participate in the proceeding.

(2) (A) Subject to subparagraph (B), if an officer accepts, solicits, or directs a contribution of more than five hundred dollars (\$500) during the 12 months after the date the final decision is rendered in violation of subdivision (b), the officer may cure the violation by returning the contribution, or the portion of the contribution in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500), within 30 days of accepting, soliciting, or directing the contribution, whichever comes latest.

(B) An officer may cure a violation as specified in subparagraph (A) only if the officer did not knowingly and willfully accept, solicit, or direct the prohibited contribution.

(C) An officer's controlled committee, or the officer if no controlled committee exists, shall maintain records of curing any violation pursuant to this paragraph.

(e) (1) A party to a proceeding before an agency involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use shall disclose on the record of the proceeding any contribution in an amount of more than five hundred dollars (\$500) made within the preceding 12 months before the date that any decision is rendered by the agency by the party or the party's agent.

(2) A party to a proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use pending before any agency or a participant in the proceeding shall not make a contribution

of more than five hundred dollars (\$500) to any officer of that agency during the proceeding and for 12 months following the date the final decision is rendered by the agency in the proceeding.

(3) An agent to a party or participant shall not make a contribution in any amount to an officer during the time periods described in paragraph (2).

(4) When a closed corporation is a party to, or a participant in, a proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use pending before an agency, the majority shareholder is subject to the disclosure and prohibition requirements specified in this section.

(f) This section shall not be construed to imply that any contribution subject to being reported under this title shall not be so reported.

(g) For the purposes of this section, in determining whether a contribution has exceeded five hundred dollars (\$500), the contributions of an agent shall not be aggregated with contributions from a party or participant.

(h) (1) A person is the "agent" of a party to, or a participant in, a pending proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use only if the person represents that party or participant for compensation and appears before or otherwise communicates with an agency for the purpose of influencing the proceeding on behalf of a party or participant.

(2) If an individual acting as an agent is also acting as an employee or member of a law, architectural, engineering, or consulting firm, or a similar entity or corporation, both the entity or corporation and the individual are "agents."

(3) "Agent" includes a lobbyist registered to lobby the agency who otherwise meets the requirements of paragraph (1).

(4) "Communicate with the agency for the purpose of influencing the proceeding" does not include either of the following:

(A) Preparing drawings or submissions of an architectural, engineering, or similar nature for a client to submit in a proceeding before the agency if both of the following conditions are met:

(i) The work is performed pursuant to the person's profession.

(ii) The person does not make any contact with the agency other than contact with agency staff concerning the process or evaluation of the documents prepared by the person.

(B) Providing technical data or analysis to an agency if the person does not otherwise engage in direct communication for the purpose of influencing the proceeding.

(i) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the provisions of this act are severable. If any provision of this act or its application is held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application.

(2) Subdivision (g) is not severable from paragraph (3) of subdivision (e) if paragraph (3) of subdivision (e) is held invalid in a final decision of a court of competent jurisdiction. If that occurs, subdivision (g) shall become inoperative on the date of that final decision.

History: Added by Stats. 1982, Ch. 1049; amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 1681, effective September 30, 1984; amended by Stats. 1989, Ch. 764; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50; amended by Stats. 2022, Ch. 848; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 1017.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18438, 18438.1, 18438.2, 18438.4, 18438.5, 18438.6, 18438.7, 18438.8

Opinions: *In re Kendrick* (2022)
In re Curiel (1983) 8 FPPC Ops. 1

§ 84309. Transmittal of Campaign Contributions in State Office Buildings; Prohibition.

(a) A person shall not receive or personally deliver or attempt to deliver a contribution in the State Capitol, any state or local government office building, or any office for which the state or a local government pays rent.

(b) For purposes of this section:

(1) “Personally deliver” means delivery of a contribution in person or causing a contribution to be delivered in person by an agent or intermediary.

(2) “Receive” includes the receipt of a campaign contribution delivered in person.

(3) “State or local government office building” means any building owned by the state or a local government in which more than 50 percent of the total floor area is used as office space for government employees.

History: Added by Stats. 1982, Ch. 920; amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 331.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18439

§ 84310. Identification Requirements for Telephone Calls.

(a) A candidate, candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate, political party committee, or slate mailer organization shall not expend campaign funds, directly or indirectly, to pay for telephone calls that are similar in nature and aggregate 500 or more in number, made by an individual, or individuals, or by electronic means and that advocate support of, or opposition to, a candidate, ballot measure, or both, unless during the course of each call the name of the candidate, candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate, political party committee, or slate mailer organization that authorized or paid for the call is disclosed to the recipient of the call. Unless the organization that authorized the call and in whose name it is placed has filing obligations under this title, and the name announced in the call either is the full name by which the organization or individual is identified in any statement or report required to be filed under this title or is the name by which the organization or individual is commonly known, the candidate, candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate, political party committee, or slate mailer organization that paid for the call shall be disclosed. This section does not apply to telephone calls made by the candidate, the campaign manager, or individuals who are volunteers.

(b) Campaign and ballot measure committees are prohibited from contracting with any phone bank vendor that does not disclose the information required to be disclosed by subdivision (a).

(c) A candidate, committee, or slate mailer organization that pays for telephone calls as described in subdivision (a) shall maintain a record of the script of the call for the period of time set forth in Section 84104. If any of the calls qualifying under subdivision (a) were recorded messages, a copy of the recording shall be maintained for that period.

(d) This section does not apply to a telephone call that is paid for by an independent expenditure.

History: Added by Stats. 2006, Ch. 439; amended by stats. 2017, Ch. 546.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18440, 18531.5

Article 4. Exemptions. § 84400

§ 84400. Exemptions.

Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, the commission shall have no power to exempt any person, including any candidate or committee, from any of the requirements imposed by the provisions of this chapter.

History: Added by Stats. 1977, Ch. 403.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18401

Article 5. Disclosure in Advertisements.
§ 84501 – 84514

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§ 84501. Advertisement.

For purposes of this article, the following definitions apply:

(a)(1) “Advertisement” means any general or public communication that is authorized and paid for by a committee for the purpose of supporting or opposing a candidate or candidates for elective office or a ballot measure or ballot measures.

(2) “Advertisement” does not include any of the following:

(A) A communication from an organization, other than a political party, to its members.

(B) An electronic media communication addressed to recipients, such as email messages or text messages, from an organization to persons who have opted in or asked to receive messages from the organization. This subparagraph does not apply to a customer who has opted in to receive communications from a provider of goods or services, unless the customer has provided express approval to receive political messages from that provider of goods or services.

(C) Any communication that was solicited by the recipient, including, but not limited to, acknowledgments for contributions or information that the recipient communicated to the organization, or responses to an electronic message sent by the recipient to the same mobile number or email address.

(D) A campaign button smaller than 10 inches in diameter; a bumper sticker smaller than 60 square inches; or a small tangible promotional item, such as a pen, pin, or key chain, upon which the disclosure required cannot be conveniently printed or displayed.

(E) Wearing apparel.

(F) Sky writing.

(G) Any other type of communication, as determined by regulations of the Commission, for which inclusion of the disclosures required by Sections 84502 to 84509, inclusive, is impracticable or would severely interfere with the committee’s ability to convey the intended message due to the nature of the technology used to make the communication.

(b) “Cumulative contributions” means the cumulative amount of contributions received by a committee beginning 12 months before the date of the expenditure and ending seven days before the time the advertisement is sent to the printer or broadcaster.

(c)(1) “Top contributors” means the persons from whom the committee paying for an advertisement has received its three highest cumulative contributions of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or more.

(2) A tie between two or more contributors qualifying as top contributors shall be resolved by determining the contributor who made the most recent contribution to the committee, in which case the most recent contributor shall be listed before any other contributor of the same amount.

(3) If a committee primarily formed to support or oppose a state candidate or ballot measure contributes funds to another committee primarily formed to support or oppose the same state candidate or ballot measure and the funds used for the contribution were earmarked to support or oppose that candidate or ballot measure, the committee receiving the earmarked contribution shall disclose the contributors who earmarked their funds as the top contributor or contributors on the advertisement if the definition of top contributor provided for in paragraph (1) is otherwise met. If the committee receiving the earmarked contribution contributes any portion of the contribution to another committee primarily formed to support or oppose the specifically identified ballot measure or candidate, that committee shall disclose the true source of the contribution to the new committee receiving the earmarked funds. The new committee shall disclose the contributor on the new committee’s advertisements if the definition of top contributor provided for in paragraph (1) is otherwise met.

(A) The primarily formed committee making the earmarked contribution shall provide the primarily formed committee receiving the earmarked contribution with the name, address, occupation, and employer, if any, or principal place of business, if self-employed, of the contributor or contributors who earmarked their funds and the amount of the earmarked contribution from each contributor at the time the contribution is made. If the committee making the contribution received earmarked contributions that exceed the amount contributed or received contributions that were not earmarked, the committee making the contribution shall use a reasonable accounting method to determine which top contributors to identify pursuant to this subparagraph, but in no

case shall the same contribution be disclosed more than one time to avoid disclosure of additional contributors who earmarked their funds.

(B) The committee receiving the earmarked contribution may rely on the information provided pursuant to subparagraph (A) for purposes of complying with the disclosure required by Section 84503 and shall be considered in compliance with Section 84503 if the information provided pursuant to subparagraph (A) is disclosed as otherwise required.

(C) For purposes of this paragraph, funds are considered “earmarked” if any of the circumstances described in subdivision (b) of Section 85704 apply.

(4) If an advertisement paid for by a committee supports or opposes a candidate, the determination of top contributors pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not include any nonprofit organization exempt from federal income taxation pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code or any person who has prohibited in writing the use of that person’s contributions to support or oppose candidates if the committee does not use such contributions to support or oppose candidates.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 777; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 558.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18421.5, 18421.11, 18401, 18450.1, 18450.2, 18450.3, 18450.4, 18450.5, 18450.6, 18450.7, 18450.8, 18450.9, 18450.11

§ 84501.1. Prohibition on Commission Interpretation on Thresholds and Amounts.

The Commission shall not, by regulation, policy, opinion, or advice letter, construe or interpret any of Sections 82025, 84305, 84310, 84501 through 84511, inclusive, or Section 85704 as allowing the Commission to establish or maintain any thresholds in quantity or amount that are not specified in those sections. Unless otherwise specified in this title, those sections apply regardless of quantity or amount.

History: Added by Stats. 2018, Ch. 777.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18450.6

§ 84502. Disclosure; Committee Name.*

(a)(1) Any advertisement not described in subdivision (b) of Section 84504.3 that is paid for by a committee pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 82013, other than a political party committee or a candidate controlled committee established for an elective office of the controlling candidate, shall include the words “Ad paid for by” followed by the name of the committee as it appears on the most recent Statement of Organization filed pursuant to Section 84101.

(2) Any advertisement not described in subdivision (b) of Section 84504.3 that is paid for by a committee pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 82013 that is a political party committee or a candidate controlled committee established for an elective office of the controlling candidate shall include the words “Ad paid for by” followed by the name of the committee as it appears on the most recent Statement of

Organization filed pursuant to Section 84101 if the advertisement is any of the following:

(A) Paid for by an independent expenditure.

(B) An advertisement supporting or opposing a ballot measure.

(C) A radio or television advertisement.

(D) A text message advertisement that is required to include a disclosure pursuant to Section 84504.7.

(b) Any advertisement not described in subdivision (b) of Section 84504.3 that is paid for by a committee pursuant to subdivision (b) or (c) of Section 82013 shall include the words “Ad paid for by” followed by the name that the filer is required to use on campaign statements pursuant to subdivision (o) of Section 84211.

(c) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) and (b), if an advertisement is a printed letter, internet website, or email message, the text described in subdivisions (a) and (b) may include the words “Paid for by” instead of “Ad paid for by.”

(d) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) and (b), if an advertisement is a text message, the text described in subdivisions (a) and (b) may include the words “Paid for by” or “With,” instead of “Ad paid for by.”

(e) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), if an advertisement is a video advertisement that is disseminated over the internet, is a print advertisement that is larger than those designed to be individually distributed subject to subdivision (b) of Section 84504.2, is an electronic media advertisement subject to subdivision (b) of Section 84504.3, or is a text message advertisement subject to Section 84504.7, then the text for the name of the committee may be shortened by either of the following:

(1) Displaying only enough of the first part of the committee name to uniquely identify the committee. If the committee is a sponsored committee, then the name displayed must include the portion of the committee name that identifies the sponsor or sponsors, unless all of the sponsors are disclosed on the ad as top contributors as required by Section 84503. For example, if ACME Corporation is not listed as a top contributor, then a committee named “Yes on 99, Californians for a Better Tomorrow, a coalition of X, Y, and Z. Sponsored by ACME Corporation” may be disclosed as only “Yes on 99, Californians for a Better Tomorrow. Sponsored by ACME Corporation.”

(2) If the advertisement is paid for by a committee that has top contributors and is subject to Section 84503, then the committee name may be replaced by displaying the words “Committee ID” followed by the committee’s identification number.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 478, effective September 10, 2004, repealed and added by Stats. 2017, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 777; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 555; amended by Stats. 2022, Ch. 887.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18421.5, 18450.1, 18450.2, 18450.4, 18450.6, 18450.7, 18450.9, 18531.5

*Section 84502 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an

online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84503. Top Contributor Disclosure.

(a) Any advertisement not described in subdivision (b) of Section 84504.3 that is paid for by a committee pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 82013, other than a political party committee or a candidate controlled committee established for an elective office of the controlling candidate, shall include the words “Ad Committee’s Top Funders” unless only one contributor qualifies as a top contributor, in which case the advertisement shall include the words “Ad Committee’s Top Funder.” These words shall be followed by the names of the top contributors to the committee paying for the advertisement. If fewer than three contributors qualify as top contributors, only those contributors that qualify shall be disclosed pursuant to this section. If there are no contributors that qualify as top contributors, this disclosure is not required.

(b) The disclosure of a top contributor pursuant to this section shall not include terms such as “incorporated,” “committee,” “political action committee,” or “corporation,” or abbreviations of these terms, unless the term is part of the contributor’s name in common usage or parlance.

(c) If this article requires the disclosure of the name of a top contributor that is a committee pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 82013 and is a sponsored committee pursuant to Section 82048.7 with a single sponsor, only the name of the single sponsoring organization shall be disclosed.

(d) This section does not apply to a committee as defined by subdivision (b) or (c) of Section 82013.

(e) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), if an advertisement is a printed letter, internet website, email message, or text message, the text described in subdivision (a) may include the words “Committee Top Funders” or “Committee Top Funder” instead of “Ad Committee’s Top Funders” or “Ad Committee’s Top Funder.”

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; preliminarily enjoined January 6, 1998; permanently enjoined March 1, 2001, as applied to slate mailers only; repealed and added by Stats. 2017, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 558; amended by Stats. 2022, Ch. 887.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18402, 18421.5, 18450.1, 18450.3, 18450.4, 18450.5, 18450.6, 18450.7, 18450.9, 18531.5

§ 84504. Disclosure; Radio and Telephone Ads.

(a) An advertisement paid for by a committee, other than a political party committee or a candidate controlled committee established for an elective office of the controlling candidate, that is disseminated over the radio or by telephonic means shall include the disclosures required by Sections 84502, 84503, 84506.5, and 84514 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, and shall last no less than three seconds.

(b) Notwithstanding the definition of “top contributors” in paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 84501,

radio and prerecorded telephonic advertisements shall disclose only the top two contributors of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or more unless the advertisement lasts 15 seconds or less or the disclosure statement would last more than eight seconds, in which case only the single top contributor of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or more shall be disclosed.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; repealed and added by Stats. 2017, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 260.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18450.1, 18450.5, 18450.6, 18450.8, 18521.5, 18531.5

§ 84504.1. Disclosure; Video and Television Ads.

(a) An advertisement paid for by a committee, other than a political party committee or a candidate controlled committee established for an elective office of the controlling candidate, that is disseminated as a video, including advertisements on television and videos disseminated over the Internet, shall include the disclosures required by Sections 84502, 84503, and 84514 at the beginning or end of the advertisement.

(b) The disclosure required by subdivision (a) shall be written and displayed for at least five seconds of a broadcast of 30 seconds or less or for at least 10 seconds of a broadcast that lasts longer than 30 seconds.

(1) The written disclosure required by subdivision (a) shall appear on a solid black background on the entire bottom one-third of the television or video display screen, or bottom one-fourth of the screen if the committee does not have or is otherwise not required to list top contributors, and shall be in a contrasting color in standard Arial Regular type, and the type size for capital letters in the written disclosure shall be 4 percent of the height or width of the television or video display advertisement, whichever is less.

(2) The disclosure required by Section 84514, if any, shall be white and appear at the top of the disclosure area, and shall be separated from the disclosures required by Sections 84502 and 84503 by a blank horizontal space at least 2 percent of the height of the television or video display screen.

(3) The disclosures required by Section 84502 shall be white and shall follow the disclosure required by Section 84514. The disclosures required by Section 84503, if any, shall be yellow, such as HTML hex value #FFFF00, and shall be separated from the disclosures required by Section 84502 by a blank horizontal space at least 2 percent of the height of the television or video display screen. The top contributors, if any, shall each be disclosed on a separate horizontal line separate from any other text, in descending order, beginning with the top contributor who made the largest cumulative contributions on the first line. All disclosure text shall be centered horizontally in the disclosure area. If there are any top contributors, the written disclosures shall be underlined in a manner clearly visible to the average viewer, except for the names of the top contributors, if any.

(4) The names of the top contributors shall not have their type condensed or have the spacing between characters

reduced to be narrower than a normal non-condensed standard Arial Regular type.

(5) If the name of one or more top contributor exceeds the width of the screen and is required to wrap onto a second line, then the names of contributors shall be clearly marked, using a highly visible symbol or minimum vertical separation defined by the Commission, to indicate where one top contributor name ends and the next begins.

(c) An advertisement that is an independent expenditure supporting or opposing a candidate shall include the appropriate statement from Section 84506.5 printed immediately above the background with sufficient contrast that is easily readable by the average viewer.

(d) Any text or image not required in this section shall not appear in the disclosure area, except as provided in Section 84504.8 and as otherwise authorized or required by applicable law.

History: Added by Stats. 2017, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 777; amended by Stats. 2022, Ch. 887; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 260.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18421.5, 18450.1, 18450.4, 18450.6, 18531.5

§ 84504.2. Disclosure; Print Ads.*

(a) A print advertisement paid for by a committee, other than a political party committee or a candidate controlled committee established for an elective office of the controlling candidate, shall include the disclosures required by Sections 84502, 84503, 84506.5, and 84514, displayed as follows:

(1) The disclosure area shall have a solid white background and shall be in a printed or drawn box on the bottom of at least one page that is set apart from any other printed matter. All text in the disclosure area shall be in contrasting color and centered horizontally in the disclosure area.

(2) The text shall be in an Arial equivalent type with a type size of at least 10-point for printed advertisements designed to be individually distributed, including, but not limited to, mailers, flyers, and door hangers.

(3) The disclosure required by Section 84514, if any, shall appear at the top of the disclosure area, and shall be separated from the disclosures required by Sections 84502 and 84503 by a blank line.

(4) The disclosures required by Sections 84502 and 84503 shall follow the disclosure required by Section 84514. The text of the disclosure shall be underlined if there are any top contributors.

(5) The top contributors, if any, shall each be disclosed on a separate horizontal line separate from any other text, in descending order, beginning with the top contributor who made the largest cumulative contributions on the first line. The name of each of the top contributors shall be centered horizontally in the disclosure area and shall not be underlined. The names of the top contributors shall not be printed in a type that is condensed to be narrower than a normal non-condensed Arial equivalent type.

(6) A committee subject to Section 84506.5 shall include the disclosure required by Section 84506.5, which

shall be underlined and on a separate line below any of the top contributors.

(7) A committee subject to Section 84223 shall next include the text "Funding Details At [insert Commission Internet Website]," which shall be underlined and printed on a line separate from any other text.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraphs (2) and (5) of subdivision (a), the disclosures required by Sections 84502, 84503, 84506.5, and 84514 on a printed advertisement that is larger than those designed to be individually distributed, including, but not limited to, yard signs or billboards, shall be in Arial equivalent type with a total height of at least 5 percent of the height of the advertisement, and printed on a solid background with sufficient contrast that is easily readable by the average viewer. The text may be adjusted so it does not appear on separate horizontal lines, with the top contributors separated by a comma.

(c) Notwithstanding the definition of "top contributors" in paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 84501, newspaper, magazine, or other public print advertisements that are 20 square inches or less shall be required to disclose only the single top contributor of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or more.

History: Added by Stats. 2017, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 777; amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 92, amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 558; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 260.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18421.5, 18450.1, 18450.6, 18531.5

*Section 84504.2 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84504.3. Disclosure; Electronic Media Ads.

(a) This section applies to an electronic media advertisement if either of the following is true:

(1) The advertisement is paid for by a committee other than a political party committee or a candidate controlled committee established for an elective office of the controlling candidate.

(2) The advertisement is paid for by a political party committee or a candidate controlled committee established for an elective office of the controlling candidate, and is either of the following:

(A) Paid for by an independent expenditure.

(B) An advertisement supporting or opposing a ballot measure.

(b) An electronic media advertisement that is a graphic, image, animated graphic, or animated image that the online platform hosting the advertisement allows to link to an internet website paid for by a committee shall comply with both of the following:

(1) Unless the disclosure area described in paragraph (2) includes the full disclosure text required by Sections 84502, 84503, 84506.5, and 84514, the advertisement shall contain a hyperlink to an internet website containing the disclosures required by Sections 84502, 84503, 84506.5, and 84514 in a contrasting color and in no less than 11-point font.

(2) The advertisement shall include, for the duration of the advertisement, the disclosures required by Section 84514, if any, followed by the disclosures required by Section 84502, if any, followed by the disclosures required by Section 84503, if any, displayed according to the following:

(A) The disclosure area shall have a solid white or black background and shall be in a box on the bottom of the advertisement. The text in the disclosure area shall be in a contrasting color and in standard Arial Regular type with a type size of at least 11-point and shall not have its type condensed or have the spacing between characters reduced to be narrower than a normal non-condensed standard Arial Regular type.

(B) The disclosure required by Section 84514, if any, shall appear at the top of the disclosure area, and shall be separated from the disclosure required by Section 84502 by a blank line.

(C) Notwithstanding Section 84503, the disclosure area may disclose only the largest top contributor to the committee paying for the advertisement, and the disclosure area may include the words “Top Funder” or “Top Funders” instead of “Ad Committee’s Top Funders” or “Ad Committee’s Top Funder.”

(D) The disclosure required by Section 84506.5 may be displayed at the bottom of the disclosure box, separated from the disclosures required by Section 84503 by a blank horizontal line. This text is not required to be displayed in the disclosure area if the advertisement hyperlinks to a website containing the disclosures as described by paragraph (1).

(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (2), if the image takes up fewer than 65,000 square pixels, i.e., is smaller than a standard 728 by 90 pixel leaderboard image advertisement, then the disclosure area described in paragraph (2) may instead include the text “Who funded this ad?”. This text shall be in standard Arial Regular type with a type size of at least 8-point.

(4) Notwithstanding paragraphs (2) and (3), the disclosure area required by paragraph (2) is not required if it would take up more than 10 percent of the graphic or image even using the “Who funded this ad?” option allowed by paragraph (3). In those circumstances, the advertisement need only include a hyperlink to an internet website containing the disclosures required by Sections 84502, 84503, 84506.5, and 84514.

(5) Any text or image not required by this subdivision shall not appear in the disclosure area, except as provided in Section 84504.8 and as otherwise authorized or required by applicable law.

(c) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), an email message or internet website paid for by a committee shall include the disclosures required by Sections 84502, 84503, 84506.5, and 84514 printed clearly and legibly in a contrasting color and in no less than 8-point font at the top or bottom of the email message, or at the top or bottom of every publicly accessible page of the internet website, as applicable.

(d) An internet website that is linked as provided for in paragraphs (1) and (4) of subdivision (b) shall remain online and available to the public until 30 days after the date of the

election in which the candidate or ballot measure supported or opposed by the advertisement was voted upon.

(e) An advertisement made via a form of electronic media that is audio only and therefore cannot include either of the disclosures in subdivision (b) shall comply with the disclosure requirements for radio advertisements in Section 84504.

(f) An electronic media advertisement that is disseminated as a video shall comply with the disclosure requirements of Sections 84504.1 and 84504.5, depending on the type of committee that paid for it. If the video is longer than 30 seconds, the disclosures required by Sections 84504.1 and 84504.5 shall be made at the beginning of the advertisement.

(g) An advertisement in the form of a post, comment, or similar communication made via a form of electronic media that allows users to engage in discourse and post content, or any other type of social media, is not required to include the disclosure provided in subdivision (b) if both of the following apply:

(1) The advertisement was posted directly by the social media page or account of the committee that paid for the advertisement.

(2)(A) The disclosures required by Sections 84502, 84503, 84506.5, and 84514 are included on the cover or header photo of the committee’s profile, landing page, or similar location for the committee’s page or account from which the post, comment, or similar communication was made in a contrasting color that is easily readable by the average viewer and in no less than 10-point font. The disclosures specified in this subparagraph shall be fully visible on the cover or header photo when the profile, landing page, or similar location is viewed from any electronic device that is commonly used to view this form of electronic media, including, but not limited to, a computer screen, laptop, tablet, or smart phone.

(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), if making the disclosures specified in subparagraph (A) fully visible on a commonly used electronic device would be impracticable, the cover or header photo of the profile, landing page, or similar location need only include a hyperlink, icon, button, or tab to an internet website containing the disclosures specified in subparagraph (A).

(h) The disclosures required by this section do not apply to advertisements made via social media for which the only expense or cost of the communication is compensated staff time unless the social media account where the content is posted was created only for the purpose of advertisements governed by this title.

History: Added by Stats. 2017, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 777; amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 92; amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 754; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 558; amended by Stats. 2022, Ch. 887; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 260.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18421.5, 18450.1, 18450.4, 18450.6, 18450.8, 18450.9, 18450.10, 18531.5

§ 84504.4. Disclosure; Radio, Television, and Social Media Ads; Political Parties and Candidates.

(a) A radio or television advertisement that is paid for by a political party or a candidate controlled committee established for an elective office of the controlling candidate, and that does not support or oppose a ballot measure and is not paid for by an independent expenditure, shall include the disclosure required by Section 84502 and the disclosure required by Section 84514, if any, subject to the following requirements:

(1) In a radio advertisement, the words shall be included at the beginning or end of the advertisement and read in a clearly spoken manner and in a pitch and tone substantially similar to the rest of the advertisement.

(2) In a television advertisement, the words shall appear in writing for at least four seconds with letters in a type size that is greater than or equal to 4 percent of the height of the screen.

(b) An advertisement that is made via a form of electronic media that allows users to engage in discourse and post content, or any other type of social media, that is paid for by a political party or a candidate controlled committee established for an elective office of the controlling candidate, and that does not support or oppose a ballot measure and is not paid for by an independent expenditure, shall include the disclosure required by Section 84502 in accordance with subdivision (g) of Section 84504.3.

History: Added by Stats. 2017, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 754; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 260.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18421.5, 18450.1, 18450.4, 18450.6, 18450.8, 18450.9, 18531.5

§ 84504.5. Disclosure; Independent Expenditure and Ballot Measure Ads; Political Parties and Candidates.

An advertisement that is an independent expenditure and paid for by a political party or a candidate controlled committee established for an elective office of the controlling candidate shall include the disclosures required by Sections 84502, 84506.5, and 84514. An advertisement that supports or opposes a ballot measure and is paid for by a political party or a candidate controlled committee established for an elective office of the controlling candidate shall include the disclosure required by Section 84502. A disclosure that is included in an advertisement pursuant to this section is subject to the following requirements:

(a) A radio or telephone advertisement shall include the required disclosures at the beginning or end of the advertisement and be read in a clearly spoken manner and in a pitch and tone substantially similar to the rest of the advertisement, and shall last no less than three seconds.

(b) A video advertisement, including television and videos disseminated over the internet, shall include the required disclosures in writing at the beginning or end of the advertisement in a text that is of sufficient size to be readily legible to an average viewer and in a color that has a reason-

able degree of contrast with the background of the advertisement for at least four seconds. The required disclosure must also be spoken during the advertisement if the written disclosure appears for less than five seconds of a broadcast of 30 seconds or less or for less than 10 seconds of a broadcast that lasts longer than 30 seconds.

(c)(1) A print advertisement shall include the required disclosures in no less than 10-point font and in a color that has a reasonable degree of contrast with the background of the advertisement.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), each line of the required disclosures on a print advertisement that is larger than those designed to be individually distributed, such as a yard sign or billboard, shall in total constitute no less than 5 percent of the total height of the advertisement and shall appear in a color that has a reasonable degree of contrast with the background of the advertisement.

(d) An electronic media advertisement shall include the disclosures required by Section 84504.3.

History: Added by Stats. 2017, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 777; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 260.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18421.5, 18450.1, 18450.4, 18450.6, 18450.8, 18450.9

§ 84504.6. Disclosure; Online Platform*

(a) For purposes of this article, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) “Online platform” means a public-facing internet website, web application, or digital application, including a social network, ad network, or search engine, that sells advertisements directly to advertisers. A public-facing internet website, web application, or digital application is not an online platform for purposes of this article to the extent that it displays advertisements that are sold directly to advertisers through another online platform.

(2)(A) “Online platform disclosed advertisement” means either of the following:

(i) A paid electronic media advertisement on an online platform made via a form of electronic media that allows users to engage in discourse and post content, or any other type of social media, for which the committee pays the online platform, unless all advertisements on the platform are video advertisements that can comply with Section 84504.1. Individual posts, comments, or other similar communications are not considered online platform disclosed advertisements if they are posted without payment to the online platform.

(ii) A paid electronic media advertisement on an online platform that is not any of the following:

(I) A graphic, image, animated graphic, or animated image that the online platform hosting the advertisement allows to hyperlink to an internet website containing required disclosures, as described in subdivision (b) of Section 84504.3.

(II) Video, audio, or email.

(B) Electronic media advertisements that are not online platform disclosed advertisements as defined in subparagraph (A) shall follow disclosure requirements for electronic

media advertisements under Section 84504.3.

(b) A committee that disseminates an online platform disclosed advertisement shall do all of the following:

(1) Upon requesting the dissemination, expressly notify the online platform through which the advertisement would be disseminated, using the online platform's chosen notification method, that the advertisement is an advertisement as defined in Section 84501.

(2)(A) Provide the online platform with the disclosure name of the committee.

(B) For purposes of this section, "disclosure name" means the text required by Section 84503, followed by a colon, followed by, surrounded in quotation marks, the name of the committee as it appears on the most recent Statement of Organization filed pursuant to Section 84101 or the name that the filer is required to use on campaign statements pursuant to subdivision (o) of Section 84211. If no disclosure text is required by Section 84503, "disclosure name" means the name of the committee as it appears on the most recent Statement of Organization filed pursuant to Section 84101 or the name that the filer is required to use on campaign statements pursuant to subdivision (o) of Section 84211.

(C) If the disclosure name changes due to a change in the top contributors or the name of the committee, the committee shall provide the online platform with an updated disclosure name within five business days.

(3) Provide the online platform with the name of the candidate to which the advertisement refers and the office to which the candidate is seeking election, as applicable, or number or letter of the ballot measure and the jurisdiction to which the advertisement refers.

(4) Provide the online platform with the name and identification number of the committee that paid for the advertisement.

(c) An online platform that disseminates a committee's online platform disclosed advertisement shall do one of the following:

(1) Display "Paid for by" or "Ad Paid for by" followed by the disclosure name provided by the committee, easily readable to the average viewer, located adjacent to any text stating that the advertisement is an advertisement or is promoted or sponsored. The online platform may display only one hundred or more characters of the disclosure name if it is followed by a "..." that is clearly clickable and that links to a page as described in paragraph (3).

(2) The online platform may instead display a hyperlink, icon, button, or tab with the text "Who funded this ad?," "Paid for by," or "Ad Paid for by" that is clearly clickable in the same or similar font and in at least the same font size as the online platform's text, and easily readable to the average viewer, stating that the advertisement is an advertisement or is promoted or sponsored, that links to a page as described in paragraph (3).

(3) Hyperlinks, icons, buttons, or tabs used for the purposes described in paragraphs (1) and (2) shall be linked to the profile or landing page of the committee that paid for the advertisement; to another page to which the average viewer would normally navigate to view additional information

about a committee containing the disclosure name in a manner that is easily seen and readable by the average viewer; or to an internet website containing the disclosure required by subdivision (d) of Section 84504.3.

(d) An online platform that disseminates committees' online platform disclosed advertisements shall meet all of the following requirements:

(1) Maintain, and make available for online public inspection in a machine readable format, a record of any advertisement disseminated on the online platform by a committee that purchased five hundred dollars (\$500) or more in advertisements on the online platform during the preceding 12 months. Each record shall contain all of the following:

(A) A digital copy of the advertisement.

(B) The approximate number of views generated from the advertisement and the date and time that the advertisement was first displayed and last displayed.

(C) Information regarding the range charged or the total amount spent on the advertisement.

(D) The name of the candidate to which the advertisement refers and the office to which the candidate is seeking election, as applicable, or number or letter of the ballot measure and the jurisdiction to which the advertisement refers.

(E) The name and identification number of the committee that paid for the advertisement, if the committee is assigned an identification number.

(2) The information required under this subdivision shall be made available as soon as practicable and shall be retained by the online platform for no less than four years.

(3)(A) Display a prominent button, icon, tab, or hyperlink with the text "View Ads" or similar text in one of the following locations: (i) near the top of a profile, landing page, or similar location of a committee that paid for an advertisement in a position that the average viewer will readily see it upon viewing that page; (ii) on a page that displays the committee's profile information or biographical information; (iii) or on a page on which the average viewer would normally navigate to view additional information about a committee.

(B) The button, icon, tab, or hyperlink shall link to a page clearly showing all of the advertisement records required by paragraph (1).

(e) An online platform that creates a mechanism for a committee requesting dissemination of an online platform disclosed advertisement to expressly notify the online platform whether the advertisement is an advertisement as defined in Section 84501 and to provide all information necessary for the online platform to comply with the requirements of this section may rely in good faith on the information provided by the committee to the online platform to satisfy the online platform's obligations under subdivisions (c) and (d). History: Added by Stats. 2018, Ch. 754; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 558.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18421.5, 18450.6

*Section 84504.6 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84504.7. Disclosure; Text Messages.

(a) A candidate or committee shall not authorize or pay for an advertisement that is a text message, unless the disclosures described in subdivision (b) are made, if the text message meets one of the following conditions:

(1) The text message supports or opposes a candidate.

(2) The text message supports or opposes a ballot measure.

(b)(1) A committee, other than a candidate controlled committee established for an elective office of the controlling candidate, subject to subdivision (a) shall include the text “Paid for by” or “With” followed by either the name of the committee, or a hyperlink or Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for an internet website containing the disclosures required by Sections 84502, 84503, and 84506.5. The text of the disclosures on the internet website shall be in a color that reasonably contrasts with the background on which it appears and in no less than eight-point font. If the word “With” is used, the individual sending the text shall identify themselves in the following manner: “(Name of individual) with (name of committee or hyperlink or URL).” A disclosure using the word “With” may appear anywhere in the text message, including in conversational content, and need not appear as a separate statement apart from the other content of the message.

(2) A candidate controlled committee established for an elective office of the controlling candidate subject to subdivision (a) shall include the text “Paid for by” or “With” followed by the name of the candidate, followed by the word “For,” and followed by the name of the elective office sought. If the word “With” is used, the individual sending the text shall identify themselves in the following manner: “(Name of individual) with (name of candidate) for (name of elective office).” A disclosure using the word “With” may appear anywhere in the text message, including in conversational content, and need not appear as a separate statement apart from the other content of the message.

(3) A committee subject to subdivision (a) that has top contributors, other than a political party committee or a candidate controlled committee established for an elective office of the controlling candidate, shall comply with the following:

(A) Immediately following the name of the committee or the hyperlink or URL required by paragraph (1), the text message shall also include the text “Top funders:” followed by the names of the top two contributors of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or more to the committee paying for the advertisement, separated by “&” or “and.”

(B) The names of the top two contributors may be spelled using acronyms, abbreviations, or other shorthand in common usage or parlance. If a top contributor is an individual, their first and last name shall both be used.

(C) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), if the disclosures required by paragraph (1) and this paragraph would exceed 35 characters, the text message shall disclose only the single top contributor of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or more to the committee paying for the advertisement.

(D) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), if the text message includes the name of the committee paying for the advertisement in accordance with paragraph (1), and the committee’s name includes the name of one of the top two contributors of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or more to the committee paying for the advertisement, the text message is not required to include the name of that contributor after the text “Top funders:”.

(4) The text required to be included in a text message sent pursuant to this subdivision shall be in a color that reasonably contrasts with the background on which it appears and in a font size that is readable by the average viewer.

(c)(1) This section does not apply to a text message that is individually sent without the assistance of mass distribution technology, including a text messaging platform.

(2) If a committee, other than a political party committee or a candidate controlled committee established for an elected office of the controlling candidate, subject to subdivision (a) that has top contributors uses individuals who are unpaid volunteers to send text messages with the assistance of mass distribution technology, including a text message platform, the text messages sent by individuals who are unpaid volunteers are not required to disclose the top two contributors pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (b). Text messages sent by unpaid volunteers shall include a disclosure stating that the text message is being sent by a volunteer. For purposes of this paragraph, receiving payments for food, transportation, or lodging in connection with campaign activity shall not disqualify a person from being classified as an unpaid volunteer.

(d) An internet website that is hyperlinked as provided for in this section shall remain online and available to the public until 30 days after the date of the election in which the candidate or ballot measure supported or opposed by the advertisement was voted on.

(e)(1) If an exchange consists of a sequence of multiple text messages sent on the same day, a candidate or committee shall be deemed in compliance with this section if the candidate or committee sends the disclosures required by subdivision (b) with the first text message in the sequence that meets one of the conditions of subdivision (a).

(2) A committee shall be deemed in compliance with this section if the disclosures required by subdivision (b) are included in the text message in the form the committee intended it to be sent, regardless of the form the carrier relayed it to the recipient.

(3) If a committee includes a hyperlink or URL in the text message sent pursuant to subdivision (b), the committee shall be deemed to be in compliance with subdivision (b) even if the recipient’s device is incapable of accessing the corresponding internet website.

History: Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 555.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18421.5, 18450.6, 18531.5

§ 84504.8. Merging Disclosures.

If a disclosure statement required by a local ordinance is substantially similar to a disclosure statement required

pursuant to this article, the two disclosure statements may be merged into a single statement.

History: Added by Stats. 2022, Ch. 887.

§ 84505. Avoidance of Disclosure.

(a) In addition to the requirements of Sections 84502, 84503, and 84506.5, the committee placing the advertisement or persons acting in concert with that committee shall be prohibited from creating or using a noncandidate-controlled committee or a nonsponsored committee to avoid, or that results in the avoidance of, the disclosure of any individual, industry, business entity, controlled committee, or sponsored committee as a top contributor.

(b) Written disclosures required by Sections 84503 and 84506.5 shall not appear in all capital letters, except that capital letters shall be permitted for the beginning of a sentence, the beginning of a proper name or location, part of the contributor's trademark name or part of its name in common usage or parlance, or as otherwise required by conventions of the English language.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; amended by Stats. 2007, Ch. 495; amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2022, Ch. 887.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18450.1, 18450.6

§ 84506.5. Disclosure; Independent Expenditure Ads; Not Authorized by Candidate.

An advertisement supporting or opposing a candidate that is paid for by an independent expenditure shall include a statement that it was not authorized by a candidate or a committee controlled by a candidate. If the advertisement was authorized or paid for by a candidate for another office, the expenditure shall instead include a statement that "This advertisement was not authorized or paid for by a candidate for this office or a committee controlled by a candidate for this office."

History: Added by Stats. 2007, Ch. 495; amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 747, effective October 10, 2015; amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 546.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18421.5, 18450.1, 18450.4, 18450.6, 18450.7

§ 84509. Amended Disclosures.

If the order of top contributors required to be disclosed pursuant to this article changes or a new contributor qualifies as a top contributor, the disclosure in the advertisement shall be updated as follows:

(a) A television, radio, telephone, electronic billboard, or other electronic media advertisement shall be updated to reflect the new top contributors within five business days. A committee shall be deemed to have complied with this subdivision if the amended advertisement is delivered, containing a request that the advertisement immediately be replaced, to all affected broadcast stations or other locations where the advertisement is placed no later than the fifth business day.

(b) A print media advertisement, including nonelectronic billboards, shall be updated to reflect the new top contributors before placing a new or modified order for additional printing of the advertisement.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; repealed and added by Stats. 2017, Ch. 546.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18421.5, 18450.1, 18450.5, 18450.6

§ 84510. Remedies for Article Violations; Civil Action; Fines.

(a)(1) In addition to the remedies provided for in Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 91000), a person who violates Section 84503 or 84506.5 is liable in a civil or administrative action brought by the Commission or any person for a fine up to three times the cost of the advertisement, including placement costs.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a person who intentionally violates a provision of Sections 84504 to 84504.3, inclusive, or Section 84504.5 or 84504.6, for the purpose of avoiding disclosure is liable in a civil or administrative action brought by the Commission or any person for a fine up to three times the cost of the advertisement, including placement costs.

(b) The remedies provided in subdivision (a) shall also apply to any person who purposely causes any other person to violate any of the sections described in paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (a) or who aids and abets any other person in a violation.

(c) If a judgment is entered against the defendant or defendants in an action brought under this section, the plaintiff shall receive 50 percent of the amount recovered. The remaining 50 percent shall be deposited in the General Fund of the state. In an action brought by a local civil prosecutor, 50 percent shall be deposited in the account of the agency bringing the action and 50 percent shall be paid to the General Fund of the state.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 754.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18450.1, 18450.6

§ 84511. Ballot Measure Ads; Paid Spokesperson Disclosure.

(a) This section applies to a committee that does either of the following:

(1) Makes an expenditure of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more to an individual for the individual's appearance in an advertisement that supports or opposes the qualification, passage, or defeat of a ballot measure.

(2) Makes an expenditure of any amount to an individual for the individual's appearance in an advertisement that supports or opposes the qualification, passage, or defeat of a ballot measure and that states or suggests that the individual is a member of an occupation that requires licensure, certification, or other specialized, documented training as a prerequisite to engage in that occupation.

(b) A committee described in subdivision (a) shall file, within 10 days of the expenditure, a report that includes all of the following:

(1) An identification of the measure that is the subject of the advertisement.

(2) The date of the expenditure.

(3) The amount of the expenditure.

(4) The name of the recipient of the expenditure.

(5) For a committee described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), the occupation of the recipient of the expenditure.

(c) An advertisement paid for by a committee described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) shall include a disclosure statement stating “(spokesperson’s name) is being paid by this campaign or its donors” in highly visible font shown continuously if the advertisement consists of printed or televised material, or spoken in a clearly audible format if the advertisement is a radio broadcast or telephonic message. If the advertisement is a television or video advertisement, the statement shall be shown continuously, except when the disclosure statement required by Section 84504.1 is being shown.

(d)(1) An advertisement paid for by a committee described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) shall include a disclosure statement stating “Persons portraying members of an occupation in this advertisement are compensated spokespersons not necessarily employed in those occupations” in highly visible font shown continuously if the advertisement consists of printed or televised material, or spoken in a clearly audible format if the advertisement is a radio broadcast or telephonic message. If the advertisement is a television or video advertisement, the statement shall be shown continuously, except when the disclosure statement required by Section 84504.1 is being shown.

(2) A committee may omit the disclosure statement required by this subdivision if all of the following are satisfied with respect to each individual identified in the report filed pursuant to subdivision (b) for that advertisement:

(A) The occupation identified in the report is substantially similar to the occupation portrayed in the advertisement.

(B) The committee maintains credible documentation of the appropriate license, certification, or other training as evidence that the individual may engage in the occupation identified in the report and portrayed in the advertisement and makes that documentation immediately available to the Commission upon request.

History: Added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 241, effective September 4, 2001; amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 868; amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 747, effective October 10, 2015; amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 558.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18421.5, 18450.1, 18450.6, 18450.11, 18531.5

§ 84512. Business Entity Reports; Altered Search Results and Targeted Advertisements.

(a)(1) A business entity shall submit a report to the Secretary of State following any calendar year in which the business entity does either of the following:

(A) Uses its products or services to alter the online search results its products or services generate in order to emphasize or deemphasize materials containing express advocacy, as that term is defined in paragraph (2) of subdivision (c) of Section 82025.

(B) Uses its products or services to target online advertisements to individuals or groups, or generally to users or members of the public, without full and adequate consideration and for political purposes, as that term is described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 82025.

(2) The report shall contain information including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(A) The name of each candidate or measure with regard to which the search results were altered as described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) or that was the subject of an advertisement targeted as described in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1).

(B) For each candidate or measure, whether the search results or advertisements were to support or oppose the nomination or election of the candidate or the qualification or passage of the measure.

(C) The full name, title, and business street address and telephone number of each person with final decision making authority as to which candidates or measures will be supported or opposed by the business entity’s search results or advertisements.

(D) The date or range of dates in which the activity described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (1) occurred.

(3) A report shall be filed by January 31 for activity occurring during the previous calendar year.

(4) The report shall be filed on paper or by email with the Secretary of State and shall be made publicly available in a conspicuous location on the Secretary of State’s website.

(5) The report required by this section may be included in an online filing and disclosure system developed in accordance with subdivision (b) of Section 84602 if the Secretary of State, pursuant to paragraph (7) of that subdivision, certifies that the system is able to incorporate filing of the report.

(b) A business entity subject to this section shall maintain detailed accounts and records necessary to prepare the report required pursuant to subdivision (a), and shall retain those detailed accounts and records for a period of four years following the date that the report is filed.

(c) This section does not apply to either of the following activities:

(1) A business entity’s use of its products or services exclusively to carry out its commercial activities, including, but not limited to, delivering user-generated content or a paid advertisement on behalf of another person.

(2) Communications that are internal to a business entity or entities.

(d) This section is not intended to expand or limit the definition of contribution or expenditure under this title.

(e) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2024.

History: Added by Stats. 2022, Ch. 876, operative January 1, 2024.

§ 84513. Disclosure; Third-Party Posts Paid for By Committee.

(a) (1) If a committee pays a person to post content on an internet website, web application, or digital application for the purpose of supporting or opposing a candidate for elective office or a ballot measure, the person shall concurrently include a disclaimer with that content stating that the person was paid by the committee in connection with the posting.

(2) The disclaimer required by this subdivision shall be readily legible to an average viewer or, if the content is in audio format, shall be clearly audible. A disclaimer that states, or is substantially similar to, the following satisfies the requirement in this subdivision: “The author was paid by [name of committee and committee identification number] in connection with this posting.”

(3) This subdivision does not apply to the following:

(A) Content requiring a disclosure pursuant to Section 84504.3 or subdivision (c) of Section 84511.

(B) Content posted on the committee’s own website, profile, or landing page by a person compensated by the committee to post such content.

(C) Content posted by a compensated employee of a committee on the employee’s own social media page or account where the only expense or cost of the communication is compensated staff time. This exception shall not apply if the compensated employee of the committee’s principal duties are to post content on their own social media page or account.

(b) A committee described in subdivision (a) shall notify the person paid to post the content of the requirement to include a disclaimer.

(c) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, a person in violation of subdivision (a) is not subject to administrative, civil, or criminal penalties under this title.

(2) If a person violates subdivision (a), the Commission may seek injunctive relief to compel compliance pursuant to Section 90009 after the person is notified of the requirement in subdivision (a).

History: Added by Stats. 2023, Ch. 156, effective January 1, 2024.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18450.10

§ 84514. Artificial Intelligence Use Disclosure.

(a) (1) If a committee, as defined in Section 82013, creates, originally publishes, or originally distributes a qualified political advertisement, the qualified political advertisement shall include, in a clear and conspicuous manner, the following disclosure: “Ad generated or substantially altered using artificial intelligence.”

(2) The disclosure required by paragraph (1) shall be displayed or spoken in the manner prescribed in Section

84504, 84504.1, 84504.2, 84504.3, 84504.4, or 84504.5, as applicable.

(b) This section does not alter or negate any rights, obligations, or immunities of an interactive service provider under Section 230 of Title 47 of the United States Code.

(c) (1) If a committee does not comply with the requirements of subdivision (a), the Commission may take either of the following actions:

(A) Seek injunctive relief to compel compliance pursuant to Section 90009.

(B) Pursue any administrative or civil remedies available under Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 83100) or Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 91000).

(2) A violation of subdivision (a) shall not constitute a misdemeanor under Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 91000).

(d) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) “Artificial intelligence” means an engineered or machine-based system that varies in its level of autonomy and that can, for explicit or implicit objectives, infer from the input it receives how to generate outputs that can influence physical or virtual environments.

(2) (A) Any image, audio, video, or other media is “generated or substantially altered using artificial intelligence” if either of the following conditions are met:

(i) The visual or audio media is entirely created using artificial intelligence and would falsely appear to a reasonable person to be authentic.

(ii) The visual or audio media is materially altered by artificial intelligence such that the alteration would cause a reasonable person to have a fundamentally different understanding of the altered media when comparing it to an unaltered version.

(B) Any image, audio, video, or other media is not “generated or substantially altered using artificial intelligence” if the media is immaterially altered by artificial intelligence, including a cosmetic adjustment, color edit, cropped image, or resized image.

(3) “Qualified political advertisement” means an advertisement that contains any image, audio, or video that is generated or substantially altered using artificial intelligence.

History: Added by Stats. 2024, Ch. 260.

Chapter 4.6. Online Disclosure Act of 1997.

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§ 84600. Online Disclosure.

This chapter may be known and may be cited as the Online Disclosure Act.

History: Added by Stats. 1997, Ch. 866, effective October 11, 1997; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 917, effective October 14, 2001.

§ 84601. Public Access.

The Legislature finds and declares as follows:

(a) The people of California enacted one of the nation's most comprehensive campaign and lobbying financial disclosure laws when they voted for Proposition 9, the Political Reform Act of 1974, an initiative statute.

(b) Public access to campaign and lobbying disclosure information is a vital and integral component of a fully informed electorate.

(c) Advances in technology have made it necessary for the State of California to develop a new, data-driven online filing and disclosure system that provides public disclosure of campaign finance and lobbying information in a user-friendly, easily understandable format.

(d) Members of the public, including voters, journalists, and researchers, should be able to access campaign finance and lobbying information in a robust and flexible manner, including through searches and visual displays such as graphs and maps.

History: Added by Stats. 1997, Ch. 866, effective October 11, 1997; amended by Stats. 2016, Ch. 845.

§ 84602. Secretary of State's Duties.*

(a) To implement the Legislature's intent, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Commission, notwithstanding any other provision of this code, shall do all of the following:

(1) Develop online and electronic filing processes for use by persons and entities specified in Section 84605 that are required to file statements and reports with the Secretary

of State's office pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 84100), Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 85100), and Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 86100). Those processes shall each enable a user to comply with all of the disclosure requirements of this title and shall include, at a minimum, both of the following:

(A) A means or method whereby filers subject to this chapter may submit required filings free of charge. Any means or method developed pursuant to this subparagraph shall not provide any additional or enhanced functions or services that exceed the minimum requirements necessary to fulfill the disclosure provisions of this title.

(B) The definition of a nonproprietary standardized record format or formats using industry standards for the transmission of the data that is required of those persons and entities specified in Section 84605 and that conforms with the disclosure requirements of this title. The Secretary of State shall hold public hearings before development of the record format or formats as a means to ensure that affected entities have an opportunity to provide input into the development process.

(2) Accept test files from software vendors and others wishing to file reports electronically, for the purpose of determining whether the file format is in compliance with the standardized record format developed pursuant to paragraph (1) and is compatible with the Secretary of State's system for receiving the data. A list of the software and service providers who have submitted acceptable test files shall be published by the Secretary of State and made available to the public. Acceptably formatted files shall be submitted by a filer in order to meet the requirements of this chapter.

(3) Develop a system that provides for the online or electronic transfer of the data specified in this section using telecommunications technology that ensures the integrity of the data transmitted and that creates safeguards against efforts to tamper with or subvert the data.

(4) Make all the data filed available on the internet in an easily understood format that provides the greatest public access. The data shall be made available free of charge and as soon as possible after receipt. All late contribution and late independent expenditure reports, as defined by Sections 84203 and 84204, respectively, shall be made available on the internet within 24 hours of receipt. The data made available on the internet shall not contain the street name and building number of the persons or entity representatives listed on the electronically filed forms or any bank account number required to be disclosed pursuant to this title.

(5) Develop a procedure for filers to comply with the requirement that they sign under penalty of perjury pursuant to Section 81004.

(6) Maintain all filed data online for 10 years after the date it is filed, and then archive the information in a secure format.

(7) Provide assistance to those seeking public access to the information.

(8) Implement sufficient technology to seek to prevent unauthorized alteration or manipulation of the data.

(9) Provide the Commission with necessary information to enable it to assist agencies, public officials, and

others with the compliance with, and administration of, this title.

(b)(1) To implement the Legislature's intent, as described in Section 84601, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Commission, shall develop an online filing and disclosure system for use by persons and entities specified in Section 84605 that are required to file statements and reports with the Secretary of State's office pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 84100), Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 85100), and Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 86100). The system shall enable a user to comply with all of the disclosure requirements of this title and shall include, at minimum, all of the following:

(A) A data-driven means or method that allows filers subject to this chapter to submit required filings free of charge in a manner that facilitates public searches of the data and does all of the following:

(i) Enables a filer to comply with all of the disclosure requirements of this title, including by entering or uploading requisite data or by indicating that the filer had no reportable activity during a particular reporting period.

(ii) Retains previously submitted data so that a filer can access that data to amend disclosures or prepare future disclosures. The system shall permit a filer to enter a contribution or independent expenditure transaction once and have the transaction appear on both a transactional report required by Section 84203, 84204, 84204.5, 84309, or 85500 and a periodic campaign statement required by this title.

(iii) Ensures the security of data entered and stored in the system.

(iv) To the extent feasible, is compatible with potential future capability to accept statements from filers specified in subdivisions (b) to (e), inclusive, of Section 84215.

(B) The definition of a nonproprietary standardized record format or formats using industry standards for the transmission of the data that is required of those persons and entities specified in Section 84605 and that conforms with the disclosure requirements of this title.

(2) The Secretary of State shall do all of the following with respect to the online filing and disclosure system developed pursuant to this subdivision:

(A) Accept test files from software vendors and others wishing to file reports electronically for the purpose of determining whether the file format is in compliance with the standardized record format developed pursuant to this subdivision and is compatible with the Secretary of State's system for receiving the data. The Secretary of State shall publish and make available to the public a list of the software and service providers who have submitted acceptable test files. A filer shall submit acceptably formatted files in order to meet the requirements of this chapter.

(B) Make the data filed available on the internet as follows:

(i) In a user-friendly, easily understandable format that provides the greatest public access, including online searches and machine-readable downloads of all data contained in the system, except as specified in clause (iii).

(ii) Free of charge and as soon as possible after receipt, or, in the case of late contribution, late in-kind contribution,

and late independent expenditure reports, as defined by Sections 84203, 84203.3, and 84204, respectively, within 24 hours of receipt.

(iii) Not containing the street name or building number of the persons or entity representatives listed on the electronically filed forms or any bank account number required to be disclosed pursuant to this title, except that a nonresidential address of a committee under Section 82013 may be made available on the internet.

(iv) In a manner that allows the public to track and aggregate contributions from the same contributor across filers using a permanent unique identifier assigned by the Secretary of State for this purpose. The Secretary of State shall assign this identifier to, at minimum, each contributor who makes contributions totaling ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or more in a calendar year to, or at the behest of, candidates or committees that file electronically with the Secretary of State pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 84215 or who files with the Secretary of State as a major donor committee under subdivision (c) of Section 82013.

(C) Develop a procedure for filers to comply electronically with the requirement to sign under penalty of perjury pursuant to Section 81004.

The electronic signature procedure shall allow the filer to file with the Secretary of State and shall not require an original signature to be filed.

(D) Maintain all filed data online for at least 20 years after the date it is filed, and then archive the information in a secure format.

(E) Provide assistance to those seeking public access to the information.

(F) Implement sufficient technology to seek to prevent unauthorized alteration or manipulation of the data.

(G) Provide the Commission with necessary information to enable it to assist agencies, public officials, and others in complying with and administering this title.

(3) The Secretary of State shall do all of the following with respect to developing the online filing and disclosure system and record format pursuant to this subdivision:

(A) Consult with the Assembly Committee on Elections and Redistricting, the Senate Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments, the Commission, users, filers, and other stakeholders, as appropriate, about functions of the online filing and disclosure system.

(B) In consultation with the Commission, and no later than July 31, 2017, hold at least one public hearing to receive input about developing the online filing and disclosure system and record format.

(C) No later than December 31, 2017, submit a report to the Assembly Committee on Elections and Redistricting and the Senate Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments that includes a plan for the online filing and disclosure system, describes how members of the public will be able to query and retrieve data from the system, and includes a plan for integrating statements as specified in clause (iv) of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1).

(4) The Secretary of State shall make the online filing and disclosure system developed pursuant to this subdivision available for use no later than February 2021.

(5) The Secretary of State may accept any funds, services, equipment, or grants to further this subdivision, provided that the Secretary of State shall notify the Assembly Committee on Elections and Redistricting and the Senate Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments upon accepting any amount valued at one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) or more.

(6) Because the provisions of this chapter need to be implemented as expeditiously as possible, the information technology procurement requirements described in Chapter 5.6 (commencing with Section 11545) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of this code, and in Section 12100 of the Public Contract Code, do not apply to development of the online filing and disclosure system pursuant to this subdivision. The Secretary of State shall consult with the Department of Technology, as appropriate, in developing the online filing and disclosure system, in order to maximize project success, minimize life-cycle costs, and ensure the security of the system and its data.

(7)(A) Before making the system developed pursuant to this subdivision available for public use, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Commission, shall test the system to ensure its functionality and then certify that the system meets all the requirements of this subdivision. The Secretary of State may consult with the Department of Technology as needed to fulfill the secretary's duties under this paragraph.

(B) After the system developed pursuant to this subdivision is certified, the system described in subdivision (a) shall no longer accept reports and filings, unless otherwise directed by the Secretary of State and the Commission. The system described in subdivision (a) shall continue to allow public access to past disclosures unless the Secretary of State migrates that data into the system described in this subdivision. To facilitate data conversion during migration, the Secretary of State may make minor technical modifications or corrections to the migrated data.

(c) On or before December 31, 2017, and on or before every April 15, July 15, October 15, and January 15 thereafter, the Secretary of State shall submit to the chairs of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee and the fiscal committees of the Legislature a quarterly report on the progress of the Cal-Access Project. Specifically, the Secretary of State shall certify whether the secretary (1) anticipates making or has made any changes to the project's scope, schedule, or budget and (2) considers any problems to be a risk to the project's completion according to the approved project schedule and budget. This reporting requirement shall end upon the completion or termination of the Cal-Access Project.

History: Added by Stats. 1997, Ch. 866, effective October 11, 1997; amended by Stats. 1999, Ch. 433, effective September 16, 1999; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 319; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 917, effective October 14, 2001; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 816; amended by Stats. 2005, Ch. 22; amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 503; amended by Stats. 2016, Ch. 845; amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 662; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 30; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 315.

*Section 84602 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying

an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84602.1. Secretary of State's Duties; Implementation and Reporting.

(a) The Secretary of State shall, on or before June 30, 2007, fully implement this chapter as specified in Section 84602, including completing online lobbying registration forms so that all forms can be filed online as specified in Section 84602

(b) On or before February 1, 2007, the Secretary of State shall report to the Legislature on all of the following:

(1) The implementation and development of the online and electronic filing and disclosure requirements of this chapter, with specific emphasis on the status of the development of a means or method described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 84602.

(2) Whether and to what extent any means or method has been deployed that allows filers to submit required filings free of charge, with an emphasis on the types of filers who are not yet able to complete all required online or electronic filings free of charge, what aspects of the filings are missing that prevent those filers from being able to complete all required online or electronic filings free of charge, the costs to those filers, and, if applicable, why a means or method has not yet been deployed and when one is likely to be deployed.

(3) What resources are necessary to complete efforts to allow filers to submit required filings free of charge, when completion is expected, and an explanation of why the original full allocation of requested funding did not provide the statutorily required free filing system.

(c) Additional reports to the Legislature pursuant to subdivision (b) shall be due on July 1, and December 1, of each year, until a means or method has been deployed that allows all filers who are required to file reports online or electronically to file those reports free of charge.

History: Added by Stats. 2006, Ch. 69, Sec. 19. Effective July 12, 2006.

§ 84602.3. Secretary of State's Duties; Disclosure of Local Campaign Finance Information.

The Secretary of State shall conspicuously post on the Secretary of State's internet website hyperlinks to the internet website of any local government agency that contains publicly-disclosed campaign finance information. The Secretary of State shall update these hyperlinks no later than December 31 of each year.

History: Added by Stats. 2017, Ch. 624; Stats. 2018, Ch. 92; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

§ 84602.5. Online Index of Identification Numbers.

The Secretary of State shall disclose online pursuant to this chapter an index of the identification numbers, as assigned pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 84101, of every person, entity, or committee that is obligated to make a disclosure pursuant to Chapter 4. This index shall be updated monthly except for the six-week period preceding any

statewide regular or special election, during which period the index shall be updated weekly.

History: Added by Stats. 1999, Ch. 208.

§ 84603. Acceptance of Reports.*

The Secretary of State, once all state-mandated development, procurement, and oversight requirements have been met, shall make public their availability to accept reports online or electronically. Any filer may then commence voluntarily filing online or electronically any required report or statement that is otherwise required to be filed with the Secretary of State pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 84100) or Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 86100) of this title.

History: Added by Stats. 1997, Ch. 866, effective October 11, 1997; amended by Stats. 1999, Ch. 433, effective September 16, 1999.

*Section 84603 was repealed by SB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84605. Who Shall File Online.*

(a) The following persons shall file online or electronically with the Secretary of State:

(1) Any candidate, including superior court, appellate court, and Supreme Court candidates and officeholders, committee, or other persons who are required, pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 84100), to file statements, reports, or other documents in connection with a state elective office or state measure, provided that the total cumulative reportable amount of contributions received, expenditures made, loans made, or loans received is twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) or more. In determining the cumulative reportable amount, all controlled committees, as defined by Section 82016, shall be included. For a committee subject to this title prior to January 1, 2000, the beginning date for calculating cumulative totals is January 1, 2000. For a committee that is first subject to this title on or after January 1, 2000, the beginning date for calculating cumulative totals is the date the committee is first subject to this title. A committee, as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 82013, shall file online or electronically if it makes contributions of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) or more in a calendar year.

(2) Any general purpose committees, as defined in Section 82027.5, including the general purpose committees of political parties, and small contributor committees, as defined in Section 85203, that cumulatively receive contributions or make expenditures totaling twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) or more to support or oppose candidates for any elective state office or state measure. For a committee subject to this title prior to January 1, 2000, the beginning date for calculating cumulative totals is January 1, 2000. For a committee that first is subject to this title on or after January 1, 2000, the beginning date for calculating cumulative totals is the date the committee is first subject to this title.

(3) Any slate mailer organization with cumulative reportable payments received or made for the purposes of producing slate mailers of twenty-five thousand dollars

(\$25,000) or more. For a slate mailer organization subject to this title prior to January 1, 2000, the beginning date for calculating cumulative totals is January 1, 2000. For a slate mailer organization that first is subject to this title on or after January 1, 2000, the beginning date for calculating cumulative totals is the date the organization is first subject to this title.

(4) Any lobbyist, lobbying firm, lobbyist employer, or other persons required, pursuant to Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 86100), to file statements, reports, or other documents, provided that the total amount of any category of reportable payments, expenses, contributions, gifts, or other items is two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) or more in a calendar quarter.

(b) The Secretary of State shall also disclose on the Internet any late contribution or late independent expenditure report, as defined by Sections 84203 and 84204, respectively, not covered by paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subdivision (a) or any other provision of law.

(c) Committees and other persons that are not required to file online or electronically by this section may do so voluntarily.

(d) Once a person or entity is required to file online or electronically, subject to subdivision (a) or (c), the person or entity shall be required to file all subsequent reports online or electronically.

(e) It shall be presumed that online or electronic filers file under penalty of perjury.

(f) Persons filing online or electronically shall also continue to file required disclosure statements and reports in paper format. The paper copy shall continue to be the official filing for audit and other legal purposes until the Secretary of State, pursuant to Section 84606, determines the system is operating securely and effectively.

(g) The Secretary of State shall maintain at all times a secured, official version of all original online and electronically filed statements and reports required by this chapter. Upon determination by the Secretary of State, pursuant to Section 84606, that the system is operating securely and effectively, this online or electronic version shall be the official version for audit and other legal purposes.

(h) Except for statements related to a local elective office or a local ballot measure filed by a candidate for local elective office who is also a candidate for elective state office, a copy of a statement, report, or other document filed by online or electronic means with the Secretary of State shall not be filed with a local filing officer.

History: Added by Stats. 1997, Ch. 866, effective October 11, 1997; amended by Stats. 1999, Ch. 433, effective September 16, 1999; amended by Stats. 2007, Ch. 348; amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 18; Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 111

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18450.11, 18451, 18465, 18465.1

*Section 84605 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84606. Operation of Online System.*

The Secretary of State shall determine and publicly disclose when the online and electronic disclosure systems are operating effectively. In making this determination, the Secretary of State shall consult with the commission, the Department of Information Technology, and any other appropriate public or private entity. The online or electronic disclosure system shall not become operative until the Department of Information Technology approves the system. Upon this determination, filers required by this chapter to file online or electronically will no longer be required to file a paper copy or with local filing officers. Furthermore, the date that a filer transmits an online or electronic report shall be the date the filed report is received by the Secretary of State.

History: Added by Stats. 1997, Ch. 866, effective October 11, 1997; amended by Stats. 1999, Ch. 433, effective September 16, 1999; Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 111.

*Section 84606 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84607. Prohibition Against Political or Campaign Use.

Pursuant to Section 8314, no employee or official of a state or local government agency shall utilize, for political or campaign purposes, public facilities or resources to retrieve or maintain any of the data produced by the requirements of this chapter.

History: Added by Stats. 1997, Ch. 866, effective October 11, 1997.

§ 84612. Rejection of Electronic Filing; Procedures.*

If the Secretary of State rejects a filing made under this chapter, the Secretary of State shall immediately notify the filer, by electronic mail, of the reason or reasons for rejection using plain, straightforward language, avoiding technical terms as much as possible, and using a coherent and easily readable style. The notice shall be written or displayed so that the meaning will be easily understood by those persons directly affected by it.

History: Added by Stats. 2001, Ch. 79.

*Section 84101 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84613. Political Disclosure, Accountability, Transparency, and Access Fund.

(a) The Political Disclosure, Accountability, Transparency, and Access Fund is hereby established in the State Treasury. Moneys collected pursuant to Section 84101.5 and one-half of the moneys collected pursuant to Section 86102 shall be deposited in the Political Disclosure, Accountability, Transparency, and Access Fund.

(b)(1) Moneys deposited in the Political Disclosure, Accountability, Transparency, and Access Fund are subject

to appropriation by the Legislature and shall be expended for the maintenance, repair, and improvement of the online or electronic disclosure program implemented by the Secretary of State pursuant to this chapter.

(2) In addition to paragraph (1), the Secretary of State may also use moneys deposited in the Political Disclosure, Accountability, Transparency, and Access Fund for purposes of implementing the act that added this section.

(c) Any expenditure of moneys from the Political Disclosure, Accountability, Transparency, and Access Fund for the purposes described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) is subject to the project approval and oversight process established by the California Technology Agency pursuant to Section 11546.

History: Added by Stats. 2012, Ch. 506.

§ 84615. Campaign Reports and Statements – Electronic Filing for Local Agencies.*

A local government agency may require an elected officer, candidate, committee, or other person required to file statements, reports, or other documents required by Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 84100), except an elected officer, candidate, committee, or other person who receives contributions totaling less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), and makes expenditures totaling less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), in a calendar year, to file those statements, reports, or other documents online or electronically with a local filing officer. A local government agency that requires online or electronic filing pursuant to this section shall comply with all of the following:

(a) The legislative body for the local government agency shall adopt an ordinance approving the use of online or electronic filing, which shall include a legislative finding that the online or electronic filing system will operate securely and effectively and would not unduly burden filers. The ordinance adopted by the legislative body for the local government agency may, at the discretion of that legislative body, specify that the electronic or online filing requirements apply only to specifically identified types of filings or are triggered only by identified monetary thresholds. In any instance in which the original statement, report, or other document is required to be filed with the Secretary of State and a copy of that statement, report, or other document is required to be filed with the local government agency, the ordinance may permit, but shall not require, that the copy be filed online or electronically.

(b) The online or electronic filing system shall only accept a filing in the standardized record format that is developed by the Secretary of State pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 84602 and that is compatible with the Secretary of State's system for receiving an online or electronic filing.

(c) The online or electronic filing system shall ensure the integrity of the data transmitted and shall include safeguards against efforts to tamper with, manipulate, alter, or subvert the data.

(d)(1) The local filing officer shall issue to a person who files a statement, report, or other document online or

electronically an electronic confirmation that notifies the filer that the statement, report, or other document was received. The confirmation shall include the date and the time that the statement, report, or other document was received by the filing officer and the method by which the filer may view and print the data received by the filing officer.

(2) A copy retained by the filer of a statement, report, or other document that was filed online or electronically and the confirmation issued pursuant to paragraph (1) that shows the filer timely filed the statement, report, or other document shall create a rebuttable presumption that the filer timely filed the statement, report, or other document.

(e) The date of filing for a statement, report, or other document that is filed online or electronically shall be the day that it is received by the local filing officer.

(f) The local filing officer shall make all the data filed available on the Internet in an easily understood format that provides the greatest public access. The data shall be made available free of charge and as soon as possible after receipt. The data made available on the Internet shall not contain the street name and building number of the persons or entity representatives listed on the electronically filed forms or any bank account number required to be disclosed by the filer. Except as provided in Section 84101, the local filing officer shall make a complete, unredacted copy of any statement, report, or other document filed pursuant to this section, including any street names and building numbers disclosed by the filer, available to any person upon request.

(g) The online or electronic filing system shall include a procedure for filers to comply with the requirement that they sign statements and reports under penalty of perjury pursuant to Section 81004.

(h) The local government agency shall enable filers to complete and submit filings free of charge.

(i) The local filing officer shall maintain, for a period of at least 10 years commencing from the date filed, a secured, official version of each online or electronic statement, report, or other document filed pursuant to this section, which shall serve as the official version of that record for purpose of audits and any other legal purpose. Data that has been maintained for at least 10 years may then be archived in a secure format.

(j) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any statement, report, or other document filed online or electronically pursuant to this section shall not be required to be filed with the local filing officer in paper format.

History: Added by Stats. 2012, Ch. 126; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 180.

*Section 84615 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 84616. Electronic Retention for Local Government Agency Filings.*

(a) Within 72 hours of each applicable filing deadline, a local government agency shall post on its internet website a copy of any statement, report, or other document required by Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 84100) that is filed with that agency in paper format, or by email or fax. If the

statement, report, or document is filed late by the filer, the local government agency shall post the copy within 72 hours of receipt of the statement, report, or document. If the final day of the 72-hour period is a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, the period is extended to the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday. Before posting, the local filing officer shall redact the street name and building number of the persons or entity representatives listed on any statement, report, or document, or any bank account number required to be disclosed by the filer. Providing a link on the agency's internet website to the statement, report, or other document satisfies this subdivision.

(b) A statement, report, or other document posted pursuant to this section shall be made available for four years from the date of the election associated with the filing.

(c) If a local government agency receives a filing that was required to be filed with a different agency or person, and the filing was not required to be filed with the receiving agency, the local government agency is not required to post the filing pursuant to subdivision (a) and shall notify the filer of the error.

History: Added by Stats. 2020, Ch. 214; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 97.

*Section 84616 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

Chapter 5. Limitations on Contributions.**§ 85100 – 85802**

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**Article 1. Title of Chapter.
§ 85100**

§ 85100. Chapter Title.

This chapter shall be known as the “Campaign Contribution and Voluntary Expenditure Limits Without Taxpayer Financing Amendments to the Political Reform Act of 1974.”

History: Added by Proposition 73 of the June 1988 Statewide Primary Election; repealed and added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election].

**Article 2. Candidacy.
§ 85200 – 85201**

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§ 85200. Statement of Intention to be a Candidate.*

Prior to the solicitation or receipt of any contribution or loan, an individual who intends to be a candidate for an elective state office, as that term is defined by Section 82024, shall file with the Secretary of State an original statement, signed under penalty of perjury, of intention to be a candidate for a specific office.

An individual who intends to be a candidate for any other elective office shall file the statement of intention with the same filing officer and in the same location as the individual would file an original campaign statement pursuant to subdivisions (b), (c), and (d) of Section 84215.

For purposes of this section, “contribution” and “loan” do not include any payments from the candidate’s personal funds for a candidate filing fee or a candidate statement of qualifications fee.

History: Added by Proposition 73 of the June 1988 Statewide Primary Election; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 1078; amended by Stats. 1996, Ch. 289; amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 394; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 853; amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 18.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18520, 18521, 18531.5, 18536, 18537.1, 18542

*Section 85200 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 85201. Campaign Bank Account.*

(a) Upon the filing of the statement of intention pursuant to Section 85200, the individual shall establish one campaign contribution account at an office of a financial institution located in the state.

(b) As required by subdivision (f) of Section 84102, a candidate who raises contributions of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) or more in a calendar year shall set forth the name and address of the financial institution where the candidate has established a campaign contribution account and the account number on the committee statement of organization filed pursuant to Sections 84101 and 84103.

(c) All contributions or loans made to the candidate, to a person on behalf of the candidate, or to the candidate’s controlled committee shall be deposited in the account.

(d) Any personal funds which will be utilized to promote the election of the candidate shall be deposited in the account prior to expenditure.

(e) All campaign expenditures shall be made from the account.

(f) Subdivisions (d) and (e) do not apply to a candidate’s payment for a filing fee and statement of qualifications from the candidate’s personal funds.

(g) This section does not apply to a candidate who will not receive contributions and who makes expenditures from personal funds of less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) in a calendar year to support the candidate’s candidacy. For purposes of this section, a candidate’s payment for a filing fee and statement of qualifications shall not be included in calculating the total expenditures made.

(h) An individual who raises contributions from others for that individual’s campaign, but who raises or spends less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) in a calendar year, and does not qualify as a committee under Section 82013, shall establish a campaign contribution account pursuant to subdivision (a), but is not required to file a committee statement of organization pursuant to Section 84101 or other statement of bank account information.

History: Added by Proposition 73 of the June 1988 Statewide Primary Election; amended by Stats. 1990, Ch. 387; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 1078; amended by Stats. 1996, Ch. 289; amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 394; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 853; amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 364, effective January 1, 2016; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18421.3, 18520, 18521, 18521.5, 18523, 18523.1, 18524, 18525, 18526, 18531.6, 18531.61, 18531.63, 18531.64, 18537.1

*Section 85201 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

Article 2.5. Applicability of the Political Reform Act of 1974.

§ 85202 – 85206

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§ 85202. Interpretation of Chapter 5.

Unless specifically superseded by the act that adds this section, the definitions and provisions of this title shall govern the interpretation of this chapter.

History: Added by Proposition 73 of the June 1988 Statewide Primary Election; amended by Stats. 1989, Ch. 303. (Formerly titled “Contributions to Candidates; Trust for Specific Office”); repealed by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84. Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election. (Formerly titled “Applicability of the Political Reform Act”); repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election].

§ 85203. Small Contributor Committee.

“Small contributor committee” means any committee that meets all of the following criteria:

- (a) The committee has been in existence for at least six months.
- (b) The committee receives contributions from 100 or more persons.
- (c) No one person has contributed to the committee more than two hundred dollars (\$200) per calendar year.
- (d) The committee makes contributions to five or more candidates.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election].

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18503

§ 85204. Election Cycle for 24-Hour Reports.

“Election cycle,” for purposes of Sections 85309 and 85500, means the period of time commencing 90 days prior to an election and ending 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.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election. (Formerly titled “Two-Year Period”); repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 633.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18425, 18550

§ 85204.5. Special Election Cycle and Special Runoff Election Cycle.

With respect to special elections, the following terms have the following meanings:

(a) “Special election cycle” means the day on which the office becomes vacant until the day of the special election.

(b) “Special runoff election cycle” means the day after the special election until the day of the special runoff election.

History: Added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election].

§ 85205. Political Party Committee.

“Political party committee” means the state central committee or county central committee of an organization that meets the requirements for recognition as a political party pursuant to Section 5100 or 5151 of the Elections Code.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2013, Ch. 511.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18530.3

§ 85206. Public Moneys.

“Public moneys” has the same meaning as defined in Section 426 of the Penal Code.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election].

Article 3. Contribution Limitations.

§ 85300 – 85321

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§ 85300. Use of Public Funds for Seeking Elective Office.*

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a public officer shall not expend, and a candidate shall not accept, any public moneys for the purpose of seeking elective office.

(b) A public officer or candidate may expend or accept public moneys for the purpose of seeking elective office if the state or a local governmental entity establishes a dedicated fund for this purpose by statute, ordinance, resolution, or charter, and both of the following are true:

(1) Public moneys held in the fund are available to all qualified, voluntarily participating candidates for the same office without regard to incumbency or political party preference.

(2) The state or local governmental entity has established criteria for determining a candidate's qualification by statute, ordinance, resolution, or charter.

History: Added by Proposition 73 of the June 1988 Statewide Primary Election; amended by Stats. 2016, Ch. 837.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18404.3, 18530

* Please note that the Commission is enjoined from enforcing the provisions of Statutes 2016, Chapter 837. (See *Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Assn. v. Newsom* (2019) 39 Cal.App.5th 158.)

§ 85301. Limits on Contributions from Persons.

(a) A person, other than a small contributor committee or political party committee, shall not make to a candidate for elective state office other than a candidate for statewide elective office, and a candidate for elective state office other than a candidate for statewide elective office shall not accept from a person, a contribution totaling more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000) per election.

(b) Except to a candidate for Governor, a person, other than a small contributor committee or political party committee, shall not make to a candidate for statewide elective office, and except a candidate for Governor, a candidate for statewide elective office shall not accept from a person other than a small contributor committee or a political party committee, a contribution totaling more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per election.

(c) A person, other than a small contributor committee or political party committee, shall not make to a candidate for Governor, and a candidate for Governor shall not accept from any person other than a small contributor committee or political party committee, a contribution totaling more than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) per election.

(d)(1) A person shall not make to a candidate for elective county or city office, and a candidate for elective county or city office shall not accept from a person, a contribution

totaling more than the amount set forth in subdivision (a) per election, as that amount is adjusted by the Commission pursuant to Section 83124. This subdivision does not apply in a jurisdiction in which the county or city imposes a limit on contributions pursuant to Section 85702.5.

(2) This subdivision shall become operative on January 1, 2021.

(e) The provisions of this section do not apply to a candidate's contributions of the candidate's personal funds to the candidate's own campaign.

History: Added by Proposition 73 of the June 1988 Statewide Primary Election. (Formerly titled "Contributions by Persons to Candidates"); repealed and added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 556.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18404.1, 18421.4, 18421.8, 18503, 18521, 18521.5, 18523, 18523.1, 18530.2, 18530.4, 18530.8, 18531, 18531.2, 18531.5, 18531.6, 18531.61, 18533, 18535, 18536, 18537, 18537.1, 18544, 18545, 18951

Opinions: *In re Sanders* (2021)

§ 85302. Limits on Contributions from Small Contributor Committees.

(a) A small contributor committee may not make to any candidate for elective state office other than a candidate for statewide elective office, and a candidate for elective state office, other than a candidate for statewide elective office may not accept from a small contributor committee, any contribution totaling more than six thousand dollars (\$6,000) per election.

(b) Except to a candidate for Governor, a small contributor committee may not make to any candidate for statewide elective office and except for a candidate for Governor, a candidate for statewide elective office may not accept from a small contributor committee, any contribution totaling more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per election.

(c) A small contributor committee may not make to any candidate for Governor, and a candidate for governor may not accept from a small contributor committee, any contribution totaling more than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) per election.

History: Added by Proposition 73 of the June 1988 Statewide Primary Election. (Formerly titled "Contributions by Persons to Committees"); repealed and added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election].

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18421.4, 18503, 18521, 18521.5, 18523, 18523.1, 18531, 18531.5, 18531.6, 18531.61, 18531.63, 18531.64, 18544, 18545

§ 85303. Limits on Contributions to Committees and Political Parties.

(a) A person may not make to any committee, other than a political party committee, and a committee other than a political party committee may not accept, any contribution

totaling more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per calendar year for the purpose of making contributions to candidates for elective state office.

(b) A person may not make to any political party committee, and a political party committee may not accept, any contribution totaling more than twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) per calendar year for the purpose of making contributions for the support or defeat of candidates for elective state office. Notwithstanding Section 85312, this limit applies to contributions made to a political party used for the purpose of making expenditures at the behest of a candidate for elective state office for communications to party members related to the candidate's candidacy for elective state office.

(c) Except as provided in Section 85310, nothing in this chapter shall limit a person's contributions to a committee or political party committee provided the contributions are used for purposes other than making contributions to candidates for elective state office.

(d) Nothing in this chapter limits a candidate for elected state office from transferring contributions received by the candidate in excess of any amount necessary to defray the candidate's expenses for election related activities or holding office to a political party committee, provided those transferred contributions are used for purposes consistent with paragraph (4) of subdivision (b) of Section 89519.

History: Added by Proposition 73 of the June 1988 Statewide Primary Election. (Formerly titled "Contributions by Committees to Candidates"); repealed and added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 241, effective September 4, 2001.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18421.4, 18521.5, 18530.3, 18531, 18531.7, 18533, 18534, 18544, 18545

§ 85304. Legal Defense Fund; State Candidates and State Officeholders.

(a) A candidate for elective state office or an elected state officer may establish a separate account to defray attorney's fees and other related legal costs incurred for the candidate's or officer's legal defense if the candidate or officer is subject to one or more civil or criminal proceedings or administrative proceedings arising directly out of the conduct of an election campaign, the electoral process, or the performance of the officer's governmental activities and duties. These funds may be used only to defray those attorney fees and other related legal costs.

(b) A candidate may receive contributions to this account that are not subject to the contribution limits set forth in this article. However, all contributions shall be reported in a manner prescribed by the commission.

(c) Once the legal dispute is resolved, the candidate shall dispose of any funds remaining after all expenses associated with the dispute are discharged for one or more of the purposes set forth in paragraphs (1) to (5), inclusive, of subdivision (b) of Section 89519.

(d)(1) Funds in the account created pursuant to subdivision (a) shall not be used to pay or reimburse the candidate or elected officer for a penalty, judgment, or settlement

related to a claim of sexual assault, sexual abuse, or sexual harassment filed against the candidate or elective officer in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding. If a candidate or elected officer uses funds in that account for other legal costs and expenses related to claims of those unlawful practices and is held liable for such a violation, the candidate or elected officer shall reimburse the account for all funds used in connection with those other legal costs and expenses.

(2) For the purpose of this subdivision, "sexual assault" and "sexual abuse" have the same meaning as in Section 11165.1 of the Penal Code and "sexual harassment" has the same meaning as in subdivision (j) of Section 12940 of the Government Code.

(e)(1) For purposes of this section and Section 85304.5, "attorney's fees and other related legal costs" includes only the following:

(A) Attorney's fees and other legal costs related to the defense of the candidate or officer.

(B) Administrative costs directly related to compliance with the requirements of this title.

(2) "Attorney's fees and other related legal costs" does not include expenses for fundraising, media or political consulting fees, mass mailing or other advertising, or, except as expressly authorized by subdivision (c) of Section 89513, a payment or reimbursement for a fine, penalty, judgment or settlement, or a payment to return or disgorge contributions made to any other committee controlled by the candidate or officer.

History: Added by Proposition 73 of the June 1988 Statewide Primary Election. (Formerly titled "Prohibition on Transfers"); repealed and added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election. (Formerly titled "Limitations on Contributions from Political Parties"); repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 884.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18521.5, 18530.45,

Opinions: *In re Pelham* (2001) 15 FPPC Ops. 1

§ 85304.5. Legal Defense Fund; Local Candidates and Elected Officeholders.

(a) A candidate for elective office other than an elective state office or an elected officer other than an elected state officer may establish a separate account pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 85304 and may use these funds only to defray attorney's fees and other related legal costs.

(b) A candidate for an elective office other than an elective state office may receive contributions to the separate account subject to any limitations provided by local ordinance. However, all contributions to these separate accounts shall be reported in a manner prescribed by the commission.

(c) Once the legal dispute is resolved, the candidate or elected officer shall dispose of any funds remaining in the separate accounts after all expenses associated with the dispute are discharged for one or more of the purposes set forth in paragraphs (1) to (5), inclusive, of subdivision (b) of Section 89519.

(d)(1) Funds in the account created pursuant to subdivision (a) shall not be used to pay or reimburse the candidate or elected officer for a penalty, judgment, or settlement

related to a claim of sexual assault, sexual abuse, or sexual harassment filed against the candidate or elective officer in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding. If a candidate or elected officer uses funds in that account for other legal costs and expenses related to claims of those unlawful practices and is held liable for such a violation, the candidate or elected officer shall reimburse the account for all funds used in connection with those other legal costs and expenses.

(2) For the purpose of this subdivision, “sexual assault” and “sexual abuse” have the same meaning as in Section 11165.1 of the Penal Code and “sexual harassment” has the same meaning as in subdivision (j) of Section 12940 of the Government Code.

(e) For purposes of this section, “attorney’s fees and other related legal costs” has the same meaning as in Section 85304.

History: Added by Stats. 2007, Ch. 283; amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 884.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18521.5, 18530.45, 18535

§ 85305. Restrictions on Contributions by Candidates.

(a) A candidate for elective state, county, or city office or committee controlled by that candidate shall not make a contribution to any other candidate for elective state, county, or city office in excess of the limits set forth in subdivision (a) of Section 85301. This section does not apply in a jurisdiction in which the county or city imposes a limit on contributions pursuant to Section 85702.5.

(b) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2021.

History: Added by Proposition 73 of the June 1988 Statewide Primary Election. (Formerly titled “Contribution Limitations During Special or Special Runoff Election Cycles”); repealed and added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election. (Formerly titled “Restrictions on When Contributions Can be Received”); repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended, repealed, and added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 556.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18421.4, 18535, 18536

Opinion: *In re Rios* (2017) FPPC Ops. No. O-17-001

§ 85306. Transfers Between a Candidate’s Own Committees; Use of Funds Raised Prior to Effective Date.

(a) A candidate may transfer campaign funds from one controlled committee to a controlled committee for elective state, county, or city office of the same candidate. Contributions transferred shall be attributed to specific contributors using a “last in, first out” or “first in, first out” accounting method, and these attributed contributions when aggregated with all other contributions from the same contributor shall not exceed the limits set forth in Section 85301 or 85302.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a candidate for elective state office, other than a candidate for statewide elective office, who possesses campaign funds on January 1, 2001, may use those funds to seek elective office without attributing the funds to specific contributors.

(c) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a candidate for statewide elective office who possesses campaign funds on November 6, 2002, may use those funds to seek elective office without attributing the funds to specific contributors.

(d) This section does not apply in a jurisdiction in which the county or city imposes a limit on contributions pursuant to Section 85702.5.

(e) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2021.

History: Added by Proposition 73 of the June 1988 Statewide Primary Election. (Formerly titled “Use of Campaign Funds; Effective Date”); repealed and added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election. (Formerly titled “Transfers”); repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 241, effective September 4, 2001; amended, repealed, and added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 556.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18421.4, 18530.2, 18530.4, 18531.6, 18531.61, 18531.63, 18531.64, 18536, 18537.1

§ 85307. Loans.*

(a) The provisions of this article regarding loans apply to extensions of credit, but do not apply to loans made to a candidate by a commercial lending institution in the lender’s regular course of business on terms available to members of the general public for which the candidate is personally liable.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a candidate for elective state, county, or city office shall not personally loan to the candidate’s campaign, including the proceeds of a loan obtained by the candidate from a commercial lending institution, an amount, the outstanding balance of which exceeds one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000). A candidate shall not charge interest on any loan the candidate made to the candidate’s campaign. This subdivision does not apply to a jurisdiction in which the county or city imposes a limit on contributions pursuant to Section 85702.5.

(c) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2021.

History: Added by Proposition 73 of the June 1988 Statewide Primary Election. (Formerly titled “Loans; Contributions”); repealed and added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 815, effective September 27, 2004; amended, repealed, and added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 556.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18421.4, 18530.7, 18530.8

*Section 85307 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 85308. Family Contributions.

(a) Contributions made by a husband and wife may not be aggregated.

(b) A contribution made by a child under 18 years of age is presumed to be a contribution from the parent or guardian of the child.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election].

Opinions: *In re Pelham* (2001) 15 FPPC Ops. 1

§ 85309. Online Disclosure of Contributions.

(a) In addition to any other report required by this title, a candidate for elective state office who is required to file reports pursuant to Section 84605 shall file online or electronically with the Secretary of State a report disclosing receipt of a contribution of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more received during an election cycle. Those reports shall disclose the same information required by subdivision (a) of Section 84203 and shall be filed within 24 hours of receipt of the contribution.

(b) In addition to any other report required by this title, any committee primarily formed to support or oppose one or more state ballot measures that is required to file reports pursuant to Section 84605 shall file online or electronically with the Secretary of State a report disclosing receipt of a contribution of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more received during an election cycle. Those reports shall disclose the same information required by subdivision (a) of Section 84203 and shall be filed within 24 hours of receipt of the contribution.

(c) In addition to any other report required by this title, a candidate for elective state office who is required to file reports pursuant to Section 84605 shall file online or electronically with the Secretary of State a report disclosing receipt of a contribution of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more received at any time other than during an election cycle. Those reports shall disclose the same information required by subdivision (a) of Section 84203 and shall be filed within 10 business days of receipt of the contribution.

(d) In addition to any other report required by this title, a committee primarily formed to support or oppose a state ballot measure that is required to file reports pursuant to Section 84605 shall file online or electronically with the Secretary of State a report disclosing receipt of a contribution of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more received at any time other than during an election cycle. Those reports shall disclose the same information required by subdivision (a) of Section 84203 and shall be filed within 10 business days of receipt of the contribution.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election. (Formerly titled "Aggregate Contributions from Non-individuals"); repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 241, effective September 4, 2001.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18425

§ 85310. Communications Identifying State Candidates.

(a) Any person who makes a payment or a promise of payment totaling fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or more for a communication that clearly identifies a candidate for elective state office, but does not expressly advocate the election or defeat of the candidate, and that is disseminated,

broadcast, or otherwise published within 45 days of an election, shall file online or electronically with the Secretary of State a report disclosing the name of the person, address, occupation, and employer, and amount of the payment. The report shall be filed within 48 hours of making the payment or the promise to make the payment.

(b)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), if any person has received a payment or a promise of a payment from other persons totaling five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more for the purpose of making a communication described in subdivision (a), the person receiving the payments shall disclose on the report the name, address, occupation and employer, and date and amount received from the person.

(2) A person who receives or is promised a payment that is otherwise reportable under paragraph (1) is not required to report the payment if the person is in the business of providing goods or services and receives or is promised the payment for the purpose of providing those goods or services.

(c) Any payment received by a person who makes a communication described in subdivision (a) is subject to the limits specified in subdivision (b) of Section 85303 if the communication is made at the behest of the clearly identified candidate.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election. (Formerly titled "Aggregate Contributions to All State Candidates"); repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election].

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18521.5, 18225.7, 18531.10, 18539.2

§ 85312. Communications to Members of an Organization.

For purposes of this title, payments for communications to members, employees, shareholders, or families of members, employees, or shareholders of an organization for the purpose of supporting or opposing a candidate or a ballot measure are not contributions or expenditures, provided those payments are not made for general public advertising such as broadcasting, billboards, and newspaper advertisements. However, payments made by a political party for communications to a member who is registered as expressing a preference for that party on that member's affidavit of registration pursuant to Sections 2150, 2151, and 2152 of the Elections Code that would otherwise qualify as contributions or expenditures shall be reported in accordance with Article 2 (commencing with Section 84200) of Chapter 4, and Chapter 4.6 (commencing with Section 84600), of this title.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election. (Formerly titled "Communications Within an Organization"); repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 241, effective September 4, 2001; amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 3, effective February 10, 2012; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18215, 18215.2, 18531.7

Opinions: *In re Olson* (2001) 15 FPPC Ops. 13

§ 85314. Special Elections and Special Runoff Elections as Separate Elections.

The contribution limits of this chapter apply to special elections and apply to special runoff elections. A special election and a special runoff election are separate elections for purposes of the contribution and voluntary expenditure limits set forth in this chapter.

History: Added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election].

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18421.4

§ 85315. Elected Officer Recall Committees.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, an elected state, county, or city officer may establish a committee to oppose the qualification of a recall measure, and the recall election. This committee may be established when the elected state, county, or city officer receives a notice of intent to recall pursuant to Section 11021 of the Elections Code. An elected state, county, or city officer may accept campaign contributions to oppose the qualification of a recall measure, and if qualification is successful, the recall election, without regard to the campaign contribution limits set forth in this chapter. The voluntary expenditure limits do not apply to expenditures made to oppose the qualification of a recall measure or to oppose the recall election.

(b) After the failure of a recall petition or after the recall election, the committee formed by the elected state, county, or city officer shall wind down its activities and dissolve. Any remaining funds shall be treated as surplus funds and shall be expended within 30 days after the failure of the recall petition or after the recall election for a purpose specified in subdivision (b) of Section 89519.

(c) This section does not apply in a jurisdiction in which the county or city imposes a limit on contributions pursuant to Section 85702.5.

(d) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2021.

History: Added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended, repealed, and added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 556.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18531.5, 18535

Opinion: *In re Rios* (2017) FPPC Ops. No. O-17-001

§ 85316. Post-Election Fundraising Restrictions; State Officeholder Accounts.

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a contribution for an election may be accepted by a candidate for elective state, county, or city office after the date of the election only to the extent that the contribution does not exceed net debts outstanding from the election, and the contribution does not otherwise exceed the applicable contribution limit for that election.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), an elected state officer may accept contributions after the date of the election for the purpose of paying expenses associated with holding

the office provided that the contributions are not expended for any contribution to any state or local committee. Contributions received pursuant to this subdivision shall be deposited into a bank account established solely for the purposes specified in this subdivision.

(1) A person shall not make, and an elected state officer shall not receive from a person, a contribution pursuant to this subdivision totaling more than the following amounts per calendar year:

(A) Three thousand dollars (\$3,000) in the case of an elected state officer of the Assembly or Senate.

(B) Five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in the case of a statewide elected state officer other than the Governor.

(C) Twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) in the case of the Governor.

(2) An elected state officer shall not receive contributions pursuant to paragraph (1) that, in the aggregate, total more than the following amounts per calendar year:

(A) Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) in the case of an elected state officer of the Assembly or Senate.

(B) One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in the case of a statewide elected state officer other than the Governor.

(C) Two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) in the case of the Governor.

(3) Any contribution received pursuant to this subdivision shall be deemed to be a contribution to that candidate for election to any state office that the candidate may seek during the term of office to which the candidate is currently elected, including, but not limited to, reelection to the office the candidate currently holds, and shall be subject to any applicable contribution limit provided in this title. If a contribution received pursuant to this subdivision exceeds the allowable contribution limit for the office sought, the candidate shall return the amount exceeding the limit to the contributor on a basis to be determined by the Commission. The expenditures made by elected state officers pursuant to this subdivision shall not be subject to the voluntary expenditure limitations in Section 85400.

(4) The Commission shall adjust the calendar year contribution limitations and aggregate contribution limitations set forth in this subdivision in January of every odd-numbered year to reflect any increase or decrease in the Consumer Price Index. Those adjustments shall be rounded to the nearest one hundred dollars (\$100).

(c) This section does not apply in a jurisdiction in which the county or city imposes a limit on contributions pursuant to Section 85702.5.

(d) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2021.

History: Added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2006, Ch. 624, effective September 29, 2006; amended by Stats. 2007, Ch. 130; amended, repealed, and added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 556.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18521.5, 18531.6, 18531.61, 18531.62, 18531.63, 18531.64, 18537.1, 18544, 18545

§ 85317. Carry Over of Contributions.

(a) Notwithstanding subdivision (a) of Section 85306, a candidate for elective state, county, or city office may carry over contributions raised in connection with one election for elective state, county, or city office to pay campaign expenditures incurred in connection with any subsequent election for the same elective state, county, or city office.

(b) If a candidate receives a majority of the votes cast for an office at a primary election, so that the candidate is elected to the office without advancing to the general election, both of the following apply:

(1) The remaining campaign funds raised for the primary election may be carried over to a committee for any subsequent election to the same office without attributing funds to specific contributors.

(2) Funds raised for the general election may be transferred to a committee for any subsequent election, but shall be attributed to specific contributors as provided in Section 85306.

(c) This section does not apply in a jurisdiction in which the county or city imposes a limit on contributions pursuant to Section 85702.5.

History: Added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 241, effective September 4, 2001; amended, repealed, and added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 556; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 125.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18531.6, 18531.61, 18531.63, 18531.64, 18537.1

§ 85318. Contributions Received for Primary and General Elections.

(a)(1) A candidate for elective state, county, or city office may raise contributions for a general election before the primary election, and for a special general election before a special primary election, for the same elective state, county, or city office if the candidate sets aside these contributions and uses these contributions for the general election or special general election. If the candidate for elective state, county, or city office is defeated in the primary election or special primary election, or otherwise withdraws from the general election or special general election, the general election or special general election funds shall be refunded to the contributors on a pro rata basis less any expenses associated with the raising and administration of general election or special general election contributions.

(2) A candidate whose name has not been listed on the ballot at a primary election or special primary election, and who has not qualified to have write-in votes cast on their behalf counted by elections officials for nomination or election to an elective office at a primary election or special primary election is not “defeated in the primary election or special primary election” and does not “otherwise withdraw from the general election or special general election” for the purposes of paragraph (1), and shall not be required to refund contributions pursuant to that paragraph. A candidate whose name has not been listed on the ballot at a primary election or special primary election, and who has not qualified to

have write-in votes cast on their behalf counted by elections officials for nomination or election to an elective office at a primary election or special primary election, may transfer funds to a committee established for the same or a different office subject to the attribution rules provided by subdivision (a) of Section 85306.

(3) Notwithstanding Section 85201, candidates for elective state, county, or city office may establish separate campaign contribution accounts for the primary and general elections or special primary and special general elections.

(b) This section does not apply in a jurisdiction in which the county or city imposes a limit on contributions pursuant to Section 85702.5.

History: Added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 241, effective September 4, 2001; amended, repealed, and added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 556; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 125; amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 249.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18521, 18531.2, 18531.6, 18531.61, 18531.63, 18531.64 18536, 18537.1

§ 85319. Returning Contributions.

A candidate for state elective office may return all or part of any contribution to the donor who made the contribution at any time, whether or not other contributions are returned, except a contribution that the candidate for state elective office made to that candidate’s own controlled committee.

History: Added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2002, Ch. 212; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

§ 85319.5. Return or Attribution of Excessive Contributions.

(a) Notwithstanding any other law, a committee that receives a contribution, or a portion thereof, that exceeds a contribution limit set forth in Section 85301, 85302, 85303, or 85316, may return the contribution, or a portion thereof, that exceeds the limit, or may attribute the portion of the contribution that exceeds the limit to another election in accordance with subdivision (d), without violating the applicable contribution limit, provided that the following conditions are met:

(1) The amount in excess of the contribution is returned or attributed within 14 days of receiving the contribution.

(2) The committee does not deposit or allow deposit of the contribution with actual knowledge that the contribution exceeds the applicable limit.

(3) The committee does not make use of the contribution prior to returning or attributing it.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) or any other law, a committee that receives a monetary contribution, or a portion thereof, that exceeds a contribution limit set forth in Section 85301, 85302, 85303, or 85316, and that deposits or allows deposit of the contribution with actual knowledge that the contribution exceeds the applicable limit, may return the contribution, or a portion thereof, that exceeds the limit, or may attribute the portion that exceeds the limit to another election in accordance with subdivision

(d), without violating the applicable contribution limit, provided that the following conditions are met:

(1) The amount in excess of the contribution limit is returned or attributed within 72 hours of receipt, or is returned or attributed on or before the date of the election, whichever is sooner.

(2) The committee does not make use of the contribution prior to returning or attributing it.

(3) The committee does not deposit or allow deposit of the contribution with actual knowledge that the contribution is more than two times the applicable limit.

(c) By or before the applicable deadline for returning or attributing the contribution, or excess portion thereof, in subdivision (a) or (b), a committee that receives a contribution that exceeds a contribution limit set forth in Section 85301, 85302, 85303, or 85316 shall inform the contributor that their contribution was in excess of the applicable limit. If the contribution was attributed pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d), the committee shall also inform the contributor that the contribution was attributed and that the contributor may request a refund.

(d) (1) A committee may, in accordance with any regulations adopted by the commission, request that the contributor attribute in writing a contribution to a different election.

(2) A committee may, in accordance with any regulations adopted by the commission, automatically attribute the portion of a contribution that is in excess of the applicable limit between the primary and general elections.

(e) For the purposes of this section, a committee makes use of a monetary contribution if, after receiving the contribution, it makes expenditures exceeding what the committee's available cash balance would have been if the committee had not received the contribution and any other contributions that exceed the applicable contribution limit.

(f) For purposes of this section, a committee attributes a contribution when the committee designates the portion of the contribution in excess of the applicable limit to another election.

History: Added by Stats. 2022, Ch. 816.

§ 85320. Foreign Entities.

(a) A foreign government, foreign principal, or foreign national shall not make, directly or through any other person, a contribution, expenditure, or independent expenditure in connection with the qualification or support of, or opposition to, any state or local ballot measure or in connection with the election of a candidate to state or local office.

(b) A person or a committee shall not solicit or accept a contribution from a foreign government, foreign principal, or foreign national in connection with the qualification or support of, or opposition to, any state or local ballot measure or in connection with the election of a candidate to state or local office.

(c) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1)(A) "Foreign national" means a person who is not a citizen of the United States and who is not a lawfully admitted permanent resident.

(B) "Foreign national" does not include a person who has been granted deferred action, and whose deferred action has not expired, under the federal Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, as described in guidelines issued by the United States Department of Homeland Security.

(2) "Foreign principal" includes any of the following:

(A) A foreign political party.

(B) A person outside the United States, unless either of the following is established:

(i) The person is an individual and a citizen of the United States.

(ii) The person is not an individual and is organized under or created by the laws of the United States or of any state or other place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and has its principal place of business within the United States.

(C) A partnership, association, corporation, organization, or other combination of persons organized under the laws of or having its principal place of business in a foreign country.

(D) A domestic subsidiary of a foreign corporation if the decision to contribute or expend funds is made by an officer, director, or management employee of the foreign corporation who is neither a citizen of the United States nor a lawfully admitted permanent resident of the United States.

(d) This section shall not prohibit a contribution, expenditure, or independent expenditure made by a lawfully admitted permanent resident.

(e) Any person who violates this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined an amount equal to the amount contributed or expended.

History: Added by Stats. 1997, Ch. 67; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 349; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 313; amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 170.

§ 85321. Post-Election Fundraising; Elections Held Prior to January 1, 2001.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, if a candidate for elective state office or the candidate's controlled committee had net debts resulting from an election held prior to January 1, 2001, contributions to that candidate or committee for that election are not subject to the limits of Sections 85301 and 85302.

History: Added by Stats. 2001, Ch. 241, effective September 4, 2001.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18531.6, 18531.61, 18537

Article 4. Voluntary Expenditure Ceilings.
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§ 85400. Voluntary Expenditure Ceilings.*

(a) A candidate for elective state office, other than the Board of Administration of the Public Employees’ Retirement System, who voluntarily accepts expenditure limits shall not make campaign expenditures in excess of the following:

(1) For an Assembly candidate, four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) in the primary or special primary election and seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000) in the general or special general election.

(2) For a Senate candidate, six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) in the primary or special primary election and nine hundred thousand dollars (\$900,000) in the general or special general election.

(3) For a candidate for the State Board of Equalization, one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in the primary election and one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000) in the general election.

(4) For a statewide candidate other than a candidate for Governor or the State Board of Equalization, four million dollars (\$4,000,000) in the primary election and six million dollars (\$6,000,000) in the general election.

(5) For a candidate for Governor, six million dollars (\$6,000,000) in the primary election and ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) in the general election.

(b) For purposes of this section, “campaign expenditures” has the same meaning as “election-related activities” as defined in Section 82022.5, except that it does not include preparing campaign finance disclosure statements.

(c) A campaign expenditure made by a political party on behalf of a candidate shall not be attributed to the limitations on campaign expenditures set forth in this section.

History: Added by Proposition 73 of the June 1988 Statewide Primary Election. (Formerly titled “Limitations on Gifts and Honoraria”); repealed by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 241, effective September 4, 2001; amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 749; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 97.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18421.4, 18540, 18542, 18543, 18544, 18545

*Section 85400 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 85401. Candidate Acceptance or Rejection of Expenditure Ceilings.

(a) Each candidate for elective state office shall file a statement of acceptance or rejection of the voluntary expenditure limits set forth in Section 85400 at the time the candidate files the statement of intention specified in Section 85200.

(b) A candidate may, until the deadline for filing nomination papers set forth in Section 8020 of the Elections Code, change the candidate’s statement of acceptance or rejection of voluntary expenditure limits provided the candidate has not exceeded the voluntary expenditure limits. A candidate shall not change the candidate’s statement of acceptance or rejection of voluntary expenditure limits more than twice after the candidate’s initial filing of the statement of intention for that election and office.

(c) Any candidate for elective state office who declined to accept the voluntary expenditure limits but who nevertheless does not exceed the limits in the primary, special primary, or special election, may file a statement of acceptance of the expenditure limits for a general or special runoff election within 14 days following the primary, special primary, or special election.

(d) Notwithstanding Section 81004.5 or any other provision of this title, a candidate shall not change the candidate’s statement of acceptance or rejection of voluntary expenditure limits other than as provided for by this section and Section 85402.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 9, effective January 22, 2004; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 207; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18421.4, 18542

§ 85402. Lifting Expenditure Limits; Opponent’s Use of Personal Funds.

(a) Any candidate for elective state office who has filed a statement accepting the voluntary expenditure limits is not bound by those limits if an opposing candidate contributes personal funds to the opposing candidate’s own campaign in excess of the limits set forth in Section 85400.

(b) The commission shall require by regulation timely notification by candidates for elective state office who make personal contributions to their own campaign.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election. (Formerly titled “Contribution Limits for Candidates Accepting Expenditure Ceilings”); repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18421.4, 18540, 18542, 18543

§ 85403. Violations of Voluntary Expenditure Limits.

Any candidate who files a statement of acceptance pursuant to Section 85401 and makes campaign expenditures in

excess of the limits shall be subject to the remedies in Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 83100) and Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 91000).

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election. (Formerly titled "Time Periods for Expenditures"); repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election].

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18421.4

Article 5. Independent Expenditures. § 85500-85505

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§ 85500. Independent Expenditures; 24-Hour Disclosure; Coordination.

(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 may 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.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election. (Formerly titled "Independent Expenditures"); repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 241, effective September 4, 2001.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18225.7, 18550

§ 85501. Prohibition on Independent Expenditures by Candidate or Officeholder Controlled Committees.

A controlled committee of a candidate may not make independent expenditures and may not contribute funds to another committee for the purpose of making independent expenditures to support or oppose other candidates.

History: Added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 241, effective September 4, 2001.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Opinions: In re St. Croix (2005) 18 FPPC Ops. 1

§ 85505. Internet Display of Independent Expenditures; 24-Hour Disclosure Report.*

(a) The Secretary of State shall include on the Internet Web site of the Secretary of State's office, as part of the campaign finance activity that is publicly disclosed, any independent expenditure, as defined in Section 82031, that is reported pursuant to Section 85500 with respect to a candidate for elective state office and a statewide ballot measure. This information shall be linked to the part of the Web site that the Secretary of State maintains concerning that candidate or ballot measure.

(b) It is the intent of the Legislature that all forms created for the purpose of filing the online or electronic report required pursuant to Section 85500 include a separate field for the filer to input the legislative district number and the number or letter of a statewide ballot measure.

History: Added by Stats. 2002, Ch. 511.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18550, 18225.7

*Section 85505 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

Article 6. Ballot Pamphlet. § 85600-85601

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§ 85600. State Voter Information Guide Designation.

The Secretary of State shall designate in the state voter information guide those candidates for statewide elective office, as defined in Section 82053, who have voluntarily agreed to the expenditure limitations set forth in Section 85400. Local elections officers shall designate in the voter information portion of the sample ballot those candidates for State Senate and Assembly who have voluntarily agreed to the expenditure limitations set forth in Section 85400.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election. (Formerly titled "Candidate Access to State Ballot Pamphlet"); repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 241, effective September 4, 2001; amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 249.

**§ 85601. Candidate Access to Statement in State
Voter Information Guide.**

(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 **voter information guide** 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 timeframes and procedures set forth by the Secretary of State for the preparation of the state **voter information guide**.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (e) of Section 88001 of this code or subdivision (e) of Section 9084 of the Elections Code, the Secretary of State may not include in the state **voter information guide** 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 may purchase the space to place a statement in the **county voter information guide** 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 **county voter information guide**.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election. (Formerly titled "Candidate Access to Local Sample Ballot Materials"); repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 241, effective September 4, 2001; **amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 249**.

**Article 7. Additional Contribution Requirements.
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§ 85700. Donor Information Requirements; Return of Contributions.

(a) A candidate or committee shall return not later than 60 days of receipt by the candidate or committee any contribution of one hundred dollars (\$100) or more for which the candidate or committee does not have on file in the records of the candidate or committee the name, address, occupation, and employer of the contributor.

(b) A candidate or committee may return a contribution pursuant to subdivision (a) after the date that the candidate or committee has reported the contribution under any provision of this title.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election. (Formerly titled "Disclosure of Occupation and Employer");

repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 241, effective September 4, 2001.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18401, 18421.10, 18570

Opinions: *In re Pelham* (2001) 15 FPPC Ops. 1

§ 85701. Laundered Contributions.

Any candidate or committee that receives a contribution in violation of Section 84301 shall pay to the General Fund of the state the amount of the contribution.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election. (Formerly titled "Receipt of Laundered Contributions"); repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election].

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Opinions: *In re Pelham* (2001) 15 FPPC Ops. 1

§ 85701.5. Recurring Contributions.

(a) (1) A solicitation by a candidate or committee, directly or through an agent or intermediary, for a recurring contribution shall be in a form that requires affirmative consent from the person making the recurring contribution.

(2) A candidate or committee shall not accept a recurring contribution from a person unless the candidate or committee receives the affirmative consent of the person to make a recurring contribution at the time of the initial contribution.

(3) Passive action by the contributor, such as failing to uncheck a pre-checked box authorizing a recurring contribution, does not meet the requirement of affirmative consent under this subdivision.

(4) (A) A violation of this subdivision occurs each time a candidate or committee solicits a recurring contribution in a form that does not require affirmative consent or accepts an initial recurring contribution in response to a solicitation that was in a form that did not require affirmative consent from the contributor.

(B) A candidate or committee that accepts recurring contributions subsequent to an initial recurring contribution in response to a solicitation that was in a form that did not require affirmative consent from the contributor is liable for a fine not to exceed three times the aggregate amount of the subsequent recurring contributions received if all of the following are true:

(i) The candidate or committee knew or should have known that the solicitation required affirmative consent.

(ii) The candidate or committee knew or should have known that the contributor did not give affirmative consent for making the recurring contributions.

(iii) The recurring contributions, in the aggregate, exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

(b) A candidate or committee that accepts a recurring contribution described in subdivision (a) shall do all of the following:

(1) Provide a receipt to the contributor that clearly and conspicuously discloses all terms of the recurring contribution within three days after the initial contribution is re-

ceived and within three days after each recurring contribution is received.

(2) Provide all necessary information to cancel the recurring contribution in each communication with the contributor that concerns the contribution.

(3) Immediately cancel a recurring contribution upon request of the contributor.

(c) A recurring contribution accepted in response to a solicitation that did not require affirmative consent shall be returned to the contributor within 14 days of the earlier of receipt of a request from the contributor to return the contribution or the date on which the candidate or committee becomes aware that the solicitation of the recurring contribution was in violation of subdivision (a). A contribution accepted after a contributor requested to cancel a recurring contribution shall be returned to the contributor within 14 days of the request to cancel the recurring contribution.

(d) This section does not apply to a sponsored committee soliciting or accepting contributions from the sponsor's members, affiliates, employees, or shareholders.

(e) For purposes of this section, "recurring contribution" means a contribution from a person to a candidate or committee that is automatically charged to the person's bank account, credit card, or other payment account on a repeated basis, such as weekly or monthly, without approval or any other affirmative consent by the person after their initial contribution to the candidate or committee.

History: Added by Stats. 2022, Ch. 942.

§ 85702. Contributions from Lobbyists.

An elected state officer or candidate for elected state office may not accept a contribution from a lobbyist, and a lobbyist may not make a contribution to an elected state officer or candidate for elected state office, if that lobbyist is registered to lobby the governmental agency for which the candidate is seeking election or the governmental agency of the elected state officer.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election. (Formerly titled "Bundling of Contributions"); repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election].

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18572

§ 85702.5. Default Contribution Limits for City and County Jurisdictions

(a) A county or city may, by ordinance or resolution, impose a limit on contributions to a candidate for elective county or city office that is different from the limit set forth in subdivision (d) of Section 85301. The limitation may also be imposed by means of a county or city initiative measure.

(b) A county or city that establishes a contribution limit pursuant to subdivision (a) may adopt enforcement standards for a violation of that limit, which may include administrative, civil, or criminal penalties.

(c) The Commission is not responsible for the administration or enforcement of a contribution limit adopted pursuant to subdivision (a).

(d) This section shall become operative on January 1,

2021. A county or city's limit on contributions to a candidate for elective county or city office that is in effect on the operative date of this section shall be deemed to be a limit imposed pursuant to subdivision (a).

History: Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 556.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18404.1, 18421.4, 18421.8, 18521, 18521.5, 18523.1, 18530.2, 18530.8, 18531.2, 18531.5, 18531.63, 18531.64, 18535, 18536, 18537.1, 18951

§ 85703. Local Jurisdictions.

(a) This act does not nullify contribution limitations or prohibitions of any local jurisdiction that apply to elections for local elective office, except that these limitations and prohibitions shall not conflict with Section 85312. However, a local jurisdiction shall not impose any contribution limitations or prohibitions on an elected member of, or a candidate for election to, a county central committee of a qualified political party, or on a committee primarily formed to support or oppose a person seeking election to a county central committee of a qualified political party.

(b) Limitations and prohibitions imposed by a local jurisdiction on payments for a member communication, as defined in subdivision (c), that conflict with Section 85312 and which are thereby prohibited by subdivision (a) include, but are not limited to, any of the following:

(1) Source restrictions on payments for member communications that are not expressly made applicable to member communications by a state statute or by a regulation adopted by the Commission pursuant to Section 83112.

(2) Limitations on payments to a political party committee for a member communication that are not expressly made applicable to member communications by a state statute or by a regulation adopted by the Commission pursuant to Section 83112.

(3) Limitations on the scope of payments considered directly related to the making of a member communication, including costs associated with the formulation, design, production, and distribution of the communication such as surveys, list acquisition, and consulting fees that are not expressly made applicable to member communications by a state statute or by a regulation adopted by the Commission pursuant to Section 83112.

(c) For purposes of this section, "member communication" means a communication, within the meaning of Section 85312, to members, employees, shareholders, or families of members, employees, or shareholders of an organization, including a communication by a political party to a member who is registered as expressing a preference for that party on that member's affidavit of registration pursuant to Sections 2150, 2151, and 2152 of the Elections Code.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election. (Formerly titled "Earmarking of Contributions Prohibited"); repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2007, Ch. 708; amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 3, effective February 10, 2012; amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 502; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18531.7

§ 85704. Prohibition on Earmarking*

(a) A person shall not make any contribution to a committee or candidate that is earmarked for a contribution to any other particular committee ballot measure, or candidate unless the contribution is fully disclosed pursuant to Section 84302.

(b) For purposes of subdivision (a), a contribution is earmarked if the contribution is made under any of the following circumstances:

(1) The committee or candidate receiving the contribution solicited the contribution for the purpose of making a contribution to another specifically identified committee, ballot measure, or candidate, requested the contributor to expressly consent to such use, and the contributor consents to such use.

(2) The contribution was made subject to a condition or agreement with the contributor that all or a portion of the contribution would be used to make a contribution to another specifically identified committee, ballot measure, or candidate.

(3) After the contribution was made, the contributor and the committee or candidate receiving the contribution reached a subsequent agreement that all or a portion of the contribution would be used to make a contribution to another specifically identified committee, ballot measure, or candidate.

(c) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) and (b), dues, assessments, fees, and similar payments made to a membership organization or its sponsored committee in an amount less than five hundred dollars (\$500) per calendar year from a single source for the purpose of making contributions or expenditures shall not be considered earmarked.

(d) The committee making the earmarked contribution shall provide the committee receiving the earmarked contribution with the name, address, occupation, and employer, if any, or principal place of business, if self-employed, of the contributor or contributors who earmarked their funds and the amount of the earmarked contribution from each contributor at the time it makes the contribution. If the committee making the contribution received earmarked contributions that exceed the amount contributed, or received contributions that were not earmarked, the committee making the contribution shall use a reasonable accounting method to determine which contributors to identify pursuant to this subdivision, but in no case shall the same contribution be disclosed more than one time to avoid disclosure of additional contributors who earmarked their funds.

(e) Earmarked contributions shall be disclosed on reports required by Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 84100) as follows:

(1) A contributor who qualifies as a committee pursuant to Section 82013 and who makes a contribution to a committee but earmarks the funds to another specifically identified committee pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (b) shall disclose the specifically identified committee as the recipient of the contribution and the other committee as an intermediary at the time the earmarked contribution is made. The specifically identified committee shall disclose

the contributor and intermediary at the time the funds are received from the intermediary. The intermediary committee shall disclose receipt of the funds as a miscellaneous increase to cash at the time the funds are received and shall disclose the expenditure as the transfer of an earmarked contribution from the contributor to the specifically identified committee at the time the funds are transferred to the specifically identified committee.

(2) A contributor who qualifies as a committee pursuant to Section 82013 and who makes a contribution to a committee and subsequently earmarks the funds pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) shall include a notation on the contributor's next statement that the original contribution was subsequently earmarked, including the name of the specifically identified committee, ballot measure, or candidate supported or opposed. The committee that previously received the funds shall also include a notation on its next statement that the original contribution was subsequently earmarked and shall disclose the original contributor to any new committee to which it transfers the earmarked funds. The new committee shall disclose the true source of the contribution with a notation that the contribution was earmarked to the specific ballot measure or candidate.

(3) A contributor who qualifies as a committee pursuant to Section 82013 and who earmarks a contribution to a specifically identified ballot measure or candidate shall disclose a contribution to the committee that received the contribution with a notation that the contribution was earmarked to the specific ballot measure or candidate. Compliance with this paragraph satisfies the contributor's disclosure obligations under this title. The committee receiving the earmarked contribution shall disclose the contributor with a notation that the contribution was earmarked to the specific ballot measure or candidate when the contribution is received. The committee receiving the funds is solely responsible for disclosing the ultimate use of the earmarked contribution, whether by contribution or expenditure, at the time the funds are used. If the committee receiving the earmarked contribution contributes any portion of the contribution to another committee to support or oppose the specifically identified ballot measure or candidate, that committee shall disclose the true source of the contribution to the new committee receiving the earmarked funds for disclosure on the new committee's campaign report. The new committee shall disclose the true source of the contribution with a notation that the contribution was earmarked to the specific ballot measure or candidate.

(f) A violation of this section shall not be based solely on the timing of contributions made or received.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election. (Formerly titled "Contributions from Lobbyists"); repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 558.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18401

*Section 85704 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an

online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

**Article 8. Appropriation.
§ 85802**

§ 85802. Appropriation to the Fair Political Practices Commission.

There is hereby appropriated from the General Fund of the state to the Fair Political Practices Commission the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) annually above and beyond the appropriations established for the commission in the fiscal year immediately prior to the effective date of this act, adjusted for cost-of-living changes, for expenditures to support the operations of the commission pursuant to this act. If any provision of this act is successfully challenged, any attorney's fees and costs shall be paid from the General Fund and the commission's budget shall not be reduced accordingly.

History: Added by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election.

Chapter 6. Lobbyists.

§ 86100-86300

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Article 1. Registration and Reporting.

§ 86100-86118

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§ 86100. Registration.

(a) The following persons shall register with the Secretary of State:

(1) Lobbying firms.

(2) Lobbyist employers under subdivision (a) of Section 82039.5 who employ one or more in-house lobbyists.

(3) Lobbying coalitions who employ at least one in-house lobbyist.

(b) Each individual lobbyist shall submit a lobbyist certification under Section 86103 for filing with the Secretary of State as part of the registration of the lobbying firm in which the lobbyist is a partner, owner, officer, or employee, or as part of the registration of the lobbyist employer that employs the lobbyist.

(c) Lobbyist employers under subdivision (b) of Section 82039.5 who contract only for a lobbying firm's services, lobbying coalitions who contract for a lobbying firm's services and do not employ an in-house lobbyist, and persons

described in subdivision (b) of Section 86115, are not required to register with the Secretary of State, but shall maintain records and file quarterly reports under this chapter.

(d) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), a registration statement shall be filed both by online or electronic means and physically, submitting the original statement in paper format.

(2) Upon certification by the Secretary of State of an online filing and disclosure system pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 84602, a registration statement shall be filed by online or electronic means.

History: Amended by Stats. 1983, Chapter 209; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985. (Formerly titled "Registration with Secretary of State.") Amended by Stats 2010, Ch. 18; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 312; amended by Stats. 2022, Ch. 328.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18249, 18600 18601, 18616.4

§ 86101. Registration; Time.

Every lobbying firm and lobbyist employer who is required to file a registration statement under this chapter shall register with the Secretary of State no later than 10 days after qualifying as a lobbying firm or lobbyist employer.

History: Repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985. (Formerly titled "Requirement of Registration.")

§ 86102. Registration Fees.

(a) The Secretary of State shall charge each lobbying firm and lobbyist employer required to file a registration statement under this chapter a fee of fifty dollars (\$50) per year for each lobbyist required to be listed on its registration statement.

(b) One-half of the moneys collected pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the Political Disclosure, Accountability, Transparency, and Access Fund, and the other one-half of the moneys shall be deposited in the General Fund.

History: Repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985 (Formerly titled "Renewal of Registration."); amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 506.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18601

§ 86103. Lobbyist Certification; Requirements.*

A lobbyist certification shall include all of the following:

(a) A recent photograph of the lobbyist, the size of which shall be prescribed by the Secretary of State.

(b) The full name, business address, and telephone number of the lobbyist.

(c) A statement that the lobbyist has read and understands the prohibitions contained in Sections 86203 and 86205.

(d)(1) In the case of a lobbyist who filed a completed lobbyist certification in connection with the last regular session of the Legislature, a statement that the lobbyist has completed, within the previous 12 months or will complete

no later than June 30 of the following year, the course described in subdivision (b) of Section 8956. If the lobbyist certification states that the lobbyist will complete the course no later than June 30 of the following year, the certification shall be accepted on a conditional basis. Thereafter, if the lobbyist completes the course no later than June 30 of the following year, the lobbyist shall file a new lobbyist certification with the Secretary of State which shall replace the conditional lobbyist certification previously filed. If the lobbyist certification states that the lobbyist will complete the course no later than June 30 of the following year and the lobbyist fails to do so, the conditional lobbyist certification shall be void and the individual shall not act as a lobbyist pursuant to this title until the individual has completed the course and filed with the Secretary of State a lobbyist certification stating that the individual has completed the course and the date of completion. It shall be a violation of this section for any individual to act as a lobbyist pursuant to this title once that individual's conditional certification is void.

(2) If, in the case of a new lobbyist certification, the lobbyist has not completed the course within the previous 12 months, the lobbyist certification shall include a statement that the lobbyist will complete a scheduled course within 12 months, and the lobbyist certification shall be accepted on a conditional basis. Following the lobbyist's completion of the ethics course, the lobbyist shall file a new lobbyist certification with the Secretary of State which shall replace the conditional lobbyist certification previously filed. If the new lobbyist certification states that the lobbyist will complete the course within 12 months and the lobbyist fails to do so, the conditional lobbyist certification shall be void and the individual shall not act as a lobbyist pursuant to this title until that individual has completed the course and filed with the Secretary of State a lobbyist certification stating the individual has completed the course and the date of completion. It shall be a violation of this section for any individual to act as a lobbyist pursuant to this title once that individual's conditional certification is void.

(c) Any other information required by the commission consistent with the purposes and provisions of this chapter.

History: Amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 161; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985. (Formerly titled "Registration Statement; Amendment; Termination"); amended by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 391; amended by Stats. 1995, Ch. 346; amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 574; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18601, 18603.1

Opinions: *In re Evans* (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 54

*Section 86103 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 86104. Lobbying Firm; Registration Requirements.*

The registration of a lobbying firm shall include:

(a) The full name, business address, and telephone number of the lobbying firm.

(b) A list of the lobbyists who are partners, owners, officers, or employees of the lobbying firm.

(c) The lobbyist certification of each lobbyist in the lobbying firm.

(d) For each person with whom the lobbying firm contracts to provide the following lobbying services.

(1) The full name, business address, and telephone number of the person.

(2) A written authorization signed by the person.

(3) The time period of the contract.

(4) Information sufficient to identify the nature and interests of the person including:

(A) If the person is an individual, the name and address of the person's employer, if any, or the person's principal place of business if the person is self-employed, and a description of the business activity in which the person or the person's employer is engaged.

(B) If the person is a business entity, a description of the business activity in which it is engaged.

(C) If the person is an industry, trade, or professional association, a description of the industry, trade, or profession which it represents including a specific description of any portion or faction of the industry, trade, or profession which the association exclusively or primarily represents and, if the association has not more than 50 members, the names of the members.

(D) If the person is not an individual, business entity, or industry, trade, or professional association, a statement of the person's nature and purposes, including a description of any industry, trade, profession, or other group with a common economic interest which the person principally represents or from which its membership or financial support is principally derived.

(5) The lobbying interests of the person.

(6) A list of the state agencies whose legislative or administrative actions the lobbying firm will attempt to influence for the person.

(e) The name and title of a partner, owner, or officer of the lobbying firm who is responsible for filing statements and reports and keeping records required by this chapter on behalf of the lobbying firm, and a statement signed by the designated responsible person that such person has read and understands the prohibitions contained in Sections 86203 and 86205.

(f) Any other information required by the commission consistent with the purposes and provisions of this chapter.

History: Amended by Stats. 1976, Ch. 415, effective July 10, 1976; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985. (Formerly titled "Registration Statement; Publication."); amended by Stats. 1986, Ch. 905; amended by Stats. 1987, Ch. 459; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

*Section 86104 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 86105. Lobbyist Employer, Lobbying Coalition; Registration Requirements.

The registration for a lobbyist employer that employs lobbyists or a lobbying coalition shall include:

(a) The following information regarding the lobbyist employer or coalition:

(1) The filer's full name, business address, email address, and telephone number.

(2) Information sufficient to identify the nature and interests of the filer, including:

(A) For an individual, the name and address of the filer's employer, if any, or if self-employed, the filer's principal place of business, and a description of the business activity in which the filer or the filer's employer is engaged.

(B) For a business entity, a description of the business activity in which it is engaged.

(C) For an industry, trade, or professional association, a description of the industry, trade, or profession it represents including a specific description of any part or faction of the industry, trade, or profession that the association exclusively or primarily represents and, if the association has 50 or fewer members, the names of the members.

(D) For other persons, a statement of the person's nature and purposes, including a description of any industry, trade, profession, or other group with a common economic interest that the person principally represents or from which its membership or financial support is principally derived.

(3) The lobbying employer's or coalition's lobbying interests.

(4) A list of the state agencies whose legislative or administrative actions the lobbyist employer or coalition will attempt to influence.

(b) The lobbyist employer or coalition shall provide:

(1) A list of the lobbyists who are employed by the lobbyist employer or coalition.

(2) The lobbyist certification of each lobbyist employed.

(c) Any other information required by the Commission consistent with this chapter's purposes and provisions.

History: Amended by Stats. 1979, Ch. 592; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985. (Formerly titled "Accounts; Designation by Name; Deposits."); amended by Stats. 1987, Ch. 459; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 312.

§ 86106. Renewal of Registration.

Each registered lobbying firm and lobbyist employer which will be conducting activities which require registration shall renew its registration by filing photographs of its lobbyists, authorizations, and a registration statement between November 1 and December 31, of each even-numbered year. Each lobbyist shall renew the lobbyist's own lobbyist certification in connection with the renewal of registration by the lobbyist's lobbying firm or employer.

History: Repealed by Stats. 1979, Ch. 592; (Formerly titled "Accounts; Payment of Expenses; Petty Cash"); added by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183 effective September 29, 1985; amended by Stats. 1987, Ch. 936; amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 574; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18603, 18603.1

§ 86107. Registration Statement; Amendment; Termination.*

(a) If any change occurs in any of the information contained in a registration statement, an appropriate amendment shall be filed both by online or electronic means and physically, submitting the original one copy of the amendment, in paper format, with the Secretary of State within 20 days after the change. However, if the change includes the name of a person by whom a lobbying firm is retained, the registration statement of the lobbying firm shall be amended and filed to show that change prior to the lobbying firm's attempting to influence any legislative or administrative action on behalf of that person. Lobbying firms and lobbyist employers that, during a regular session of the Legislature, cease all activity that required registration shall file a notice of termination within 20 days after the cessation. Lobbying firms and lobbyist employers that, at the close of a regular session of the Legislature, cease all activity that required registration are not required to file a notice of termination.

(b) If any change occurs in any of the information contained in a lobbyist certification or if a lobbyist terminates all activity that required the certification, the lobbyist shall submit an amended certification or notice of termination to the lobbyist's lobbying firm or lobbyist employer for filing with the Secretary of State within the time limits specified in subdivision (a). A lobbyist who, at the close of a regular session of the Legislature, ceases all activity that required certification is not required to file a notice of termination.

(c) Lobbyists and lobbying firms are subject to Section 86203 for the earlier of six months after filing a notice of termination or six months after the close of a regular session of the Legislature at the close of which the lobbyist or lobbying firm ceased all activity that required certification or registration.

History: Amended by Stats. 1979, Ch. 592; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985. (Formerly titled "Contents of Periodic Reports."); amended by Stats. 1986, Ch. 905; amended by Stats. 1987, Ch. 936; amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 18; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18603

*Section 86107 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 86108. Registration Statement; Publication.*

All information listed on any registration statement and on any amendment, renewal, or notice of termination shall be printed by the Secretary of State and made public within 30 days after filing.

History: Amended by Stats. 1979, Ch. 592; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985. (Formerly titled "Periodic Reports; Employers and Others.")

*Section 86108 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 86109. Directory of Lobbyists, Lobbying Firms, and Lobbyist Employers.*

Within 140 days after the commencement of each regular session of the Legislature, the Secretary of State shall publish a directory of registered individual lobbyists, lobbying firms, and lobbyist employers. The Secretary of State shall publish, from time to time, such supplements to the directory as may be necessary.

History: Amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 161; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985. (Formerly titled "Periodic Reports; Employers and Others; Contents."); amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 391.

*Section 86109 was repealed by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 86109.5. Directory of Lobbyists, Lobbying Firms, and Lobbyist Employers; Online Version.*

(a) The Secretary of State shall establish and maintain on the Internet an online version of the Directory of Lobbyists, Lobbying Firms, and Lobbyist Employers. The Secretary of State shall update the directory weekly.

(b) The Secretary of State shall also display on the Internet a list of the specific changes made to the Directory of Lobbyist, Lobbying Firms, and Lobbying Employers, including new registrations and listings, additions, deletions, and other revisions, during the seven days preceding the update required by subdivision (a).

(c) This section may not be implemented until July 1, 2001, unless otherwise authorized by the Department of Information Technology pursuant to Executive Order D-3-99.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, the lobbying data made available on the Internet shall include the street name and building number of the persons or entity representatives listed on all the documents submitted to the Secretary of State pursuant to Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 86100).

History: Added by Stats. 1999, Ch. 855.

*Section 86109.5 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 86110. Recordkeeping.

Lobbyists, lobbying firms, and lobbyist employers which receive payments, make payments or incur expenses or expect to receive payments, make payments or incur expenses in connection with activities which are reportable pursuant to this chapter shall keep detailed accounts, records, bills, and receipts as shall be required by regulations adopted by the commission to expedite the performance of all obligations imposed by this chapter.

History: Amended by Stats. 1979, Ch. 592; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985. (Formerly titled "Periodic Reports; Filing; Time.")

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18610, 18612, 18615

§ 86111. Activity Expense; Agency Official.

(a) "Activity expense" as used in this chapter means any expense incurred or payment made by a lobbyist, lobbying firm, lobbyist employer or a person described in subdivision (b) of Section 86115, or arranged by a lobbyist or lobbying firm, which benefits in whole or in part any elective state official, legislative official, agency official, state candidate, or a member of the immediate family of one of these individuals. Activity expenses include gifts, honoraria, consulting fees, salaries, and any other form of compensation but do not include campaign contributions.

(b) "Agency official" as used in this chapter means any official of a state agency whose administrative actions the lobbyist, lobbying firm, lobbyist employer, or person described in subdivision (b) of Section 86115 has attempted or is attempting to influence.

History: Added by Stats. 1979, Ch. 592; amended by Stats. 1976, Ch. 415, effective July 10, 1976, repealed former Section 86111 titled "Periodic Reports; Publication"; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985. (Formerly titled "Lobbying Reports and Statements; Where to File.")

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18229.1, 18945, 18950

§ 86112. Activity Expenses; Reporting.

When a person is required to report activity expenses pursuant to this article, the following information shall be provided:

(a) The date and amount of each activity expense.

(b) The full name and official position, if any, of the beneficiary of each expense, a description of the benefit, and the amount of benefit.

(c) The full name of the payee of each expense if other than the beneficiary.

(d) Any other information required by the commission consistent with the purposes and provisions of this chapter.

History: Added by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18623, 18640

§ 86112.3. Invitations.

(a) Each person filing a report pursuant to this article who sends any written or printed invitation to an elected state officer, candidate for elective state office, legislative official or agency official, shall include on the invitation or on a letter attached to the invitation the following typed, printed, or handwritten statement that is at least as large and readable as 8-point Roman boldface type, in a color or print that contrasts with the background so as to be easily legible:

Attendance at this event by a public official will constitute acceptance of a reportable gift.

(b) The notice specified in subdivision (a) shall not be required to appear on any invitation wherein attendance at the event described in the invitation will not constitute acceptance of a reportable gift by an elected state officer, candidate for elective state office, legislative official or agency

official, pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 87207.

(c) The remedies provided in Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 83100) constitute the exclusive penalty for a violation of this section. The remedies provided in Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 91000) do not apply to this section.

History: Added by Stats. 1993, Ch. 1140.

§ 86112.5. Notification to Beneficiary of a Gift.

(a) Each person filing a report pursuant to this article shall provide each beneficiary of a gift listed within the report the following information:

(1) The date and amount of each gift reportable by the beneficiary.

(2) A description of the goods or services provided to the beneficiary.

(b) The information required to be disclosed pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be provided to the beneficiary within 30 days following the end of each calendar quarter in which the gift was provided. For the purposes of meeting the disclosure requirements of this section, a lobbyist firm or lobbyist employer may provide the beneficiary a copy of the activity expense section of the report submitted to the Secretary of State pursuant to this article.

(c) The remedies provided in Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 83100) constitute the exclusive penalty for a violation of this section. The remedies provided in Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 91000) do not apply to this section.

History: Added by Stats. 1991, Ch. 322.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18640

§ 86113. Periodic Reports; Lobbyists; Contents.

(a) A lobbyist shall complete and verify a periodic report which contains:

(1) A report of all activity expenses by the lobbyist during the reporting period; and

(2) A report of all contributions of one hundred dollars (\$100) or more made or delivered by the lobbyist to any elected state officer or state candidate during the reporting period.

(b) A lobbyist shall provide the original of the lobbyist's periodic report to the lobbyist's lobbyist employer or lobbying firm within two weeks following the end of each calendar quarter.

History: Added by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18611, 18623, 18942

Opinions: *In re Nida* (1976) 2 FPPC Ops 1

In re Atlantic-Richfield Co. (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 147

In re Witt (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 145

In re Horn (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 126

In re Morrissey (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 104

In re Spellman (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 16

§ 86114. Periodic Reports; Lobbying Firms; Contents.*

(a) Lobbying firms shall file periodic reports containing all of the following:

(1) The full name, address, and telephone number of the lobbying firm.

(2) The full name, business address, and telephone number of each person who contracted with the lobbying firm for lobbying services, a description of the specific lobbying interests of the person, and the total payments, including fees and the reimbursement of expenses, received from the person for lobbying services during the reporting period.

(3) The total amount of payments received for lobbying services during the period.

(4) A periodic report completed and verified by each lobbyist in the lobbying firm pursuant to Section 86113.

(5) Each activity expense incurred by the lobbying firm including those reimbursed by a person who contracts with the lobbying firm for lobbying services. A total of all activity expenses of the lobbying firm and all of its lobbyists shall be included.

(6) If the lobbying firm subcontracts with another lobbying firm for lobbying services:

(A) The full name, address, and telephone number of the subcontractor.

(B) The name of the person for whom the subcontractor was retained to lobby.

(C) The total amount of all payments made to the subcontractor.

(7) The date, amount, and the name of the recipient of any contribution of one hundred dollars (\$100) or more made by the filer to an elected state officer, a state candidate, a committee controlled by an elected state officer or state candidate, or a committee primarily formed to support such officers or candidates. If this contribution is reported by the lobbying firm or by a committee sponsored by the lobbying firm in a campaign statement filed pursuant to Chapter 4 which is required to be filed with the Secretary of State, the filer may report only the name of the committee and the identification number of the committee.

(8) Any other information required by the Commission consistent with the purposes and provisions of this chapter.

(b) In addition to the information required by subdivision (a), lobbying firms which qualify pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 82038.5 shall also report the name and title of each partner, owner, officer, and employee of the lobbying firm who, on at least five separate occasions during the reporting period, engaged in direct communication with any elective state official, legislative official, or agency official, for the purpose of influencing legislative or administrative action on behalf of a person who contracts with the lobbying firm for lobbying services. This does not include individuals whose actions were purely clerical.

History: Added by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985; amended by Stats. 1986, Ch. 905.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18613, 18614, 18616.4, 18623

*Section 86114 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix [VI](#).

§ 86115. Periodic Reports; Employers and Others.

Subject to the exceptions in Section 86300, the following persons shall file the statements required by Section 86116:

- (a) Any lobbyist employer; and
- (b) Any person who directly or indirectly makes payments to influence legislative or administrative action of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more in value in any calendar quarter, unless all of the payments are of the type described in subdivision (c) of Section 82045.

History: Added by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18616, 18616.4, 18623

Opinions: *In re Kovall* (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 95
In re Evans (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 54
In re Sloan (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 105
In re Gillies (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 165
In re Stern (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 59
In re Witt (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 1

§ 86116. Periodic Reports; Employers and Others; Contents.*

Every person described in Section 86115 shall file periodic reports containing the following information:

- (a) The name, business address, and telephone number of the lobbyist employer or other person filing the report.
- (b) The total amount of payments to each lobbying firm.
- (c) The total amount of all payments to lobbyists employed by the filer.
- (d) A description of the specific lobbying interests of the filer.
- (e) A periodic report completed and verified by each lobbyist employed by a lobbyist employer pursuant to Section 86113.
- (f) Each activity expense of the filer. A total of all activity expenses of the filer shall be included.
- (g) The date, amount, and the name of the recipient of any contribution of one hundred dollars (\$100) or more made by the filer to an elected state officer, a state candidate, or a committee controlled by an elected state officer or state candidate, or a committee primarily formed to support the officer or candidate. If this contribution is reported by the filer or by a committee sponsored by the filer in a campaign statement filed pursuant to Chapter 4 which is required to be filed with the Secretary of State, the filer may report only the name of the committee, and the identification number of the committee.
- (h) (1) Except as set forth in paragraph (2), the total of all other payments to influence legislative or administrative action including overhead expenses and all payments to employees who spend 10 percent or more of their compensated time in any one month in activities related to influencing legislative or administrative action.

(2) A filer that makes payments to influence a ratemaking or quasi-legislative proceeding before the Public Utilities Commission, as defined in subdivision (b) or (c), respectively, of Section 82002, may, in lieu of reporting those payments pursuant to paragraph (1), report only the portion of those payments made to or for the filer's attorneys for time spent appearing as counsel and preparing to appear as counsel, or to or for the filer's witnesses for time spent testifying and preparing to testify, in this type of Public Utilities Commission proceeding. This alternative reporting of these payments made during a calendar month is not required to include payments made to an attorney or witness who is an employee of the filer if less than 10 percent of the attorney or witness's compensated time in that month was spent in appearing, testifying, or preparing to appear or testify before the Public Utilities Commission in a ratemaking or quasi-legislative proceeding. For the purposes of this paragraph, time spent preparing to appear or preparing to testify does not include time spent preparing written testimony.

(i) Any other information required by the commission consistent with the purposes and provisions of this chapter.

History: Added by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985; amended by Stats. 1986, Ch. 905; amended by Stats. 1987, Ch. 459; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 921; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18614, 18616, 18616.4, 18623

Opinions: *In re Evans* (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 54
In re Herr (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 11
In re Sloan (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 105
In re Nida (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 1
In re Grunsky (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 158
In re Atlantic-Richfield Co. (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 147
In re Witt (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 145
In re Morrissey (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 130
In re Carothers (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 122
In re Wallace (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 118
In re Gillies (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 110
In re League of California Milk Producers (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 13
In re Witt (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 1

*Section 86116 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix [VI](#).

§ 86116.5. Periodic Reports; State and Local Government Agencies.

(a) In addition to the information required pursuant to Section 86116, all state and local agencies that file reports pursuant to Sections 86115 and 86116 shall disclose, except for overhead expenses, all payments of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) or more made in a reporting period, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(1) Goods and services used by a lobbyist or used to support or assist a lobbyist in connection with the lobbyist's activities as a lobbyist.

(2) Payments of any other expenses which would not have been incurred but for the filer's activities to influence or attempt to influence legislative or administrative action.

(3) Dues or similar payments made to any organization, including a federation, confederation, or trade, labor, or

membership organization, that makes expenditures equal to 10 percent of its total expenditures, or fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000), or more, during any calendar quarter, to influence legislative or administrative action.

(b) Reports required pursuant to this section may be disclosed on a separate schedule and shall include all of the following information:

- (1) The name and the address of the payee.
- (2) The total payments made during the reporting period.
- (3) The cumulative amount paid during the calendar year.

(c) All statements required by this section shall be filed as specified by Sections 86117 and 86118.

History: Added by Stats. 1992, Ch. 214; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18616

§ 86117. Periodic Reports; Filing; Time.*

(a) Reports required by Sections 86114 and 86116 shall be filed during the month following each calendar quarter. The period covered shall be from the first day of January of each new biennial legislative session through the last day of the calendar quarter prior to the month during which the report is filed, except as specified in subdivision (b), and except that the period covered shall not include any information reported in previous reports filed by the same person. When total amounts are required to be reported, totals shall be stated both for the period covered by the statement and for the entire legislative session to date.

(b) The period covered by the first report a person is required to file pursuant to Sections 86114 and 86116 shall begin with the first day of the calendar quarter in which the filer first registered or qualified. On the first report a person is required to file, the total amount shall be stated for the entire calendar quarter covered by the first report.

History: Added by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985; amended by Stats. 1994, Ch. 1139.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18617

*Section 86117 was amended by SB 459 (Stats. 2022, Ch. 873) with a delayed operation date commencing one year after the date the Secretary of State certifies an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7), or January 1, 2023, whichever is later. For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 86118. Periodic Reports; Where to File.*

The original and one copy of each report required by Sections 86114 and 86116 shall be filed with the Secretary of State, unless filing in paper format is no longer required by Sections 84605 and 84606.

History: Added by Stats. 1986, Ch. 905; amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 18.

*Section 86118 was amended by SB 1239 (Stats. 2018, Ch. 662) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

Article 2. Prohibitions.

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§ 86201. Gift.

“Gift” as used in this article means a gift made directly or indirectly to any state candidate, elected state officer, or legislative official, or to an agency official of any agency required to be listed on the registration statement of the lobbying firm or the lobbyist employer of the lobbyist.

History: Amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18623, 18945, 18946.2

Opinions: *In re Goddard* (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 1
In re Olson (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 107
In re Smithers (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 42

§ 86203. Unlawful Gifts.

It shall be unlawful for a lobbyist, or lobbying firm, to make gifts to one person aggregating more than ten dollars (\$10) in a calendar month, or to act as an agent or intermediary in the making of any gift, or to arrange for the making of any gift by any other person.

History: Amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18600, 18624, 18942, 18945, 18946.2

Opinions: *In re Institute for Governmental Advocates* (1982) 7 FPPC Ops. 1
In re Goddard (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 1
In re Reinhardt (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 83
In re Zenz (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 195
In re Horn (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 126
In re Olson (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 107
In re Gilchrist (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 82
In re Smithers (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 42
In re Blenkle (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 37

§ 86204. Receipt of Unlawful Gift.

It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly to receive any gift which is made unlawful by Section 86203.

History: Amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 161.

§ 86205. Acts Prohibited.

No lobbyist or lobbying firm shall:

(a) Do anything with the purpose of placing any elected state officer, legislative official, agency official, or state candidate under personal obligation to the lobbyist, the lobbying firm, or the lobbyist’s or the firm’s employer.

(b) Deceive or attempt to deceive any elected state officer, legislative official, agency official, or state candidate with regard to any material fact pertinent to any pending or proposed legislative or administrative action.

(c) Cause or influence the introduction of any bill or amendment thereto for the purpose of thereafter being employed to secure its passage or defeat.

(d) Attempt to create a fictitious appearance of public favor or disfavor of any proposed legislative or administrative action or to cause any communication to be sent to any elected state officer, legislative official, agency official, or state candidate in the name of any fictitious person or in the name of any real person, except with the consent of such real person.

(e) Represent falsely, either directly or indirectly, that the lobbyist or the lobbying firm can control the official action of any elected state officer, legislative official, or agency official.

(f) Accept or agree to accept any payment in any way contingent upon the defeat, enactment, or outcome of any proposed legislative or administrative action.

History: Amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183, effective September 29, 1985.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18625, 18626

Opinions: *In re Reinhardt* (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 83

§ 86206. Placement Agent Fees.

Nothing in this article prohibits the payment of fees for contractual services provided to an investment manager by a placement agent, as defined in Section 82047.3, who is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and regulated by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, except as provided in subdivision (f) of Section 86205.

History: Added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 668

Article 3. Exemptions.

§ 86300

§ 86300. Exemptions.

The provisions of this chapter are not applicable to:

(a) Any elected public official acting in the official's official capacity, or any employee of the State of California acting within the scope of the employee's employment; provided that, an employee of the State of California, other than a legislative official, who attempts to influence legislative action and who would be required to register as a lobbyist except for the provisions of this subdivision shall not make gifts of more than ten dollars (\$10) in a calendar month to an elected state officer or legislative official.

(b) Any newspaper or other periodical of general circulation, book publisher, radio or television station (including any individual who owns, publishes, or is employed by any such newspaper or periodical or radio or television station) which in the ordinary course of business publishes news items, editorials, or other comments, or paid advertisement, which directly or indirectly urge legislative or administrative action if such newspaper, periodical, book publisher, radio or television station, or individual, engages in no further or other activities in connection with urging legislative or administrative action other than to appear before a committee of the Legislature or before a state agency in support of or in opposition to such action; or

(c) A person when representing a bona fide church or religious society solely for the purpose of protecting the public right to practice the doctrines of such church.

History: Amended by Stats. 1975, Ch. 1079; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18249

Opinions: *In re Herr* (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 11
In re Morgan (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 177

Chapter 7. Conflicts of Interests.

§ 87100-87505

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§ 87100. Public Officials; State and Local.

A public official at any level of state or local government shall not make, participate in making, or in any way attempt to use the public official's official position to influence a governmental decision in which the official knows or has reason to know the official has a financial interest.

History: Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18232, 18360.1, 18360.3, 18700, 18700.1, 18700.2, 18700.3, 18701, 18701.1, 18702, 18702.1, 18702.2, 18702.3, 18702.4, 18702.5, 18703, 18703.3 18704, 18705.1, 18705.2, 18705.3, 18705.4, 18705.5, 18706, 18706.1, 18707, 18730.1, 18940, 18941, 18942, 18944, 18945, 18950.1

Opinions: *In re Hanko* (2002) 16 FPPC Ops. 1
In re Galligan (2000) 14 FPPC Ops. 1

§ 87100.1. Professional Engineers and Surveyors as Consultants.

(a) A registered professional engineer or licensed land surveyor who renders professional services as a consultant to a state or local government, either directly or through a firm in which the consultant is employed or is a principal, does not have a financial interest in a governmental decision

pursuant to Section 87100 where the consultant renders professional engineering or land surveying services independently of the control and direction of the public agency and does not exercise public agency decisionmaking authority as a contract city or county engineer or surveyor.

(b) For purposes of this section, the consultant renders professional engineering or land surveying services independently of the control and direction of the public agency when the consultant is in responsible charge of the work pursuant to Section 6703 or 8703 of the Business and Professions Code.

(c) Subdivision (a) does not apply to that portion of the work that constitutes the recommendation of the actual formula to spread the costs of an assessment district's improvements if both of the following apply:

(1) The engineer has received income of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) or more for professional services in connection with any parcel included in the benefit assessment district within 12 months prior to the creation of the district.

(2) The district includes other parcels in addition to those parcels for which the engineer received the income.

The recommendation of the actual formula does not include preliminary site studies, preliminary engineering, plans, specifications, estimates, compliance with environmental laws and regulations, or the collection of data and information, utilized in applying the formula.

History: Added by Stats. 1991, Ch. 887; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

§ 87101. Legally Required Participation in Governmental Decision.

Section 87100 does not prevent any public official from making or participating in the making of a governmental decision to the extent the official's participation is legally required for the action or decision to be made. The fact that an official's vote is needed to break a tie does not make the official's participation legally required for purposes of this section.

History: Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18704, 18705, 18707

Opinions: *In re Tobias* (1999) 5 FPPC Ops. 5
In re Brown (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 19
In re Hudson (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 13
In re Hopkins (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 107
In re Maloney (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 69

§ 87102. Applicability of Enforcement Provisions; Additional Requirements.

The requirements of Section 87100 are in addition to the requirements of Articles 2 (commencing with Section 87200) and 3 (commencing with Section 87300) and any Conflict of Interest Code adopted thereunder. Except as provided in Section 87102.5, the remedies provided in Chapters 3 (commencing with Section 83100) and 11 (commencing with Section 91000) shall not be applicable to elected state officers for violations or threatened violations of this article.

History: Amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 1029; amended by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84.

§ 87102.5. Legislature; Use of Position to Influence Decisions.

(a) The remedies provided in Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 83100) apply to any Member of the Legislature who makes, participates in making, or in any way attempts to use the Member's official position to influence any of the following governmental decisions in which the Member knows or has reason to know that the Member has a financial interest:

(1) Any state governmental decision, other than any action or decision before the Legislature, made in the course of the Member's duties.

(2) Approval, modification, or cancellation of any contract to which either house or a committee of the Legislature is a party.

(3) Introduction as a lead author of any legislation that the Member knows or has reason to know is nongeneral legislation.

(4) Any vote in a legislative committee or subcommittee on what the Member knows or has reason to know is nongeneral legislation.

(5) Any rollcall vote on the Senate or Assembly floor on an item which the Member knows is nongeneral legislation.

(6) Any action or decision before the Legislature in which all of the following occur:

(A) The Member has received any salary, wages, commissions, or similar earned income within the preceding 12 months from a lobbyist employer.

(B) The Member knows or has reason to know the action or decision will have a direct and significant financial impact on the lobbyist employer.

(C) The action or decision will not have an impact on the public generally or a significant segment of the public in a similar manner.

(7) Any action or decision before the Legislature on legislation that the Member knows or has reason to know will have a direct and significant financial impact on any person, distinguishable from its impact on the public generally or a significant segment of the public, from whom the Member has received any compensation within the preceding 12 months for the purpose of appearing, agreeing to appear, or taking any other action on behalf of that person, before any local board or agency.

(b) For purposes of this section, all of the following apply:

(1) "Any action or decision before the Legislature" means any vote in a committee or subcommittee, or any rollcall vote on the floor of the Senate or Assembly.

(2) "Financial interest" means an interest as defined in Section 87103.

(3) "Legislation" means a bill, resolution, or constitutional amendment.

(4) "Nongeneral legislation" means legislation that is described in Section 87102.6 and is not of a general nature pursuant to Section 16 of Article IV of the Constitution.

(5) A Member of the Legislature has reason to know that an action or decision will have a direct and significant

financial impact on a person with respect to which disqualification may be required pursuant to subdivision (a) if either of the following apply:

(A) With the knowledge of the Member, the person has attempted to influence the vote of the Member with respect to the action or decision.

(B) Facts have been brought to the Member's personal attention indicating that the action or decision will have a direct and significant impact on the person.

(6) The prohibitions specified in subdivision (a) do not apply to a vote on the Budget Bill as a whole, or to a vote on a consent calendar, a motion for reconsideration, a waiver of any legislative rule, or any purely procedural matter.

(7) A Member of the Legislature has reason to know that legislation is nongeneral legislation if facts have been brought to the Member's personal attention indicating that it is nongeneral legislation.

(8) Written advice given to a Member of the Legislature regarding the Member's duties under this section by the Legislative Counsel shall have the same effect as advice given by the commission pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 83114 if both of the following apply:

(A) The Member has made the same written request based on the same material facts to the commission for advice pursuant to Section 83114 as to the Member's duties under this section, as the written request and facts presented to the Legislative Counsel.

(B) The commission has not provided written advice pursuant to the Member's request prior to the time the Member acts in good faith reliance on the advice of the Legislative Counsel.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; amended by Stats. 1990, Ch. 1075; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18232, 18700.1, 18700.2, 18701, 18701.1, 18702, 18702.1, 18702.2, 18702.3, 18702.4, 18702.5, 18703

Opinions: *In re Galligan* (2000) 14 FPPC Ops. 1

§ 87102.6. Nongeneral Legislation; Definitions.

(a) "Nongeneral legislation" means legislation as to which both of the following apply:

(1) It is reasonably foreseeable that the legislation will have direct and significant financial impact on one or more identifiable persons, or one or more identifiable pieces of real property.

(2) It is not reasonably foreseeable that the legislation will have a similar impact on the public generally or on a significant segment of the public.

(b) For purposes of this section and Section 87102.5, all of the following apply:

(1) "Legislation" means a bill, resolution, or constitutional amendment.

(2) "Public generally" includes an industry, trade, or profession.

(3) Any recognized subgroup or specialty of the industry, trade, or profession constitutes a significant segment of the public.

(4) A legislative district, county, city, or special district constitutes a significant segment of the public.

(5) More than a small number of persons or pieces of real property is a significant segment of the public.

(6) Legislation, administrative action, or other governmental action impacts in a similar manner all members of the public, or all members of a significant segment of the public, on which it has a direct financial effect, whether or not the financial effect on individual members of the public or the significant segment of the public is the same as the impact on the other members of the public or the significant segment of the public.

(7) The Budget Bill as a whole is not nongeneral legislation.

(8) Legislation that contains at least one provision that constitutes nongeneral legislation is nongeneral legislation, even if the legislation also contains other provisions that are general and do not constitute nongeneral legislation.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; amended by Stats. 2006, Ch. 538.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18232, 18700.1, 18700.2, 18701, 18701.1, 18702, 18702.1, 18702.2, 18702.3, 18702.4, 18702.5, 18703

Opinions: *In re Galligan* (2000) 14 FPPC Ops. 1

§ 87102.8. Elected State Officer; Use of Position to Influence Decisions.

(a) An elected state officer, as defined in subdivision (f) of Section 14 of Article V of the California Constitution, shall not make or participate in the making of, or use the officer's official position to influence, any governmental decision before the agency in which the elected state officer serves, where the officer knows or has reason to know that the officer has a financial interest.

(b) An elected state officer knows or has reason to know that the officer has a financial interest in any action by, or a decision before the agency in which the officer serves where either of the following occur:

(1) The action or decision will have a direct and significant financial impact on a lobbyist employer from which the officer has received any salary, wages, commissions, or similar earned income within the preceding 12 months and the action or decision will not have an impact on the public generally or a significant segment of the public in a similar manner.

(2) The action or decision will have a direct and significant financial impact on any person, distinguishable from its impact on the public generally or a significant segment of the public, from whom the officer has received any compensation within the preceding 12 months for the purpose of appearing, agreeing to appear, or taking any other action on behalf of that person, before any local board or agency.

(c) The definitions of "public generally" and "significant segment of the public" contained in Section 87102.6 apply to this section.

(d) Notwithstanding Section 87102, the remedies provided in Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 83100) apply to violations of this section.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 1075; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 674; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18232, 18700.1, 18700.2, 18701, 18701.1, 18702, 18702.1, 18702.2, 18702.3, 18702.5, 18703

Opinions: *In re Galligan* (2000) 14 FPPC Ops. 1

§ 87103. Financial Interest.

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 the official's immediate family, or on any of the following:

(a) Any business entity in which the public official has a direct or indirect investment worth two thousand dollars (\$2,000) or more.

(b) Any real property in which the public official has a direct or indirect interest worth two thousand dollars (\$2,000) 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 five hundred dollars (\$500) or more in value provided or promised to, received by, the public official within 12 months prior to 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 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.

History: Amended by Stats. 1979, Ch. 686; amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 183; amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 931; amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 611; amended by Stats. 1994, Ch. 386; amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 455, effective September 24, 1997; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 130; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18229.1, 18232, 18700, 18700.1, 18700.2, 18702.5, 18701, 18701.1, 18702, 18702.1, 18702.2, 18702.3, 18702.4, 18703, 18703.3, 18705.1, 18705.2, 18705.3, 18705.4, 18705.5, 18706, 18706.1, 18707, 18730, 18730.1, 18940, 18940.2, 18941, 18942, 18942.1, 18944, 18945, 18946.2, 18950.1

Opinions: *In re Winuk and Stump* (2025)

In re Roberts (2004) 17 FPPC Ops. 9
In re Hanko (2002) 16 FPPC Ops. 1
In re Galligan (2000) 14 FPPC Ops. 1
In re Legan (1985) 9 FPPC Ops. 1
In re Nord (1983) 8 FPPC Ops. 6
In re Ferraro (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 62
In re Callanan, Sands and Hill (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 33
In re Brown (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 19
In re Hopkins (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 107
In re Gillmor (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 38
In re Moore (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 33
In re Thomas (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 30
In re Sherwood (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 168
In re Sankey (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 157
In re Owen (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 77
In re Thorner (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 198
In re Biondo (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 54
In re Presley (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 39

§ 87103.5. Income from Retail Sales.

(a) Notwithstanding subdivision (c) of Section 87103, a retail customer of a business entity engaged in retail sales of goods or services to the public generally is not a source of income to an official who owns a 10-percent or greater interest in the entity if the retail customers of the business entity constitute a significant segment of the public generally, and the amount of income received by the business entity from the customer is not distinguishable from the amount of income received from its other retail customers.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (c) of Section 87103, in a jurisdiction with a population of 10,000 or less which is located in a county with 350 or fewer retail businesses, a retail customer of a business entity engaged in retail sales of goods or services to the public generally is not a source of income to an official of that jurisdiction who owns a 10-percent or greater interest in the entity, if the retail customers of the business entity constitute a significant segment of the public generally, and the amount of income received by the business entity from the customer does not exceed one percent of the gross sales revenues that the business entity earned during the 12 months prior to the time the decision is made.

(c) For the purposes of subdivision (b):

(1) Population in a jurisdiction shall be established by the United States Census.

(2) The number of retail businesses in a county shall be established by the previous quarter's Covered Employment and Wages Report (ES-202) of the Labor Market Information Division of the California Employment Development Department.

History: Added by Stats. 1984, Ch. 931; amended by Stats. 2002, Ch. 654.

§ 87103.6. Source of Income; Payments to Government Agencies.

Notwithstanding subdivision (c) of Section 87103, any person who makes a payment to a state agency or local government agency to defray the estimated reasonable costs to process any application, approval, or any other action, including but not limited to, holding public hearings and evaluating or preparing any report or document, shall not by reason of the payments be a source of income to a person who is retained or employed by the agency.

History: Added by Stats. 1991, Ch. 887.

§ 87104. Prohibitions on Public Officials.

(a) A public official of a state agency shall not, for compensation, act as an agent or attorney for, or otherwise represent, any other person by making any formal or informal appearance before, or any oral or written communication to, the official's state agency or any officer or employee thereof, if the appearance or communication is for the purpose of influencing a decision on a contract, grant, loan, license, permit, or other entitlement for use.

(b) For purposes of this section, "public official" includes a member, officer, employee, or consultant of an advisory body to a state agency, whether the advisory body is created by statute or otherwise, except when the public official is representing the official's employing state, local, or federal agency in an appearance before, or communication to, the advisory body.

History: Added by Stats. 1994, Ch. 414; amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 145; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

§ 87105. Manner of Disqualification.

(a) A public official who holds an office specified in Section 87200 who has a financial interest in a decision within the meaning of Section 87100 shall, upon identifying a conflict of interest or a potential conflict of interest and immediately prior to the consideration of the matter, do all of the following:

(1) Publicly identify the financial interest that gives rise to the conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest in detail sufficient to be understood by the public, except that disclosure of the exact street address of a residence is not required.

(2) Recuse the public official's own self from discussing and voting on the matter, or otherwise acting in violation of Section 87100.

(3) Leave the room until after the discussion, vote, and any other disposition of the matter is concluded, unless the matter has been placed on the portion of the agenda reserved for uncontested matters.

(4) Notwithstanding paragraph (3), a public official described in subdivision (a) may speak on the issue during the time that the general public speaks on the issue.

(b) This section does not apply to Members of the Legislature.

History: Added by Stats. 2002, Ch. 233; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18707

Article 2. Disclosure.**§ 87200 – 87211**

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§ 87200. Applicability.

This article is applicable to elected state officers, judges and commissioners of courts of the judicial branch of government, members of the Public Utilities Commission, members of the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, members of the Fair Political Practices Commission, members of the California Coastal Commission, members of the High-Speed Rail Authority, members of planning commissions, members of the board of supervisors, district attorneys, county counsels, county treasurers, and chief administrative officers of counties, mayors, city managers, city attorneys, city treasurers, chief administrative officers and members of city councils of cities, and other public officials who manage public investments, and to candidates for any of these offices at any election.

History: Amended by Stats. 1975, Ch. 797; effective September 16, 1975, operative September 5, 1975; amended by Stats. 1976, Ch. 129, effective May 5, 1976; amended by Stats. 1978, Ch. 537; amended by Stats. 1979, Ch. 674; amended by Stats. 1983, Ch. 214; amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 727, effective July 1, 1985; amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 611; amended by Stats. 1989, Ch. 403; amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 626, effective September 27, 2012.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18700.3, 18707, 18723, 18723.1, 18724, 18730, 18732.5, 18753, 18940.1

§ 87200.5. Groundwater Sustainability Agencies.

(a) Members of the board of directors and the executive of a groundwater sustainability agency shall file statements of economic interests in accordance with this article with the Commission using the Commission's online system for filing statements of economic interests.

(b) For purposes of this section, "executive" means the executive director, general manager, or other equivalent position of the groundwater sustainability agency.

History: Added by Stats. 2024, Ch. 458.

§ 87201. Candidates.

Every candidate for an office specified in Section 87200 other than a justice of an appellate court or the Supreme Court shall file no later than the final filing date of a declaration of candidacy, a statement disclosing the candidate's investments, the candidate's interests in real property, and any income received during the immediately preceding 12 months.

This statement shall not be required if the candidate has filed, within 60 days prior to the filing of the candidate's declaration of candidacy, a statement for the same jurisdiction pursuant to Section 87202 or 87203.

History: Amended by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1193; amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 928; amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 931; amended by Stats. 1992, Ch. 1141; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18531.5, 18723.1– 18730, 18732.5

Opinions: *In re Boreman* (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 101

§ 87202. Officials - Elected, Appointed and Hold Over.

(a)(1) A person who is elected, appointed, or nominated to an office specified in Section 87200 shall file a statement disclosing the person's investments and the person's interests in real property held on the date of assuming office, income received during the 12 months before assuming office, and any arrangement for prospective employment if employment with that employer had not begun as of the date of assuming office.

(2) A person who is elected to an office specified in Section 87200 shall file the statement specified in paragraph (1) within 30 days of assuming office.

(3) A person who is appointed or nominated to an office specified in Section 87200 shall file the a statement specified in paragraph (1) within 30 days of assuming office, provided, however, that a person appointed or nominated to such an office who is subject to confirmation by the Commission on Judicial Appointments or the Senate shall file such a statement no more than 10 days after the appointment or nomination.

(4) The statement shall not be required if the person has filed, within 60 days prior to assuming office, a statement for the same jurisdiction pursuant to Section 87203.

(b) Every elected state officer who assumes office during the month of December or January shall file a statement pursuant to Section 87203 instead of this section, except that:

(1) The period covered for reporting investments and interests in real property shall begin on the date the person filed the person's declarations of candidacy.

(2) The period covered for reporting income shall begin 12 months prior to the date the person assumed office.

History: Amended by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1193; amended by Stats. 1978, Ch. 537; amended by Stats. 1989, Ch. 499; amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 36; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50, amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 186.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18722, 18723, 18723.1, 18730, 18732.5, 18735, 18754, 18940

§ 87203. Officeholders; Annual Statements.

A person who holds an office specified in Section 87200 shall, each year at a time specified by commission regulations, file a statement disclosing the person's investments, interests in real property, income, and arrangements for prospective employment during the period since the previous statement filed under this section or Section 87202. The statement shall include any investments and interest in real property held at any time during the period covered by the statement, whether or not they are still held at the time of filing.

History: Amended by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1161; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50, amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 186.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18720, 18723, 18723.1, 18730, 18732.5, 18735, 18754

Opinions: *In re Sampson* (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 183

§ 87204. Leaving Office.

A person who leaves an office specified in Section 87200 shall, within 30 days after leaving the office, file a statement disclosing the person's investments, interests in real property, income, and arrangements for prospective employment during the period since the previous statement filed under Sections 87202 or 87203. The statement shall include any investments and interests in real property held at any time during the period covered by the statement, whether or not they are still held at the time of filing.

History: Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50, amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 186.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18722, 18723, 18723.1, 18730, 18732.5, 18735, 18754, 18940

§ 87205. Persons Completing and Beginning Term of Office on the Same Day.

A person who completes a term of an office specified in Section 87200 and within 45 days begins a term of the same office or another such office of the same jurisdiction is deemed not to assume office or leave office.

History: Amended by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1193; amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 145; amended by Stats. 2005, Ch. 200.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18723.1, 18730, 18732.5, 18754

§ 87206. Disclosure of Investment or Interest in Real Property.*

If an investment or an interest in real property is required to be disclosed under this article, the statement shall contain:

- (a) A statement of the nature of the investment or interest.
- (b) The name of the business entity in which each investment is held, and a general description of the business activity in which the business entity is engaged.

(c) The address or other precise location of the real property.

(d) A statement whether the fair market value of the investment or interest in real property equals or exceeds two thousand dollars (\$2,000) but does not exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), whether it exceeds ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) but does not exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), whether it exceeds one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) but does not exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000), or whether it exceeds one million dollars (\$1,000,000).

(e) In the case of a statement filed under Sections 87203 or 87204, if the investment or 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.

(f) For purposes of disclosure under this article, "interest in real property" does not include the principal residence of the filer or any other property which the filer utilizes exclusively as the personal residence of the filer.

(g) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2027, and as of that date is repealed.

History: Amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 1000; amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 931; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 130; amended, repealed, and added by Stats. 2025, Ch. 85.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18233, 18723.1, 18729, 18730, 18732.5, 18754

Opinions: *In re Schabarum* (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 95

*Section 87206 was amended, repealed, and added by AB 1029 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 85) and will be repealed and replaced on January 1, 2027. For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 87206.5. Disclosure of Leasehold Interest.

If an official must disclose a leasehold interest, the official shall do all of the following:

- (a) Identify the interest as a leasehold interest.
- (b) Disclose the number of years remaining on the lease.
- (c) Provide the leased property's address or other precise location.
- (d) Provide the exact date the lease became effective or terminated if the lease became effective or terminated during the period covered by the statement.
- (e) Disclose the value of the leasehold interest as specified in subdivision (d) of Section 87206.

History: Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 312.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18723.1, 18730, 18732.5, 18754

§ 87207. Disclosure of Income.

(a) If income is required to be reported under this article, the statement shall contain, except as provided in subdivision (b):

- (1) The name and street 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 (\$10,000) 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) 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:

(1) The name, street 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) 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 interests. 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.

History: Amended by Stats. 1975, Ch. 915, effective September 20, 1995, operative January 7, 1975; amended by Stats. 1979, Ch. 674; superseded by Stats. 1979, Ch. 686; amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 1000; amended by Stats. 1982, Ch. 29; amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 931; amended by Stats. 1990, Ch. 1075; amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 638; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 130; amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 757; amended by Stats. 2016, Ch. 86; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 102.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18723.1, 18728, 18728.5, 18730, 18730.1, 18732.5, 18740, 18754, 18940, 18941, 18942, 18942.1, 18942.2, 18942.3, 18944, 18945, 18945.2, 18946, 18946.1, 18946.2, 18946.3, 18946.4, 18946.5, 18950, 18950.1

Opinions: *In re Riemer* (2013) 21 FPPC Ops. 1
In re Rosenstiel (2012) 20 FPPC Ops. 1
In re Taylor (2004) 17 FPPC Ops. 1
In re Hopkins (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 107
In re Carey (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 99
In re Gutierrez (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 44
In re Thomas (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 30
In re Cory (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 48
In re Hayes (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 210
In re Russel (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 191
In re Cory (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 153
In re Brown (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 67

§ 87207.5. Disclosure of Arrangement for Prospective Employment.

When an arrangement for prospective employment is required to be reported under this article, the statement shall contain the date that the filer accepted the prospective employer's offer of employment, the business position, a general description of the business activity of the prospective employer, and the name and street address of the prospective employer.

History: Added by Stats. 2025, Ch. 186.

§ 87208. Disclosure of Investments and Interests in Real Property; Incorporation by Reference.

Except in statements required by Section 87203, investments and interests in real property which have been disclosed on a statement of economic interests filed in the same jurisdiction within the previous 60 days may be incorporated by reference.

History: Added by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1161.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18723.1, 18730, 18732.5, 18754

§ 87209. Business Positions.

When a statement is required to be filed under this article, every person specified in Section 87200 shall disclose any business positions held by that person. For purposes of this section, "business position" means any business entity in which the filer is a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee, or holds any position of management, 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 in the jurisdiction at any time during the two years prior to the date the statement is required to be filed.

History: Added by Stats. 1997, Ch. 455, effective September 24, 1997.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18230, 18723.1, 18730, 18732.5, 18754

§ 87210. Gifts Made Through Intermediaries and Others - Disclosure Requirements.

A person shall not make a gift totaling fifty dollars (\$50) or more in a calendar year to a person described in Article 2 on behalf of another, or while acting as the intermediary or agent of another, without disclosing to the recipient of the gift both the intermediary or agent's own full name, street address, and business activity, if any, and the full name, street address, and business activity, if any, of the actual donor. The recipient of the gift shall include in the recipient's Statement of Economic Interests the full name, street address, and business activity, if any, of the intermediary or agent and the actual donor.

History: Added by Stats. 1978, Ch. 640; amended by Stats. 1982, Ch. 29; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18723.1, 18730, 18732.5, 18754, 18945

§ 87211. State Bar of California.

This article does not apply to either of the following of the State Bar of California, who shall file statements under conflict of interest codes developed consistent with Section 87302:

- (a) A member of the Board of Trustees.
- (b) A designated employee.

History: Added by Stats. 2024, Ch. 489.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18723.1, 18730, 18732.5, 18754, 18945

Article 3. Conflict of Interest Codes. § 87300 – 87314

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§ 87300. Agency Requirement.

Every agency shall adopt and promulgate a Conflict of Interest Code pursuant to the provisions of this article. A Conflict of Interest Code shall have the force of law and any violation of a Conflict of Interest Code by a designated employee shall be deemed a violation of this chapter.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18329.5, 18351, 18730, 18730.1, 18750, 18751, 18754, 18755, 18940.1

Opinions: *In re Vonk* (1981) 6 FPPC Ops. 1
In re Leach (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 48
In re Siegel (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 62

§ 87301. Formulation.

It is the policy of this act that Conflict of Interest Codes shall be formulated at the most decentralized level possible, but without precluding intra-departmental review. Any question of the level of a department which should be deemed an “agency” for purposes of Section 87300 shall be resolved by the code reviewing body.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18730, 18751, 18754

§ 87302. Required Provisions.*

Each conflict of interest code shall contain the following provisions:

(a) Specific enumeration of the positions within the agency, other than those specified in Section 87200, that involve the making or participation in the making of decisions which may foreseeably have a material effect on any financial interest and for each such enumerated position, the specific types of investments, business positions, interests in real property, and sources of income which are reportable. An investment, business position, interest in real property, or source of income shall be made reportable by the conflict of interest code if the business entity in which the investment or business position is held, the interest in real property, or the income or source of income may foreseeably be affected materially by any decision made or participated in by the designated employee by virtue of the designated employee’s position.

(b) Requirements that each designated employee, other than those specified in Section 87200, file statements at times and under circumstances described in this section, disclosing reportable investments, business positions, interests in real property, and income. The information disclosed with respect to reportable investments, interests in real property, and income shall be the same as the information required by Sections 87206 and 87207. The first statement filed under a conflict of interest code by a designated employee shall disclose any reportable investments, business positions, interests in real property, and income. An initial statement shall be filed by each designated employee within 30 days after the effective date of the conflict of interest code, disclosing investments, business positions, and interests in real property held on the effective date of the conflict of interest code and income received during the 12 months before the effective date of the conflict of interest code. Thereafter, each new designated employee shall file a statement within 30 days after assuming office, or, if subject to State Senate confirmation, 30 days after being appointed or nominated, disclosing investments, business positions, and interests in real property held on, and income received during the 12 months before, the date of assuming office or the date of being appointed or nominated, respectively. Each designated employee shall file an annual statement, at the time specified in the conflict of interest code, disclosing reportable investments, business positions, interest in real property, and income held or received at any time during the previous calendar year or since the date the designated employee took

office if during the calendar year. Every designated employee who leaves office shall file, within 30 days of leaving office, a statement disclosing reportable investments, business positions, interests in real property, and income held or received at any time during the period between the closing date of the last statement required to be filed and the date of leaving office.

(c) Specific provisions setting forth any circumstances under which designated employees or categories of designated employees must disqualify themselves from making, participating in the making, or using their official position to influence the making of any decision. Disqualification shall be required by the **conflict of interest code** when the designated employee has a financial interest as defined in Section 87103, which it is reasonably foreseeable may be affected materially by the decision. A designated employee shall not be required to disqualify the employee's own self with respect to any matter that could not legally be acted upon or decided without the designated employee's participation.

(d) For any position enumerated pursuant to subdivision (a), an individual who resigns the position within 12 months following initial appointment or within 30 days of the date of a notice mailed by the filing officer of the individual's filing obligation, whichever is earlier, is not deemed to assume or leave office, provided that during the period between appointment and resignation, the individual does not make, participate in making, or use the position to influence any decision of the agency or receive, or become entitled to receive, any form of payment by virtue of being appointed to the position. Within 30 days of the date of a notice mailed by the filing officer, the individual shall do both of the following:

(1) File a written resignation with the appointing power.

(2) File a written statement with the filing officer on a form prescribed by the commission and signed under the penalty of perjury stating that the individual, during the period between appointment and resignation, did not make, participate in the making, or use the position to influence any decision of the agency or receive, or become entitled to receive, any form of payment by virtue of being appointed to the position.

(e) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2027, and as of that date is repealed.

History: Amended by Stats. 1978, Ch. 537; amended by Stats. 1979, Ch. 674; amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 765; amended by Stats. 1987, Ch. 1188; amended by Stats. 1989, Ch. 499; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 857; amended by Stats. 1992, Ch. 441; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50; amended, repealed, and added by Stats. 2025, Ch. 85.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18351, 18700.3, 18704, 18720, 18722, 18728.5, 18730, 18730.1, 18732, 18733, 18734, 18735, 18751, 18754, 18940, 18940.1, 18941, 18942, 18944, 18945, 18946, 18946.1, 18946.2, 18946.3, 18946.5, 18950, 18950.1

Opinions: *In re Alperin* (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 77

*Section 87302 was amended, repealed, and added by AB 1029 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 85) and will be repealed and replaced on January 1, 2027. For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 87302.3. Disclosure by Candidates for Elective Office.

(a) Every candidate for an elective office that is designated in a conflict of interest code shall file a statement disclosing the candidate's investments, business positions, interests in real property, and income received during the immediately preceding 12 months, as enumerated in the disclosure requirements for that position. The statement shall be filed with the election official with whom the candidate's declaration of candidacy or other nomination documents to appear on the ballot are required to be filed and shall be filed no later than the final filing date for the declaration or nomination documents.

(b) This section does not apply to either of the following:

(1) A candidate for an elective office designated in a conflict of interest code who has filed an initial, assuming office, or annual statement pursuant to that conflict of interest code within 60 days before the deadline specified in subdivision (a).

(2) A candidate for an elective office who has filed a statement for the office pursuant to Section 87302.6 within 60 days before the deadline specified in subdivision (a).

History: Added by Stats. 2007, Ch. 348.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18754

§ 87302.6. Disclosure by Members of Boards and Commissions of Newly Created Agencies.

Notwithstanding Section 87302, a member of a board or commission of a newly created agency shall file a statement at the same time and in the same manner as those individuals required to file pursuant to Section 87200. A member shall file the member's statement pursuant to Section 87302 once the agency adopts an approved conflict of interest code.

History: Added by Stats. 2002, Ch. 264; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18751, 18754

§ 87303. Submission; Code Reviewing Body.

No conflict of interest code shall be effective until it has been approved by the code reviewing body. Each agency shall submit a proposed conflict of interest code to the code reviewing body by the deadline established for the agency by the code reviewing body. The deadline for a new agency shall be not later than six months after it comes into existence. Within 90 days after receiving the proposed code or receiving any proposed amendments or revisions, the code reviewing body shall do one of the following:

(a) Approve the proposed code as submitted.

(b) Revise the proposed code and approve it as revised.

(c) Return the proposed code to the agency for revision and resubmission within 60 days. The code reviewing body shall either approve the revised code or revise it and approve it. When a proposed conflict of interest code or amendment is approved by the code reviewing body, it shall be deemed adopted and shall be promulgated by the agency.

History: Amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 455.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18351, 18750, 18751, 18755

§ 87304. Failure to Submit, Adopt or Amend a Proposed Code.

If any agency fails to submit a proposed conflict of interest code or amendments, or if any state agency fails to report amendments pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 87306 within the time limits prescribed pursuant to Section 87303 or 87306, the code reviewing body may issue any appropriate order directed to the agency or take any other appropriate action, including the adoption of a conflict of interest code for the agency. If the code reviewing body does not issue an appropriate order or take other action within 90 days of the deadline imposed on the agency as prescribed in Section 87303 or 87306, the commission may issue any appropriate order directed to the agency or take any other appropriate action, including the adoption of a conflict of interest code for the agency. The commission shall consult with the agency before ordering the adoption of a conflict of interest code for the agency.

History: Amended by Stats. 1988, Ch. 923; amended by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 491.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18751

§ 87305. Order to Adopt; Superior Court.

If after six months following the deadline for submission of the proposed Conflict of Interest Code to the code reviewing body no Conflict of Interest Code has been adopted and promulgated, the superior court may, in an action filed by the commission, the agency, the code reviewing body, any officer, employee, member or consultant of the agency, or any resident of the jurisdiction, prepare a Conflict of Interest Code and order its adoption by the agency or grant any other appropriate relief. The agency and the code reviewing body shall be parties to any action filed pursuant to this section.

History: Amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 765.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18751

§ 87306. Amendments for Changed Circumstances.

(a) Every agency shall amend its Conflict of Interest Code, subject to the provisions of Section 87303, when change is necessitated by changed circumstances, including the creation of new positions which must be designated pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 87302 and relevant changes in the duties assigned to existing positions. Amendments or revisions shall be submitted to the code reviewing body within 90 days after the changed circumstances necessitating the amendments have become apparent. If after nine months following the occurrence of those changes the Conflict of Interest Code has not been amended or revised, the superior court may issue any appropriate order in an action brought under the procedures set forth in Section 87305.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), every state agency shall submit to the code reviewing body a biennial

report identifying changes in its code, including, but not limited to, all new positions designated pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 87302, changes in the list of reportable sources of income, and relevant changes in the duties assigned to existing positions. These reports shall be submitted no later than March 1 of each odd-numbered year.

History: Amended by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 491.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18329.5, 18351, 18736, 18750, 18751, 18755

§ 87306.5. Conflict of Interest Code; Local Agency Review.

(a) No later than July 1 of each even-numbered year, the code reviewing body shall direct every local agency which has adopted a Conflict of Interest Code in accordance with this title to review its Conflict of Interest Code and, if a change in its code is necessitated by changed circumstances, submit an amended Conflict of Interest Code in accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 87302 and Section 87303 to the code reviewing body.

(b) Upon review of its code, if no change in the code is required, the local agency head shall submit a written statement to that effect to the code reviewing body no later than October 1 of the same year.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 1075.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18736.1, 18751

§ 87307. Amendments to Code by Agency; Failure to Act.

An agency may at any time amend its Conflict of Interest Code, subject to the provisions of Section 87303, either upon its own initiative or in response to a petition submitted by an officer, employee, member or consultant of the agency, or a resident of the jurisdiction. If the agency fails to act upon such a petition within ninety days, the petition shall be deemed denied. Within thirty days after the denial of a petition, the petitioner may appeal to the code reviewing body. The code reviewing body shall either dismiss the appeal or issue an appropriate order to the agency within ninety days.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18737, 18751

§ 87308. Judicial Review.

Judicial review of any action of a code reviewing body under this chapter may be sought by the commission, by the agency, by an officer, employee, member or consultant of the agency, or by a resident of the jurisdiction.

History: Amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 765.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18732.5, 18751

§ 87309. Requirements for Approval.

A conflict of interest code or amendment shall not be approved by the code reviewing body or upheld by a court if it:

(a) Fails to provide reasonable assurance that all foreseeable potential conflict of interest situations will be disclosed or prevented;

(b) Fails to provide to each affected person a clear and specific statement of that person's duties under the code; or

(c) Fails to adequately differentiate between designated employees with different powers and responsibilities.

History: Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18751

Opinions: *In re Alperin* (1977) 3 FPPC Ops. 77

§ 87310. Designated Employee; Broad or Indefinable Duties.

If the duties of a designated employee are so broad or indefinable that the requirements of Section 87309 cannot be complied with, the Conflict of Interest Code shall require the designated employee to comply with the requirements of Article 2 of this chapter.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18751

§ 87311. Review and Preparation; Administrative Procedure Act.

The review of proposed Conflict of Interest Codes by the Commission and by the Attorney General and the preparation of proposed Conflict of Interest Codes by state agencies shall be subject to the Administrative Procedure Act. The review and preparation of Conflict of Interest Codes by local government agencies shall be carried out under procedures which guarantee to officers, employees, members, and consultants of the agency and to residents of the jurisdiction adequate notice and a fair opportunity to present their views.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18351, 18751

§ 87311.5. Review and Preparation; Judicial Branch Agencies.

(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 87311, the review of the Conflict of Interest Code of an agency in the judicial branch of government shall not be subject to the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act. The review and preparation of Conflict of Interest Codes by these agencies shall be carried out under procedures that guarantee to officers, employees, members, and consultants of the agency and to residents of the jurisdiction adequate notice and a fair opportunity to present their views.

(b) Conflict of Interest Codes of the Judicial Council and the Commission on Judicial Performance shall not be subject to the provisions of subdivision (c) of Section 87302.

History: Added by Stats. 1984, Ch. 727, effective July 1, 1985; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 489.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18751

§ 87312. Commission Assistance.

The Commission shall, upon request, provide technical assistance to agencies in the preparation of Conflict of Interest Codes. Such assistance may include the preparation of model provisions for various types of agencies. Nothing in this section shall relieve each agency of the responsibility for adopting a Conflict of Interest Code appropriate to its individual circumstances.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18751

§ 87313. Gifts Made Through Intermediaries and Others - Disclosure Requirements.

A person shall not make a gift of fifty dollars (\$50) or more in a calendar month on behalf of another, or while acting as the intermediary or agent of another to a person whom the intermediary or agent knows or has reason to know may be required to disclose the gift pursuant to a conflict of interest code, without disclosing to the recipient of the gift both the intermediary or agent's own full name, street address, and business activity, if any, and the full name, street address, and business activity, if any, of the actual donor. The recipient of the gift shall include in the recipient's Statement of Economic Interests the full name, street address, and business activity, if any, of the intermediary or agent and the actual donor.

History: Added by Stats. 1978, Ch. 640; amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 931; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18751, 18945

§ 87314. Code Requirement for Public Pension and Retirement System Agencies.

(a) A board, commission, or agency of a public pension or retirement system shall attach to its Conflict of Interest Code an appendix entitled "Agency Positions that Manage Public Investments for Purposes of Section 87200 of the Government Code." The appendix shall list each position with the board, commission, or agency for which an individual occupying the position is required to file a Statement of Economic Interests as a public official who manages public investments within the meaning of Section 87200. The board, commission, or agency shall post the appendix on its Internet Web site in a manner that makes it easily identifiable and accessible by persons who view that Web site.

(b) (1) For purposes of this section, "public official who manages public investments" includes a salaried or unsalaried member of a committee, board, commission, or other entity that exists as, or within, a governmental agency and that possesses decisionmaking authority.

(2) A committee, board, commission, or other entity possesses decisionmaking authority for purposes of this section if any of the following apply:

(A) The entity may make a final governmental decision.

(B) The entity may compel a governmental decision or prevent a governmental decision, either by virtue of possessing exclusive power to initiate the decision or by having veto authority that may not be overridden.

(C) The entity makes substantive recommendations that are, and over an extended period of time have been, regularly approved, without significant amendment or modification, by another public official or governmental agency.

(3) A committee, board, commission, or other entity does not possess decisionmaking authority for purposes of this section if it is formed for the sole purpose of researching a subject and preparing a report or recommendation for submission to another governmental entity that has final decisionmaking authority.

History: Added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 702.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18751

Article 3.5. Multiagency Filers. § 87350

§ 87350. Multiagency Filers.*

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, a person required to file more than one assuming office statement, statement of economic interests, or leaving office statement, due to the filer's status as a designated employee for more than one joint powers insurance agency, may elect to file a multiagency statement disclosing all investments in entities doing business in the state, all interests in real property located within the state, and all income received during the applicable time period, in lieu of filing the disclosure statements for each agency.

(b) The filer shall notify the commission of the filer's decision to become a multiagency filer. This status shall continue until revoked by the filer.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2027, and as of that date is repealed.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 69; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50; amended, repealed, and added by Stats. 2025, Ch. 85

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18732.5, 18735.5

*Section 87350 was amended, repealed, and added by AB 1029 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 85) and will be repealed and replaced on January 1, 2027. For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

Article 4. Disqualification of Former Officers and Employees. § 87400 – 87410

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§ 87400. Definitions.

Unless the contrary is stated or clearly appears from the context, the definitions set forth in this section shall govern the interpretation of this article.

(a) "State administrative agency" means every state office, department, division, bureau, board, and commission, but does not include the Legislature, the courts or any agency in the judicial branch of government.

(b) "State administrative official" means every member, officer, employee, or consultant of a state administrative agency who as part of that person's official responsibilities engages in any judicial, quasi-judicial, or other proceeding in other than a purely clerical, secretarial, or ministerial capacity.

(c) "Judicial, quasi-judicial, or other proceeding" means any proceeding, application, request for a ruling or other determination, contract, claim, controversy, investigation, charge, accusation, arrest, or other particular matter involving a specific party or parties in any court or state administrative agency, including, but not limited to, any proceeding governed by Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

(d) "Participated" means to have taken part personally and substantially through decision, approval, disapproval, formal written recommendation, rendering advice on a substantial basis, investigation, or use of confidential information as an officer or employee, but excluding approval, disapproval, or rendering of legal advisory opinions to departmental or agency staff which do not involve a specific party or parties.

History: Added by Stats. 1980, Ch. 66; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

§ 87401. Restrictions on Activities of Former State Officers.

A former state administrative official, after the termination of the official's employment or term of office, shall not, for compensation, act as agent or attorney for, or otherwise represent, any other person (other than the State of California) before any court or state administrative agency or any officer or employee thereof by making any formal or informal appearance, or by making any oral or written communication with the intent to influence, in connection with any judicial, quasi-judicial, or other proceeding if both of the following apply:

(a) The State of California is a party or has a direct and substantial interest.

(b) The proceeding is one in which the former state administrative official participated.

History: Added by Stats. 1980, Ch. 66; amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 775; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18741.1, 18746.4

Opinions: *In re Lucas* (2000) 14 FPPC Ops. 14

§ 87402. Restrictions on Activities of Former State Officers; Assisting Others.

A former state administrative official, after the termination of the official's employment or term of office shall not, for compensation, aid, advise, counsel, consult, or assist in representing any other person (except the State of California) in any proceeding in which the official would be prohibited from appearing under Section 87401.

History: Added by Stats. 1980, Ch. 66; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18741.1, 18746.4

Opinions: *In re Lucas* (2000) 14 FPPC Ops. 14

§ 87403. Exemptions.

The prohibitions contained in Sections 87401 and 87402 shall not apply:

(a) To prevent a former state administrative official from making or providing a statement, which is based on the former state administrative official's own special knowledge in the particular area that is the subject of the statement, provided that no compensation is thereby received other than that regularly provided for by law or regulation for witnesses; or

(b) To communications made solely for the purpose of furnishing information by a former state administrative official if the court or state administrative agency to which the communication is directed makes findings in writing that:

(1) The former state administrative official has outstanding and otherwise unavailable qualifications;

(2) The former state administrative official is acting with respect to a particular matter which requires such qualifications; and

(3) The public interest would be served by the participation of the former state administrative official; or

(c) With respect to appearances or communications in a proceeding in which a court or state administrative agency has issued a final order, decree, decision or judgment but has retained jurisdiction if the state administrative agency of former employment gives its consent by determining that:

(1) At least five years have elapsed since the termination of the former state administrative official's employment or term of office; and

(2) The public interest would not be harmed.

History: Added by Stats. 1980, Ch. 66.

§ 87404. Proceedings to Exclude Former State Officers.

Upon the petition of any interested person or party, the court or the presiding or other officer, including but not limited to a hearing officer serving pursuant to Section 11512 of the Government Code, in any judicial, quasi-judicial or other proceeding, including but not limited to any proceeding pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500)

of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code may, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing, exclude any person found to be in violation of this article from further participation, or from assisting or counseling any other participant, in the proceeding then pending before such court or presiding or other officer.

History: Added by Stats. 1980, Ch. 66.

§ 87405. Application of Requirements.

The requirements imposed by this article shall not apply to any person who left government service prior to the effective date of this article except that any such person who returns to government service on or after the effective date of this article shall thereafter be covered thereby.

History: Added by Stats. 1980, Ch. 66.

§ 87406. Milton Marks Postgovernmental Employment Restrictions Act.

(a) This section shall be known, and may be cited, as the Milton Marks Postgovernment Employment Restrictions Act of 1990.

(b)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), a Member of the Legislature, for a period of one year after leaving office, shall not, for compensation, act as agent or attorney for, or otherwise represent, any other person by making any formal or informal appearance, or by making any oral or written communication, before the Legislature, any committee or subcommittee thereof, any present Member of the Legislature, or any officer or employee thereof, if the appearance or communication is made for the purpose of influencing legislative action.

(2) A Member of the Legislature who resigns from office, for a period commencing with the effective date of the resignation and concluding one year after the adjournment sine die of the session in which the resignation occurred, shall not, for compensation, act as agent or attorney for, or otherwise represent, any other person by making any formal or informal appearance, or by making any oral or written communication, before the Legislature, any committee or subcommittee thereof, any present Member of the Legislature, or any officer or employee thereof, if the appearance or communication is made for the purpose of influencing legislative action.

(c) An elected state officer, other than a Member of the Legislature, for a period of one year after leaving office, shall not, for compensation, act as agent or attorney for, or otherwise represent, any other person by making any formal or informal appearance, or by making any oral or written communication, before any state administrative agency, or any officer or employee thereof, if the appearance or communication is for the purpose of influencing administrative action, or influencing any action or proceeding involving the issuance, amendment, awarding, or revocation of a permit, license, grant, or contract, or the sale or purchase of goods or property. For purposes of this subdivision, an appearance before a "state administrative agency" does not include an

appearance in a court of law, before an administrative law judge, or before the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board.

(d)(1) A designated employee of a state administrative agency, any officer, employee, or consultant of a state administrative agency who holds a position that entails the making, or participation in the making, of decisions that may foreseeably have a material effect on any financial interest, and a member of a state administrative agency, for a period of one year after leaving office or employment, shall not, for compensation, act as agent or attorney for, or otherwise represent, any other person, by making any formal or informal appearance, or by making any oral or written communication, before any state administrative agency, or officer or employee thereof, for which the individual worked or represented during the 12 months before leaving office or employment, if the appearance or communication is made for the purpose of influencing administrative or legislative action, or influencing any action or proceeding involving the issuance, amendment, awarding, or revocation of a permit, license, grant, or contract, or the sale or purchase of goods or property. For purposes of this paragraph, an appearance before a state administrative agency does not include an appearance in a court of law, before an administrative law judge, or before the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board. The prohibition of this paragraph only applies to designated employees employed by a state administrative agency on or after January 7, 1991.

(2) For purposes of paragraph (1), a state administrative agency of a designated employee of the Governor's office includes any state administrative agency subject to the direction and control of the Governor.

(e) The prohibitions contained in subdivisions (b), (c), and (d) do not apply to any individual subject to this section who is or becomes either of the following:

(1) An officer or employee of another state agency, board, or commission if the appearance or communication is for the purpose of influencing legislative or administrative action on behalf of the state agency, board, or commission.

(2) An official holding an elective office of a local government agency if the appearance or communication is for the purpose of influencing legislative or administrative action on behalf of the local government agency.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; amended by Stats. 1990, Ch. 1075; amended by Stats. 1993, Ch. 230; amended by Stats. 1999, Ch. 10, effective April 15, 1999; Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 800; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18746.1, 18746.2, 18746.4

§ 87406.1. Postgovernmental Employment Restrictions for Districts and District Boards.

(a) For purposes of this section, "district" means an air pollution control district or air quality management district and "district board" means the governing body of an air pollution control district or an air quality management district.

(b) No former member of a district board, and no former officer or employee of a district who held a position

which entailed the making, or participation in the making, of decisions which may foreseeably have a material effect on any financial interest, shall, for a period of one year after leaving that office or employment, act as agent or attorney for, or otherwise represent, for compensation, any other person, by making any formal or informal appearance before, or by making any oral or written communication to, that district board, or any committee, subcommittee, or present member of that district board, or any officer or employee of the district, if the appearance or communication is made for the purpose of influencing regulatory action.

(c) Subdivision (b) shall not apply to any individual who is, at the time of the appearance or communication, a board member, officer, or employee of another district or an employee or representative of a public agency.

(d) This section applies to members and former members of district hearing boards.

History: Added by Stats. 1994, Ch. 747.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18746.2

§ 87406.3. Postgovernmental Employment Restrictions for Local Officials.

(a) A local elected official, chief administrative officer of a county, city manager, or general manager or chief administrator of a special district who held a position with a local government agency as defined in Section 82041 shall not, for a period of one year after leaving that office or employment, act as agent or attorney for, or otherwise represent, for compensation, any other person, by making any formal or informal appearance before, or by making any oral or written communication to, that local government agency, or any committee, subcommittee, or present member of that local government agency, or any officer or employee of the local government agency, if the appearance or communication is made for the purpose of influencing administrative or legislative action, or influencing any action or proceeding involving the issuance, amendment, awarding, or revocation of a permit, license, grant, or contract, or the sale or purchase of goods or property.

(b) (1) Subdivision (a) does not apply to an individual who is, at the time of the appearance or communication, a board member, officer, or employee of another local government agency or an employee or representative of a public agency and is appearing or communicating on behalf of that agency.

(2) Subdivision (a) applies to an individual who is, at the time of the appearance or communication, an independent contractor of a local government agency or a public agency and is appearing or communicating on behalf of that agency.

(c) This section does not preclude a local government agency from adopting an ordinance or policy that restricts the appearance of a former local official before that local government agency if that ordinance or policy is more restrictive than subdivision (a).

(d) Notwithstanding Sections 82002 and 82037, the following definitions apply for purposes of this section only:

(1) “Administrative action” means the proposal, drafting, development, consideration, amendment, enactment, or defeat by any local government agency of any matter, including any rule, regulation, or other action in any regulatory proceeding, whether quasi-legislative or quasi-judicial. Administrative action does not include any action that is solely ministerial.

(2) “Legislative action” means the drafting, introduction, modification, enactment, defeat, approval, or veto of any ordinance, amendment, resolution, report, nomination, or other matter by the legislative body of a local government agency or by any committee or subcommittee thereof, or by a member or employee of the legislative body of the local government agency acting in the member or employee’s official capacity.

History: Added by Stats. 2005, Ch. 680, operative July 1, 2006; Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 196; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18746.2, 18746.3, 18746.4

§ 87407. Influencing Prospective Employment.

A public official shall not make, participate in making, or use the public official’s official position to influence, any governmental decision directly relating to any person with whom the public official is negotiating, or has any arrangement concerning, prospective employment.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; amended by Stats. 2003, Ch. 778; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18747

§ 87408. Postgovernmental Employment Restrictions for Board of Administration of the Public Employees’ Retirement System and Teachers’ Retirement Board.

(a) A member of the Board of Administration of the Public Employees’ Retirement System, an individual in a position designated in subdivision (a) or (e) of Section 20098, or an information technology or health benefits manager with a career executive assignment designation with the Public Employees’ Retirement System, for a period of four years after leaving that office or position, shall not, for compensation, act as an agent or attorney for, or otherwise represent, any other person, except the state, by making a formal or informal appearance before, or an oral or written communication to, the Public Employees’ Retirement System, or an officer or employee thereof, if the appearance or communication is made for the purpose of influencing administrative or legislative action, or influencing an action or proceeding involving the issuance, amendment, awarding, or revocation of a permit, license, grant, or contract, or the sale or purchase of goods or property.

(b) A member of the Teachers’ Retirement Board, an individual in a position designated in subdivision (a) or (d) of Section 22212.5 of the Education Code, or an information

technology manager with a career executive assignment designation with the State Teachers’ Retirement System, for a period of four years after leaving that office or position, shall not, for compensation, act as an agent or attorney for, or otherwise represent, any other person, except the state, by making a formal or informal appearance before, or an oral or written communication to, the State Teachers’ Retirement System, or an officer or employee thereof, if the appearance or communication is made for the purpose of influencing administrative or legislative action, or influencing an action or proceeding involving the issuance, amendment, awarding, or revocation of a permit, license, grant, or contract, or the sale or purchase of goods or property.

History: Added by Stats. 2011, Ch. 551.

§ 87409. Restrictions on Activities of Former Investment Officials; Assisting Others.

(a) A member of the Board of Administration of the Public Employees’ Retirement System, an individual in a position designated in subdivision (a) or (e) of Section 20098, or an information technology or health benefits manager with a career executive assignment designation with the Public Employees’ Retirement System, for a period of two years after leaving that office or position, shall not, for compensation, aid, advise, consult with, or assist a business entity in obtaining the award of, or in negotiating, a contract or contract amendment with the Public Employees’ Retirement System.

(b) A member of the Teachers’ Retirement Board, an individual in a position designated in subdivision (a) or (d) of Section 22212.5 of the Education Code, or an information technology manager with a career executive assignment designation with the State Teachers’ Retirement System, for a period of two years after leaving that office or position, shall not, for compensation, aid, advise, consult with, or assist a business entity in obtaining the award of, or in negotiating, a contract or contract amendment with the State Teachers’ Retirement System.

(c) For purposes of this section, “business entity” has the same meaning as set forth in Section 82005, and includes a parent or subsidiary of a business entity.

History: Added by Stats. 2011, Ch. 551.

§ 87410. Postgovernmental Ban on Placement Agent Activities.

(a) A member of the Board of Administration of the Public Employees’ Retirement System or an individual in a position designated in subdivision (a) or (e) of Section 20098, for a period of 10 years after leaving that office or position, shall not accept compensation for providing services as a placement agent in connection with investments or other business of the Public Employees’ Retirement System or the State Teachers’ Retirement System.

(b) A member of the Teachers’ Retirement Board or an individual in a position designated in subdivision (a) or (d) of Section 22212.5 of the Education Code, for a period of 10 years after leaving that office or position, shall not accept compensation for providing services as a placement agent in

connection with investments or other business of the State Teachers' Retirement System or the Public Employees' Retirement System.

History: Added by Stats. 2011, Ch. 551.

Article 4.5. Disqualification of State Officers and Employees. § 87450

§ 87450. Restrictions in Participation of State Officers in Decisions Relating to Contracts.

(a) In addition to the provisions of Article 1 (commencing with Section 87100), a state administrative official shall not make, participate in making, or use the official's official position to influence any governmental decision directly relating to any contract where the state administrative official knows or has reason to know that any party to the contract is a person with whom the state administrative official, or any member of the official's immediate family, has engaged in any business transaction or transactions on terms not available to members of the public, regarding any investment or interest in real property, or the rendering of goods or services totaling in value one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more within 12 months prior to the time the official action is to be performed.

(b) As used in subdivision (a), "state administrative official" has the same meaning as defined in Section 87400.

History: Added by Stats. 1986, Ch. 653; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18229.1

Article 4.6. Loans to Public Officials. § 87460-87462

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§ 87460. Loans to Public Officials.

(a) An elected officer of a state or local government agency shall not, from the date of the elected officer's election to office through the date that the elected officer vacates office, receive a personal loan from any officer, employee, member, or consultant of the state or local government agency in which the elected officer holds office or over which the elected officer's agency has direction and control.

(b) A public official who is required to file a statement of economic interests pursuant to Section 87200 or a public official who is exempt from the state civil service system pursuant to subdivisions (c), (d), (e), (f), and (g) of Section 4 of Article VII of the Constitution shall not, while the public official holds office, receive a personal loan from any officer, employee, member, or consultant of the state or local government agency in which the public official holds office or over which the public official's agency has direction and control. This subdivision does not apply to loans made to a

public official whose duties are solely secretarial, clerical, or manual.

(c) An elected officer of a state or local government agency shall not, from the date of the elected officer's election to office through the date that the elected officer vacates office, receive a personal loan from any person who has a contract with the state or local government agency to which that elected officer has been elected or over which that elected officer's agency has direction and control. This subdivision does not apply to loans made by banks or other financial institutions or to any indebtedness created as part of a retail installment or credit card transaction, if the loan is made or the indebtedness created in the lender's regular course of business on terms available to members of the public without regard to the elected officer's official status.

(d) A public official who is required to file a statement of economic interests pursuant to Section 87200 or a public official who is exempt from the state civil service system pursuant to subdivisions (c), (d), (e), (f), and (g) of Section 4 of Article VII of the Constitution shall not, while the public official holds office, receive a personal loan from any person who has a contract with the state or local government agency to which that elected officer has been elected or over which that elected officer's agency has direction and control. This subdivision does not apply to loans made by banks or other financial institutions or to any indebtedness created as part of a retail installment or credit card transaction, if the loan is made or the indebtedness created in the lender's regular course of business on terms available to members of the public without regard to the elected officer's official status. This subdivision does not apply to loans made to a public official whose duties are solely secretarial, clerical, or manual.

(e) This section does not apply to the following:

(1) Loans made to the campaign committee of an elected officer or candidate for elective office.

(2) Loans made by a public official's spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister, parent-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, nephew, niece, aunt, uncle, or first cousin, or the spouse of any such persons, provided that the person making the loan is not acting as an agent or intermediary for any person not otherwise exempted under this section.

(3) Loans from a person which, in the aggregate, do not exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) at any given time.

(4) Loans made, or offered in writing, before the operative date of this section.

History: Added by Stats. 1997, Ch. 638.

Opinions: *In re Roberts* (2004) 17 FPPC Ops. 9

§ 87461. Loan Terms.

(a) Except as set forth in subdivision (b), an elected officer of a state or local government agency shall not, from the date of the elected officer's election to office through the date the elected officer vacates office, receive a personal loan of five hundred dollars (\$500) or more, except when the loan is in writing and clearly states the terms of the loan, including the parties to the loan agreement, date of the loan,

amount of the loan, term of the loan, date or dates when payments shall be due on the loan and the amount of the payments, and the rate of interest paid on the loan.

(b) This section does not apply to the following types of loans:

(1) Loans made to the campaign committee of the elected officer.

(2) Loans made to the elected officer by the elected officer's spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister, parent-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, nephew, niece, aunt, uncle, or first cousin, or the spouse of any such person, provided that the person making the loan is not acting as an agent or intermediary for any person not otherwise exempted under this section.

(3) Loans made, or offered in writing, before the operative date of this section.

(c) Nothing in this section shall exempt any person from any other provisions of this title.

History: Added by Stats. 1997, Ch. 638; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

Opinions: *In re Roberts* (2004) 17 FPPC Ops. 9

§ 87462. Personal Loans.

(a) Except as set forth in subdivision (b), a personal loan shall become a gift to the debtor for the purposes of this title in the following circumstances:

(1) If the loan has a defined date or dates for repayment, when the statute of limitations for filing an action for default has expired.

(2) If the loan has no defined date or dates for repayment, when one year has elapsed from the later of the following:

(A) The date the loan was made.

(B) The date the last payment of one hundred dollars (\$100) or more was made on the loan.

(C) The date upon which the debtor has made payments on the loan aggregating to less than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) during the previous 12 months.

(b) This section shall not apply to the following types of loans:

(1) A loan made to the campaign committee of an elected officer or a candidate for elective office.

(2) A loan that would otherwise not be a gift as defined in this title.

(3) A loan that would otherwise be a gift as set forth under paragraph (a), but on which the creditor has taken reasonable action to collect the balance due.

(4) A loan that would otherwise be a gift as set forth under paragraph (a), but on which the creditor, based on reasonable business considerations, has not undertaken collection action. Except in a criminal action, a creditor who claims that a loan is not a gift on the basis of this paragraph has the burden of proving that the decision for not taking collection action was based on reasonable business considerations.

(5) A loan made to a debtor who has filed for bankruptcy and the loan is ultimately discharged in bankruptcy.

(c) Nothing in this section shall exempt any person from any other provisions of this title.

History: Added by Stats. 1997, Ch. 638.

Article 5. Filing. § 87500-87505

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§ 87500. Statements of Economic Interests – Where to File.

(a) (1) A statement of economic interests filed by a public official, for whom the Commission is the filing officer, shall be filed with the Commission using the Commission's electronic filing system.

(2) The Commission shall be the filing officer for statements of economic interests filed by all of the following:

(A) A statewide elected officer or candidate for statewide elective office.

(B) A member of, or candidate for, the Legislature or State Board of Equalization.

(C) A member of the Public Utilities Commission, State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, or California Coastal Commission.

(D) A member of a state licensing or regulatory board, bureau, or commission.

(E) A person appointed to a state board, commission, or similar multimember body of the state if the Commission has been designated as the filing officer in the conflict of interest code of the respective board, commission, or body.

(F) A person holding, or candidate for, the office of district attorney, county counsel, county treasurer, or county board of supervisors.

(G) A city manager or, if there is no city manager, the chief administrative officer.

(H) A person holding, or candidate for, the office of city council member, city treasurer, city attorney, or mayor.

(I) A county planning commissioner or city planning commissioner.

(J) A county chief administrative officer.

(K) A judge, court commissioner, or candidate for judge.

(L) A head of a local government agency or member of a local government board or commission, for which the Commission is the code reviewing body, if the Commission has been designated as the filing officer in the conflict of interest code of the respective agency, board, or commission.

(M) A designated employee of the Legislature directed to file directly with the Commission by the house of the Legislature by which the designated employee is employed.

(N) A designated employee of more than one joint powers insurance agency who elects to file a multiagency statement pursuant to Section 87350.

(O) A public official who manages public investments.

(b) A statement of economic interests filed by a public official, for whom the Commission is not the filing officer, shall be filed as follows:

(1) Members of the Commission shall file electronically using the Commission's electronic filing system and the Commission shall send a copy of the filing to the office of the Attorney General, which shall be the filing officer.

(2) Except as provided in subparagraph (L) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) and this paragraph, a head of a local government agency, member of a local government agency board or commission, or member of a board or commission not under the jurisdiction of a local legislative body shall file one original with the agency, board, or commission, which shall make and retain a copy and forward the original to the code reviewing body, which shall be the filing officer. The code reviewing body may require that the original be filed directly with the code reviewing body and that no copy be retained by the agency, board, or commission.

(3) Except as provided in subparagraph (M) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), a designated employee of the Legislature shall file one original with the house of the Legislature by which the designated employee is employed.

(c) A person not otherwise designated in this section shall file one original with the agency or with the code reviewing body, as provided by the code reviewing body in the agency's conflict of interest code.

History: Added by Stats. 1979, Ch. 674; amended by Stats. 1983, Ch. 214; amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 1368; amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 611; amended by Stats. 1988, Ch. 708; amended by Stats. 1990, Ch. 69; amended by Stats. 1992, Ch. 405; amended by Stats. 1993, Ch. 1140; amended by Stats. 1996, Ch. 289; amended by Stats. 2005, Ch. 200; amended by Stats. 2007, Ch. 348; amended by Stats. 2011, Ch. 252; repealed and added by Stats. 2024, Ch. 211; **amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 331.**

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18115, 18115.1, 18115.2, 18227, 18732.5, 18735.5, 18753, 18754, 18757

§ 87500.2. Statements of Economic Interests – Electronic Filing.

(a) An agency may permit the electronic filing of a statement of economic interests required by Article 2 (commencing with Section 87200) or Article 3 (commencing with Section 87300), including amendments, in accordance with regulations adopted by the Commission.

(b) In consultation with interested agencies, the Commission shall use common database integration features in developing database design requirements for all electronic filings that may be used.

(c)(1) An agency that intends to permit electronic filing of a statement of economic interests shall submit a proposal, which shall include a description of the electronic filing system that the agency proposes to use, to the Commission for approval and certification. An agency that submits a proposal shall include a fee of one thousand dollars

(\$1,000) that is payable to the Commission for the costs of approving and certifying the proposal.

(2) An agency shall not charge a person to electronically file a statement of economic interests.

(3) The Commission shall review an agency's proposal for compliance with the system requirement regulations adopted pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (b) and the requirements of subdivision (d). If the proposed system complies with these requirements, the Commission shall approve and certify the agency's electronic filing system as soon as practicable after receiving the agency's submitted proposal.

(d) An agency's proposed electronic filing system shall meet the following requirements:

(1) A statement of economic interests filed electronically shall include an electronic transmission that is submitted under penalty of perjury and that conforms to subdivision (b) of Section 1633.11 of the Civil Code.

(2)(A) The agency's filing officer shall issue to a person who electronically files their statement of economic interests or amendment an electronic confirmation that notifies the filer that their statement of economic interests or amendment was received. The confirmation shall include the date and the time that the statement of economic interests or amendment was received by the filing officer and the method by which the filer may view and print the data received by the filing officer.

(B) A copy retained by the filer of a statement of economic interests or amendment that was electronically filed and the confirmation issued pursuant to subparagraph (A) that shows that the filer timely filed their statement of economic interests or amendment shall create a rebuttable presumption that the filer timely filed their statement of economic interests or amendment.

(3) The agency shall utilize an electronic filing system that includes layered security to ensure data integrity. The system shall have the capability to uniquely identify a filer electronically when the filer accesses the electronic filing system. The operational process for the system shall include industry best practices to ensure that the security and integrity of the data and information contained in the statement of economic interests are not jeopardized or compromised.

(4) The agency shall provide the public with a copy of an official's statement of economic interests upon request, in accordance with Section 81008. The copy of the electronically filed statement of economic interests shall be identical to the statement of economic interests published by the Commission and shall include the date that the statement was filed.

(e) The Commission may adopt regulations to require that an agency redact information on a statement of economic interests prior to posting the statement of economic interests on the internet.

(f) The Commission may conduct discretionary audits of an agency's approved and certified electronic filing system to evaluate its performance and compliance with the requirements of this section.

(g) The Commission shall accept an electronic copy of a statement of economic interests that is forwarded to it by

an agency that has received an electronically filed statement from a filer pursuant to this section.

(h) A city or county shall not continue to use an electronic filing system if the Commission does not approve and certify that electronic filing system as complying with the requirements of the Commission's regulations and the other requirements of this section.

History: Added by Stats. 2012, Ch. 500, effective September 24, 2012; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 315.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18115, 18756, 18757

§ 87500.3. Statements of Economic Interests – Development of Electronic Filing System for the Commission.

(a) The Commission may develop and operate an online system for filing statements of economic interests required by Article 2 (commencing with Section 87200) and Article 3 (commencing with Section 87300). Consistent with Section 87500.4, the online system shall enable a filer to comply with the requirements of this chapter relating to the filing of statements of economic interests and shall include, but not be limited to, both of the following:

(1) A means or method whereby a filer may electronically file, free of charge, a statement of economic interests that includes an electronic transmission that is submitted under penalty of perjury in conformity with Section 81004 of this code and subdivision (b) of Section 1633.11 of the Civil Code.

(2) Security safeguards that include firewalls, data encryption, secure authentication, and all necessary hardware and software and industry best practices to ensure that the security and integrity of the data and information contained in each statement of economic interests are not jeopardized or compromised.

(b)(1) A system developed pursuant to subdivision (a) shall issue to a person who electronically files the person's statement of economic interests, or an amendment to a statement of economic interests, an electronic confirmation that notifies the filer that the filer's statement of economic interests or amendment was received. The confirmation shall include the date and the time that the statement of economic interests or amendment was received and the method by which the filer may view and print the data received.

(2) A paper copy retained by the filer of a statement of economic interests or amendment that was electronically filed and the confirmation issued pursuant to paragraph (1) that shows that the filer timely filed the filer's statement of economic interests or amendment shall create a rebuttable presumption that the filer filed the filer's statement of economic interests or amendment on time.

(c) If the Commission develops an online system pursuant to subdivision (a), it shall conduct public hearings to receive input on the implementation of that system, maintain ongoing coordination among affected state and local agencies as necessary, and continue to develop and provide updated and ongoing training and assistance programs for state

and local filing officers and filers regarding use of the online system for filing statements of economic interests.

(d)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Commission may make all the data filed on the system operated pursuant to subdivision (a) available on the Commission's internet website in an easily understood format that provides the greatest public access, and shall provide assistance to those seeking public access to the information.

(2) Notwithstanding Section 81008 or the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1 of the Government Code), the Commission shall redact the following private information from the data that is made available on the internet pursuant to this subdivision:

(A) The signature, telephone number, email address, and mailing address of the filer.

(B) At the request of the filer, the street name and building number of the filer's personal residence address, under either of the following circumstances:

(i) The filer identifies a business entity on their statement of economic interest, and the business entity's address is the same as the filer's personal residence address.

(ii) The filer reports income from renting space to a tenant at the filer's personal residence, and the tenant's address is the same as the filer's personal residence address.

(C) (i) At the request of a filer who is a current elected official or a former elected official who is filing because they have left office, and if the Commission determines the current or former elected official has a reasonable privacy concern related to a family member's name or other personally identifiable information:

(I) The family member's name.

(II) The family member's address.

(III) The address of an entity that employs the family member.

(IV) The name of an entity that includes the family member's name or address in the entity's name.

(ii) The Commission may adopt regulations that define "family member" and "reasonable privacy concern" for purposes of this subparagraph (C).

History: Added by Stats. 2013, Ch. 643, effective October 8, 2013; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 211.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18757

§ 87500.4. Statements of Economic Interests – Specifying Persons Authorized to File Electronically with the Commission.

(a) If the Commission establishes an online system pursuant to Section 87500.3, the Commission shall specify which categories of persons described in Section 87500 may file statements of economic interests electronically through the online system established by the Commission.

(b)(1) If the Commission, pursuant to subdivision (a), specifies that persons described in Section 87500 may file statements of economic interests electronically through the

online system established by the Commission, the Commission, upon authorization by the filing officer designated by Section 87500, shall assume the duties of the filing officer for each filer within each category of filers authorized to file electronically through the online system, irrespective of whether the filer elects to file the filer's statement of economic interests electronically or on paper with the Commission. A filing officer who does not authorize the Commission to assume the filing officer's duties as described in this paragraph shall continue to perform the duties prescribed in Section 81010. The filing officer duties assumed by the Commission with respect to each filer in each authorized category shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

- (A) Notifying the filer of the filer's filing obligation.
- (B) Receiving the filer's statement of economic interests.

(C) Ensuring compliance with filing requirements in the event the filer fails to file in a timely manner or is required to amend the filer's statement of economic interests.

(D) Distributing to filing officers copies of the completed statement of economic interests of a person who is required by this chapter to file more than one statement of economic interests for each period, and who, despite being authorized to file the statement with the Commission electronically, elects to file the statement with the Commission using a paper form.

(2) If the Commission assumes the duties of a filing officer pursuant to this subdivision, the filing officer whose duties are assumed shall provide to the Commission, in a manner prescribed by the Commission, the name and contact information for each filer in the filing officer's jurisdiction.

(c) The Commission shall notify a filing officer who may be affected by a determination of the Commission pursuant to this section to authorize a category of filers to file electronically, no later than six months before the implementation of that determination, in order to allow adequate preparation for implementation.

(d) A person who is required by this chapter to file more than one statement of economic interests for each reporting period and who files the person's statements of economic interests with the Commission electronically after being authorized to do so pursuant to Section 87500.3 is not required to file a statement of economic interests with any other person or agency. If a filer authorized to file electronically with the Commission files with the Commission on paper, the Commission shall distribute copies of the statement to any other filing officers pursuant to subparagraph (D) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b).

(e)(1) After the Commission makes an initial determination pursuant to subdivision (a) regarding which categories of persons described in Section 87500 are permitted to file statements of economic interests electronically through the online system established by the Commission, the Commission may subsequently revise its determination at any time.

(2) In accordance with Section 87500.3, the Commission shall continue to conduct public hearings and receive input on the implementation of the online system, and that

input shall inform any decision by the Commission to revise, pursuant to paragraph (1), its determination of which categories of persons described in Section 87500 are permitted to file statements of economic interests electronically through the online system established by the Commission.

History: Added by Stats. 2013, Ch. 643, effective October 8, 2013; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18115.2, 18757

§ 87505. Web Site Notification.

Each city clerk or county clerk who maintains an Internet Web site shall post on that Internet Web site a notification that includes all of the following:

(a) A list of the elected officers identified in Section 87200 who file statements of economic interests with that city clerk or county clerk pursuant to Section 87500.

(b) A statement that copies of the statements of economic interests filed by the elected officers described in subdivision (a) may be obtained by visiting the offices of the Commission or that city clerk or county clerk, as appropriate. The statement shall include the physical address for the Commission's office and the city clerk's office or the county clerk's office, as appropriate.

(c) A link to the Commission's Internet Web site and a statement that statements of economic interests for some state and local government agency elected officers may be available in an electronic format on the Commission's Internet Web site.

History: Added by Stats. 2012, Ch. 498.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18115.2

Chapter 8. State Voter Information Guide.

§ 88000-88007

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§ 88000. Responsibility.

There shall be a state **voter information guide** which shall be prepared by the Secretary of State.

History: Amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 249.

§ 88001. Contents.

The **state voter information guide** shall contain all of the following:

- (a) A complete copy of each state measure.
- (b) A copy of the specific constitutional or statutory provision, if any, that would be repealed or revised by each state measure.
- (c) A copy of the arguments and rebuttals for and against each state measure.
- (d) A copy of the analysis of each state measure.
- (e) Tables of contents, indexes, art work, graphics, and other materials that the Secretary of State determines will make the **state voter information guide** easier to understand or more useful for the average voter.
- (f) A notice, conspicuously printed on the cover of the **state voter information guide** indicating that additional copies of the **guide** will be mailed by the county elections official upon request.
- (g) A written explanation of the judicial retention procedure as required by Section 9083 of the Elections Code.
- (h) The Voter Bill of Rights pursuant to Section 2300 of the Elections Code.
- (i) If the ballot contains an election for the office of United States Senator, information on candidates for United States Senator. A candidate for United States Senator may purchase the space to place a statement in the state **voter information guide** 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 timeframes and procedures set forth by the Secretary of State for the preparation of the state **voter information guide**.
- (j) If the ballot contains a question as to the confirmation or retention of a justice of the Supreme Court, information on justices of the Supreme Court who are subject to confirmation or retention.
- (k) If the ballot contains an election for the offices of President and Vice President of the United States, a notice that refers voters to the Secretary of State's **internet website** for information about candidates for the offices of President and Vice President of the United States.

(l) A written explanation of the appropriate election procedures for party-nominated, voter-nominated, and non-partisan offices as required by Section 9083.5 of the Elections Code.

(m) A written explanation of the top 10 contributor lists required by Section 84223, including a description of the **internet websites** where those lists are available to the public.

History: Amended by Stats. 1977, Ch. 520; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 491; amended by Stats. 1994, Ch. 923; amended by Stats. 2008, Ch. 137; amended by Stats. 2009, Ch. 1; amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 16, effective July 1, 2014; **amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 249.**

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Opinions: *In re Miller* (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 26
In re Bunyan (1976) 2 FPPC Ops. 10

§ 88002. Format.

The **state voter information guide** 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 Attorney General.

(i) For a statewide referendum measure, the official summary prepared by the Attorney General shall precede all of the following in the order set forth in this clause:

(I) A blank horizontal line.

(II) After the text "TOP FUNDERS OF PETITION TO OVERTURN THE LAW:" a listing of the three persons who made the most aggregated contributions and expenditures of \$50,000 or more to qualify the referendum as of the last day petitions are filed with an elections official. A person who is required to be listed after the official summary pursuant to this clause is a "top funder."

(III) If a person that is a primarily formed ballot measure committee within the meaning of Section 82047.5 of the Government Code or a general purpose committee within the meaning of Section 82027.5 of the Government Code is one of the persons who made the most aggregated contributions and expenditures to qualify the referendum as of the last day petitions are filed with an elections official, the primarily formed committee or general purpose committee shall not be listed as a top funder pursuant to subclause (II), and, instead, the highest contributors to the primarily formed committee or general purpose committee within the prior 90 days shall be listed as top funders pursuant to subclause (II) if their contributions to the primarily formed committee or general purpose committee, combined with all other contributions and expenditures to qualify the referendum, qualify the person or persons as top funders.

(ii) The name of a top funder may be shortened at the discretion of the Secretary of State by using acronyms, abbreviations, or by leaving out words in the entity's name, as long as doing so would not confuse or mislead voters about the identity of a top funder.

(iii) Each top funder shall be printed in a font size that

is the same as a majority of the text on the page and separated by a semicolon.

(iv) The Secretary of State shall determine the list of top funders no later than the date a referendum qualifies for the ballot.

(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 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 website 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.

(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 **state voter information guide**. 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."

History: Amended by Stats. 2023, Ch. 162, operative September 8, 2023; amended by Stats. 1990, Ch. 1430; amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 920; amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 249.

§ 88002.5. Summary.

(a) The **state voter information guide** shall also contain a section, located near the front of the **guide**, that provides a concise summary of the general meaning and effect of "yes" and "no" votes on each state measure.

(b) The summary statements required by this section shall be prepared by the Legislative Analyst. These state-

ments are not intended to provide comprehensive information on each measure. The Legislative Analyst shall be solely responsible for determining the contents of these statements. The statements shall be available for public examination and amendment pursuant to Section 88006.

History: Added by Stats. 1993, Ch. 156; amended by Stats. 1999, Ch. 312; amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 249.

§ 88003. Duties of Legislative Analyst.

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. Any estimate of increased cost to local governments shall be set out in boldface print in the **state voter information guide**. The analysis shall be written in clear and concise terms which will easily be 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 which the average voter needs to understand the measure adequately. The Legislative Analyst may contract with professional writers, educational specialists, or other persons for assistance in writing an analysis that fulfills the requirements of this section, 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 any state department, agency, or official in preparing the Legislative Analyst's analysis. Prior to submission of 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 shall be bilingual, and one 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 such 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 the Legislative Analyst shall incorporate in the analysis those changes recommended by the committee that the Legislative Analyst deems to be appropriate. The Legislative Analyst is solely responsible for determining the content of the analysis required by this section. The title and summary of any measure which appears on the ballot shall be amended to contain a summary of the Legislative Analyst's estimate of the net state and local government financial impact. For state bond measures that are submitted to the voters for their approval or rejection, the summary of the Legislative Analyst's estimate of the net state and local government fiscal impact shall include an explanatory table of the information in the summary.

History: Amended by Stats. 1975, Ch. 486, effective September 2, 1975; amended by Stats. 1992, Ch. 232; amended by Stats. 2011, Ch. 453; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50; amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 249.

§ 88004. Manner, Form of Printing Measures.

Measures shall be printed in the **state voter information guide**, so far as possible, in the same order, manner, and form in which they are designated upon the ballot.

History: Amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 249.

§ 88005. Printing Specifications.

The **state voter information guide** shall be printed according to the following specifications:

(a) The **guide** shall be printed in clear readable type, no less than 10-point, except that the text of any measure may be set forth in 8-point type.

(b) It shall be of a size and printed on a quality and weight of paper which in the judgment of the Secretary of State best serves the voters.

(c) The **guide** shall contain a certificate of correctness by the Secretary of State.

History: Amended by Stats. 2008, Ch. 133; amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 249.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Opinions: *In re Miller* (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 26.

§ 88005.5. Duties of Legislative Counsel.

The Legislative Counsel shall prepare and proofread the texts of all measures and the provisions which are repealed or revised.

§ 88006. Public Examination of Guide.

Not less than 20 days before submitting the copy for the **state voter information guide** to the State Printer, the Secretary of State shall make the copy available for public examination. Any elector may seek a writ of mandate requiring the copy to be amended or deleted from the **state voter information guide**. A peremptory writ of mandate shall issue only upon clear and convincing proof that the copy in question is false, misleading, or inconsistent with the requirements of this chapter or the Elections Code, and that issuance of the writ will not substantially interfere with the printing and distribution of the **state voter information guide** as required by law. Venue for a proceeding under this section shall be exclusively in Sacramento County. The Secretary of State shall be named as the respondent and the State Printer and the person or official who authored the copy in question shall be named as real parties in interest. If the proceeding is initiated by the Secretary of State, the State Printer shall be named as the respondent.

History: Amended by Stats. 1996, Ch. 724; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50; amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 249.

§ 88007. Amendment of Chapter by Legislature.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 81012, the Legislature may without restriction amend this chapter to add to the **state voter information guide** information regarding candidates or any other information.

History: Amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 249.

Chapter 9. Incumbency.

§ 89000-89003

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§ 89000. Order of Names on Ballot.

Any provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, the order of names of candidates on the ballot in every election shall be determined without regard to whether the candidate is an incumbent.

§ 89001. Newsletter or Mass Mailing.

No newsletter or other mass mailing shall be sent at public expense.

History: Amended by Stats. 1986, Ch. 654; amended by Stats. 1987, Ch. 230; amended by Prop. 73 of the June 1988 statewide primary election, effective June 8, 1988.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18901.1

Opinions: *In re Miller* (1978) 4 FPPC Ops. 26

§ 89002. Mass Mailings Sent at Public Expense.

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a mailing is prohibited by Section 89001 if all of the following criteria are met:

(1) An item sent is delivered, by any means, to the recipient at the recipient's residence, place of employment or business, or post office box. The item delivered to the recipient must be a tangible item, such as a videotape, record, or button, or a written document.

(2) The item sent either:

(A) Features an elected officer affiliated with the agency that produces or sends the mailing.

(B) Includes the name, office, photograph, or other reference to an elected officer affiliated with the agency that produces or sends the mailing, and is prepared or sent in cooperation, consultation, coordination, or concert with the elected officer.

(3) Any of the costs of distribution are paid for with public money or the costs of design, production, and printing exceeding fifty dollars (\$50) are paid with public moneys, and the design, production, or printing is done with the intent of sending the item other than as permitted by this section.

(4) More than 200 substantially similar items are sent in a single calendar month, excluding any item sent in response to an unsolicited request and any item described in subdivision (b).

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a mass mailing of the following items is not prohibited by Section 89001:

(1) An item in which the elected officer's name appears only in the letterhead or logotype of the stationery, forms, including "For Your Information" or "Compliments of" cards or stamps, and envelopes of the agency sending the mailing, or of a committee of the agency, or of the elected officer, or in a roster listing containing the names of all

elected officers of the agency. For purposes of this section, the return address portion of a self-mailer is considered the envelope. In any such item, the names of all elected officers must appear in the same type size, typeface, type color, and location. The item shall not include the elected officer's photograph, signature, or any other reference to the elected officer, except as specifically permitted by this section. The item may, however, include the elected officer's office or district number and the elected officer's name or district number in the elected officer's internet website address or electronic mail address.

(2) A press release sent to members of the media.

(3) An item sent in the normal course of business from one governmental entity or officer to another governmental entity or officer, including all local, state, and federal officers or entities.

(4) An intra-agency communication sent in the normal course of business to employees, officers, deputies, and other staff.

(5) An item sent in connection with the payment or collection of funds by the agency sending the mailing, including tax bills, checks, and similar documents, in any instance in which use of the elected officer's name, office, title, or signature is necessary to the payment or collection of the funds. The item shall not include the elected officer's photograph, signature, or any other reference to the elected officer, except as specifically permitted by this section.

(6) Any item sent by an agency responsible for administering a government program, to persons subject to that program, in any instance in which the mailing of the item is essential to the functioning of the program, the item does not include the elected officer's photograph, and use of the elected officer's name, office, title, or signature is necessary to the functioning of the program.

(7) Any legal notice or other item sent as required by law, court order, or order adopted by an administrative agency pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2), and in which use of the elected officer's name, office, title, or signature is necessary in the notice or other mailing. For purposes of this paragraph, inclusion of an elected officer's name on a ballot as a candidate for elective office, and inclusion of an elected officer's name and signature on a ballot argument, shall be considered necessary to that notice or other item.

(8) A telephone directory, organization chart, or similar listing or roster which includes the names of elected officers as well as other individuals in the agency sending the mailing, in which the name of each elected officer and individual listed appears in the same type size, typeface, and type color. The item shall not include an elected officer's photograph, name, signature, or any other reference to an elected officer, except as specifically permitted by this section.

(9)(A) An announcement of any meeting or event of either of the following:

(i) An announcement sent to an elected officer's constituents concerning a public meeting that is directly related to the elected officer's incumbent governmental duties, is to

be held by the elected officer, and that the elected officer intends to attend.

(ii) An announcement of any official agency event or events for which the agency is providing the use of its facilities or staff or other financial support.

(B) Any announcement provided for in this paragraph shall not include the elected officer's photograph or signature and may include only a single mention of the elected officer's name except as permitted elsewhere in this section.

(10) An agenda or other writing that is required to be made available pursuant to Sections 11125.1 and 54957.5, or a bill, file, history, journal, committee analysis, floor analysis, agenda of an interim or special hearing of a committee of the Legislature, or index of legislation, published by the Legislature.

(11) A business card that does not contain the elected officer's photograph or more than one mention of the elected officer's name.

(c) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Elected officer affiliated with the agency" means an elected officer who is a member, officer, or employee of the agency, or of a subunit thereof such as a committee, or who has supervisory control over the agency or appoints one or more members of the agency.

(2) "Features an elected officer" means that the item mailed includes the elected officer's photograph or signature or singles out the elected officer by the manner of display of the elected officer's name or office in the layout of the document, such as by headlines, captions, type size, typeface, or type color.

(3) "Substantially similar" is defined as follows:

(A) Two items are "substantially similar" if any of the following applies:

(i) The items are identical, except for changes necessary to identify the recipient and the recipient's address.

(ii) The items are intended to honor, commend, congratulate, or recognize an individual or group, or individuals or groups, for the same event or occasion, are intended to celebrate or recognize the same holiday, or are intended to congratulate an individual or group, or individuals or groups, on the same type of event, such as birthdays or anniversaries.

(iii) Both of the following apply to the items mailed:

(I) Most of the bills, legislation, governmental action, activities, events, or issues of public concern mentioned in one item are mentioned in the other.

(II) Most of the information contained in one item is contained in the other.

(B) Enclosure of the same informational materials in two items mailed, such as copies of the same bill, public document, or report, shall not, by itself, mean that the two items are "substantially similar." The informational materials shall not include the elected officer's name, photograph, signature, or any other reference to the elected officer except as permitted elsewhere in this section.

(C) An item is only considered substantially similar to other items sent by the same official, not to items sent by other officials in the same agency.

(4) "Unsolicited request" is defined as follows:

(A) A written or oral communication, including a petition, that specifically requests a response and is not requested or induced by the recipient elected officer or by any third person acting at the recipient elected officer's behest. However, an unsolicited oral or written communication, including a petition, that does not contain a specific request for a response shall be deemed to constitute an unsolicited request for a single written response.

(B) An unsolicited request for continuing information on a subject shall be deemed an unsolicited request for multiple responses directly related to that subject for a period of time not to exceed 24 months. An unsolicited request to receive a regularly published agency newsletter shall be deemed an unsolicited request for each issue of that newsletter.

(C) A previously unsolicited request to receive an agency newsletter or mass mailing on an ongoing basis shall not be deemed to have become solicited by the sole fact that the requestor responds to an agency notice indicating that, in the absence of a response, the requestor's name will be purged from the mailing list for that newsletter or mass mailing. A notice in the following language shall be deemed to meet this standard:

"The law does not permit this office to use public funds to keep you updated on items of interest unless you specifically request that it do so."

Inclusion of a similar notice in other items does not constitute a solicitation under this section.

(D) A communication sent in response to an elected officer's participation at a public forum or press conference, or to an elected officer's issuance of a press release, shall be deemed an unsolicited request.

(E) A person who subscribes to newspapers or other periodicals published by persons other than elected officers shall be deemed to have made unsolicited requests for materials published in those subscription publications.

History: Added by Stats. 2017, Ch. 827; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

Opinions: *In re California State Association of Counties* (2021)

§ 89003. Mass Mailings Sent at Public Expense; Temporal Prohibition.

Notwithstanding subdivision (b) of Section 89002, a mass mailing, as defined in Section 82041.5, that meets the criteria of subdivision (a) of Section 89002 shall not be sent within the 60 days preceding an election by or on behalf of a candidate whose name will appear on the ballot at that election, except as provided in paragraphs (2) to (8), inclusive, and paragraph (10) of subdivision (b) of Section 89002.

History: Added by Stats. 2017, Ch. 827.

Chapter 9.5. Ethics.

§ 89500-89522

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Article 1. Honoraria.

§ 89500-89502

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§ 89500. Chapter Title.

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the Ethics in Government Act of 1990.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84.

§ 89501. Honoraria.

(a) For purposes of this chapter, “honorarium” means, except as provided in subdivision (b), any payment made in consideration for any speech given, article published, or attendance at any public or private conference, convention, meeting, social event, meal, or like gathering.

(b) The term “honorarium” does not include:

(1) Earned income for personal services which are customarily provided in connection with the practice of a bona fide business, trade, or profession, such as teaching, practicing law, medicine, insurance, real estate, banking, or building contracting, unless the sole or predominant activity of the business, trade, or profession is making speeches. The commission shall adopt regulations to implement this subdivision.

(2) Any honorarium which is not used and, within 30 days after receipt, is either returned to the donor or delivered to the State Controller for donation to the General Fund, or in the case of a public official of a local government agency, delivered to the public official’s agency for donation to an equivalent fund, without being claimed as a deduction from income for tax purposes.

(c) Section 89506 applies to all payments, advances, or reimbursements for travel and related lodging and subsistence.

History: Repealed and new section added by Stats. 1995, Ch. 690; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18730, 18930, 18931.1, 18931.2, 18931.3, 18932, 18932.1, 18932.2, 18932.3, 18932.4, 18932.5, 18933, 18940, 18944, 18945.1, 18946.2, 18946.5, 18946.6, 18950, 18950.1, 18950.2

§ 89502. Honorarium.*

(a) An elected state officer, elected officer of a local government agency, or other individual specified in Section 87200 shall not accept any honorarium.

(b) (1) A candidate for elective state office, for judicial office, or for elective office in a local government agency shall not accept any honorarium. A person shall be deemed a candidate for purposes of this subdivision when the person has filed a statement of organization as a committee for election to a state or local office, a declaration of intent, or a declaration of candidacy, whichever occurs first. A person shall not be deemed a candidate for purposes of this subdivision after the person is sworn into the elective office, or, if the person lost the election, after the person has terminated the person’s campaign statement filing obligations for that office pursuant to Section 84214 or after certification of the election results, whichever is earlier.

(2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to any person who is a candidate as described in paragraph (1) for judicial office on or before December 31, 1996.

(c) A member of a state board or commission or designated employee of a state or local government agency shall not accept an honorarium from any source if the member or employee would be required to report the receipt of income or gifts from that source on the member’s or employee’s statement of economic interests.

(d) This section does not apply to a person in the person’s capacity as judge. This section does not apply to a person in the person’s capacity as a part-time member of the governing board of any public institution of higher education unless that position is an elective office.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; repealed and new section added by Stats. 1995, Ch. 690; amended by Stats. 1996, Ch. 1056; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18730, 18736, 18932.1, 18932.2, 18932.3

*Section 89502 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

Article 2. Gifts.

§ 89503 - 89504.8

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§ 89503. Gift Limits.*

(a) An elected state officer, elected officer of a local government agency, or other individual specified in Section 87200 shall not accept gifts from any single source in any calendar year with a total value of more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250).

(b)(1) A candidate for elective state office, for judicial office, or for elective office in a local government agency shall not accept gifts from any single source in any calendar year with a total value of more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250). A person shall be deemed a candidate for purposes of this subdivision when the person has filed a statement of

organization as a committee for election to a state or local office, a declaration of intent, or a declaration of candidacy, whichever occurs first. A person shall not be deemed a candidate for purposes of this subdivision after the person is sworn into the elective office, or, if the person lost the election, after the person has terminated the person's campaign statement filing obligations for that office pursuant to Section 84214 or after certification of the election results, whichever is earlier.

(2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to any person who is a candidate as described in paragraph (1) for judicial office on or before December 31, 1996.

(c) A member of a state board or commission or designated employee of a state or local government agency shall not accept gifts from any single source in any calendar year with a total value of more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) if the member or employee would be required to report the receipt of income or gifts from that source on the member's statement of economic interests.

(d) This section does not apply to a person in the person's capacity as judge. This section does not apply to a person in the person's capacity as a part-time member of the governing board of any public institution of higher education unless that position is an elective office.

(e) This section does not prohibit or limit the following:

(1) Payments, advances, or reimbursements for travel and related lodging and subsistence permitted by Section 89506.

(2) Wedding gifts and gifts exchanged between individuals on birthdays, holidays, and other similar occasions, provided that the gifts exchanged are not substantially disproportionate in value.

(f) Beginning on January 1, 1993, the commission shall adjust the gift limitation in this section on January 1 of each odd-numbered year to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index, rounded to the nearest ten dollars (\$10).

(g) The limitations in this section are in addition to the limitations on gifts in Section 86203.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; amended by Stats. 1993, Ch. 769; repealed and new section added by Stats. 1995, Ch. 690; amended by Stats. 1996, Ch. 1056; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18730, 18730.1, 18736, 18940.2, 18941, 18942, 18942.1, 18942.2, 18942.3, 18945, 18946, 18946.4

Opinions: *In re Solis* (2000) 14 FPPC Ops. 7

*Section 89503 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 89503.5. Gift; Received and Accepted.

A gift is both "received" and "accepted" when the public official, or the official's immediate family member, knowingly takes actual possession of the gift, is provided the benefit of the gift, or takes any action exercising direction or control of the gift.

History: Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 312.

§ 89504. Services of a California Science and Technology Policy Fellow.

(a) The services of a California Science and Technology Policy Fellow provided by the California Council on Science and Technology and duly authorized by an executed memorandum of understanding between the council and an executive branch agency or department are not a gift to a state elective or appointive officer for the purposes of this article.

(b) For purposes of this section, a California Science and Technology Policy Fellow is "duly authorized by an executed memorandum of understanding between the council and an executive branch agency or department" only if both of the following requirements are satisfied:

(1) The California Science and Technology Policy Fellow has been selected according to criteria, and pursuant to a process, included in the executed memorandum of understanding between the council and an executive branch agency or department.

(2) The California Council on Science and Technology has executed an agreement with an executive branch agency or department whereby the California Science and Technology Policy Fellow is bound to abide by standards of conduct, economic interest disclosure requisites, and other requirements specified by the state.

(c) This section does not constitute a change in, but is declaratory of, existing law.

History: Added by Stats. 2023, Ch. 112.

§ 89504.8. Services of a Policy Fellow.

(a) The services of a policy fellow provided by an association are not a gift to a state elective or appointive officer for the purposes of this article.

(b) For the purposes of this section, "association" means any of the following organizations that are exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the federal Internal Revenue Code:

- (1) The Asian Pacific Islander Capitol Association.
- (2) The California Legislative Black Staff Association.
- (3) The Capitol LGBTQ Association.
- (4) The California Latino Capitol Association Foundation.

(c) This section does not constitute a change in, but is declaratory of, existing law.

History: Added by Stats. 2024, Ch. 238.

Article 3. Travel. § 89506

§ 89506. Travel Payments, Advances and Reimbursements.

(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 applies:

(1) The travel is in connection with a speech given by the elected state officer, local elected officeholder, candidate for elective state office or local 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 who substantially satisfies the requirements for tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(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 governmental 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 regularly organizes and hosts travel for elected officials and 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 donors who did both of the following in the preceding year:

(A) Donated one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more to the nonprofit organization.

(B) Accompanied an elected state officer or local elected officeholder, either personally or through an agent, employee, or representative, for any portion of travel described in subdivision (a).

(2) For purposes of this subdivision, a nonprofit organization "regularly organizes and hosts travel for elected officials" if the sum of the nonprofit organization's expenses that relate to any of the following types of activities with regard to elected officials was greater than one-third of its total expenses reflected on the nonprofit organization's Internal Revenue Service Form 990, or the equivalent, filed most recently within the last 12 months:

(A) Travel.

(B) Study tours.

(C) Conferences, conventions, and meetings.

(3) This subdivision does not preclude a finding that a 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.

(4) For purposes of this subdivision, a nonprofit organization includes an organization that is exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) or Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 674; amended by Stats. 1994, Ch. 1105; amended by Stats. 1995, Ch. 690; amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 455, effective September 24, 1997; amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 757; amended by Stats. 2016, Ch. 86

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18930, 18931.1, 18931.2, 18931.3, 18932, 18932.1, 18932.2, 18932.3, 18932.4, 18932.5, 18933, 18940, 18940.2, 18944, 18945.1, 18946.2, 18946.5, 18950, 18950.1, 18950.2

Article 4. Campaign Funds. § 89510 – 89522

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§ 89510. Contributions Held in Trust.

(a) A candidate for elective state office may only accept contributions within the limits provided in Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 85100).

(b) All contributions deposited into the campaign account shall be deemed to be held in trust for expenses associated with the election of the candidate or for expenses associated with holding office.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 241, effective September 4, 2001.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18404.3, 18421.7

§ 89511. Campaign Funds Held by Candidates and Committees.

(a) This article applies to campaign funds held by candidates for elective office, elected officers, controlled committees, ballot measure committees, committees opposed to a candidate or measure, and any committee which qualifies as a committee pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 82013.

(b)(1) For purposes of this chapter, “campaign funds” includes any contributions, cash, cash equivalents, and other

assets received or possessed by a committee as defined by subdivision (a) of Section 82013.

(2) For purposes of this chapter, “committee” means a controlled committee, ballot measure committee, committee opposed to a candidate or measure, and any committee which qualifies as a committee pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 82013.

(3) For purposes of this chapter, “substantial personal benefit” means an expenditure of campaign funds which results in a direct personal benefit with a value of more than two hundred dollars (\$200) to a candidate, elected officer, or any individual or individuals with authority to approve the expenditure of campaign funds held by a committee.

(4) For purposes of this article, “household” includes the candidate’s or elected officer’s spouse, dependent children, and parents who reside with the candidate or elected officer.

(5)(A) For purposes of this article, “attorney’s fees and other costs” includes only the following:

(i) Attorney’s fees and other legal costs related to the defense of the candidate or officer.

(ii) Administrative costs directly related to compliance with the requirements of this title.

(B) “Attorney’s fees and other costs” does not include expenses for fundraising, media or political consulting fees, mass mailing or other advertising, or, except as expressly authorized by subdivision (c) of Section 89513, a payment or reimbursement for a fine, penalty, judgment or settlement, or a payment to return or disgorge contributions made to any other committee controlled by the candidate or officer.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 130; amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 884.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18229.1, 18404.3, 18421.7, 18960

Opinions: *In re Roberts* (2004) 17 FPPC Ops. 9

§ 89511.5. Use of Personal Funds for Incumbent Elected Officers.*

(a) An incumbent elected officer may utilize the incumbent elected officer’s personal funds for expenditures authorized by subdivision (b) of Section 89510 without first depositing those funds in the incumbent elected officer’s controlled committee’s campaign bank account, if both of the following conditions are met:

(1) The expenditures are not campaign expenses.

(2) The treasurer of the committee is provided with a dated receipt and a written description of the expenditure.

(b) An incumbent elected officer may be reimbursed for expenditures of the incumbent elected officer’s personal funds, from either the controlled committee campaign bank account established pursuant to Section 85201 with respect to election to the incumbent term of office, or from a controlled committee campaign bank account established pursuant to Section 85201 with respect to election to a future term of office, if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The expenditures are not campaign expenses.

(2) The incumbent elected officer, prior to reimbursement, provides the treasurer of the committee with a dated receipt and a written description of each expenditure.

(3) Reimbursement is paid within 90 days of the expenditure, in the case of a cash expenditure, or within 90 days of the end of the billing period in which it was included, in the case of an expenditure charged to a credit card or charge account.

(c) When the elected officer's controlled committee is notified that expenditures totaling one hundred dollars (\$100) or more in a fiscal year have been made by the incumbent elected officer, the committee shall report, pursuant to subdivision (k) of Section 84211, the expenditures on the campaign statement for the period in which the expenditures were made and the reimbursements on the campaign statement for the period in which the reimbursements were made.

(d) If reimbursement is not paid within the time authorized by this section, the expenditure shall be reported on the campaign statement as a nonmonetary contribution received on the 90th day after the expenditure is paid, in the case of a cash expenditure, or within 90 days of the end of the billing period in which it was included, in the case of an expenditure charged to a credit card or charge account.

(e) This section shall not be construed to authorize an incumbent elected officer to make expenditures from any campaign bank account for expenses other than those expenses associated with the incumbent elected officer's election to the specific office for which the account was established and expenses associated with holding that office.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 1075; amended by Stats. 2007, Ch. 348; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18404.3

*Section 89511.5 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 89512. Expenditures Associated with Seeking or Holding Office.

(a) An expenditure to seek office is within the lawful execution of the trust imposed by Section 89510 if it is reasonably related to a political purpose. An expenditure associated with holding office is within the lawful execution of the trust imposed by Section 89510 if it is reasonably related to a legislative or governmental purpose. Expenditures which confer a substantial personal benefit shall be directly related to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose.

(b) Except as expressly authorized by this article, an expenditure for a fine, penalty, judgment, or settlement is not within the lawful execution of the trust imposed by Section 89510.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 884.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18404.3, 18421.7

§ 89512.5. Expenditures by Committees not Controlled by Candidates.

(a) Subject to the provisions of subdivision (b), any expenditure by a committee not subject to the trust imposed by subdivision (b) of Section 89510 shall be reasonably related to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose of the committee.

(b) Any expenditure by a committee that confers a substantial personal benefit on any individual or individuals with authority to approve the expenditure of campaign funds held by the committee, shall be directly related to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose of the committee.

History: Added by Stats. 1991, Ch. 546.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18404.3

§ 89513. Use of Campaign Funds for Specific Activities.

This section governs the use of campaign funds for the specific expenditures set forth in this section. It is the intent of the Legislature that this section shall guide the interpretation of the standard imposed by Section 89512 as applied to other expenditures not specifically set forth in this section.

(a)(1) Campaign funds shall not be used to pay or reimburse the candidate, the elected officer, or any individual or individuals with authority to approve the expenditure of campaign funds held by a committee, or employees or staff of the committee, or the elected officer's governmental agency for travel expenses and necessary accommodations except when these expenditures are directly related to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose.

(2) For the purposes of this section, payments or reimbursements for travel and necessary accommodations shall be considered as directly related to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose if the payments would meet standards similar to the standards of the Internal Revenue Service pursuant to Sections 162 and 274 of the Internal Revenue Code for deductions of travel expenses under the federal income tax law.

(3) For the purposes of this section, payments or reimbursement for travel by the household of a candidate or elected officer when traveling to the same destination in order to accompany the candidate or elected officer shall be considered for the same purpose as the candidate's or elected officer's travel.

(4) Whenever campaign funds are used to pay or reimburse a candidate, elected officer, the candidate or elected officer's representative, or a member of the candidate's household for travel expenses and necessary accommodations, the expenditure shall be reported as required by Section 84211.

(5) Whenever campaign funds are used to pay or reimburse for travel expenses and necessary accommodations, any mileage credit that is earned or awarded pursuant to an airline bonus mileage program shall be deemed personally earned by or awarded to the individual traveler. The earning or awarding of mileage credit and the redeeming of credit

for actual travel are not subject to reporting pursuant to Section 84211.

(b)(1) Campaign funds shall not be used to pay for or reimburse the cost of professional services unless the services are directly related to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose.

(2) Expenditures by a committee to pay for professional services reasonably required by the committee to assist it in the performance of its administrative functions are directly related to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose.

(3) Campaign funds shall not be used to pay health-related expenses for a candidate, elected officer, or any individual or individuals with authority to approve the expenditure of campaign funds held by a committee, or members of their households. "Health-related expenses" includes, but is not limited to, examinations by physicians, dentists, psychiatrists, psychologists, or counselors and expenses for medications, treatments, medical equipment, hospitalization, health club dues, and special dietary foods. However, campaign funds may be used to pay employer costs of health care benefits of a bona fide employee or independent contractor of the committee.

(c)(1) Campaign funds shall not be used to pay or reimburse fines, penalties, judgments, or settlements, except those resulting from all of the following:

(A) Parking citations incurred in the performance of an activity that was directly related to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose.

(B) Any other action for which payment of attorney's fees from contributions would be permitted pursuant to this title. However, campaign funds shall not be used to pay a fine, penalty, judgment, or settlement relating to an expenditure of campaign funds that resulted in either of the following:

(i) A personal benefit to the candidate or officer if it is determined that the expenditure was not reasonably related to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose.

(ii) A substantial personal benefit to the candidate or officer if it is determined that the expenditure was not directly related to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose.

(2) Campaign funds shall not be used to pay a restitution fine imposed under Section 86 of the Penal Code.

(3) Campaign funds shall not be used to pay or reimburse a candidate or elected officer for a fine, penalty, judgment, or settlement relating to a conviction for a felony described in Section 20 of the Elections Code, or for a felony involving fraud. If a candidate or elected officer uses campaign funds for other legal costs and expenses related to claims of those criminal acts and is convicted, the candidate or elected officer shall reimburse the campaign for all funds used in connection with those other legal costs and expenses.

(d) Campaign funds shall not be used for campaign, business, or casual clothing except specialty clothing that is not suitable for everyday use, including, but not limited to, formal wear, if this attire is to be worn by the candidate or elected officer and is directly related to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose.

(e)(1) Except as otherwise prohibited by law, campaign funds may be used to purchase or reimburse for the costs of purchase of tickets to political fundraising events for the attendance of a candidate, elected officer, or the candidate or elected officer's immediate family, or an officer, director, employee, or staff of the committee or the elected officer's governmental agency.

(2) Campaign funds shall not be used to pay for or reimburse for the costs of tickets for entertainment or sporting events for the candidate, elected officer, or members of the candidate or elected officer's immediate family, or an officer, director, employee, or staff of the committee, unless their attendance at the event is directly related to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose.

(3) The purchase of tickets for entertainment or sporting events for the benefit of persons other than the candidate, elected officer, or the candidate or elected officer's immediate family are governed by subdivision (f).

(f)(1) Campaign funds shall not be used to make personal gifts unless the gift is directly related to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose. The refund of a campaign contribution does not constitute the making of a gift.

(2) This section does not prohibit the use of campaign funds to reimburse or otherwise compensate a public employee for services rendered to a candidate or committee while on vacation, leave, or otherwise outside of compensated public time.

(3) An election victory celebration or similar campaign event, or gifts with a total cumulative value of less than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) in a single year made to an individual employee, a committee worker, or an employee of the elected officer's agency, are considered to be directly related to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose. For purposes of this paragraph, a gift to a member of a person's immediate family shall be deemed to be a gift to that person.

(g) Campaign funds shall not be used to make loans other than to organizations pursuant to Section 89515, or, unless otherwise prohibited, to a candidate for elective office, political party, or committee.

(h)(1) Campaign funds shall not be used to pay or reimburse a candidate or elected officer for a penalty, judgment, or settlement related to a claim of sexual assault, sexual abuse, or sexual harassment filed against the candidate or elective officer in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding. If a candidate or elected officer uses campaign funds for other legal costs and expenses related to claims of those unlawful practices and is held liable for such a violation, the candidate or elected officer shall reimburse the campaign for all funds used in connection with those other legal costs and expenses.

(2) For the purpose of this subdivision, "sexual assault" and "sexual abuse" have the same meaning as in Section 11165.1 of the Penal Code and "sexual harassment" has the same meaning as in subdivision (j) of Section 12940 of the Government Code.

(i)(1) For purposes of this subdivision, "childcare expenses" include the reasonable costs of professional daycare services, babysitting, nannying services, food and beverages, transportation to and from the location of a childcare

services provider, before and after school programs, summer day camps, and preschool. Additional qualifying expenses include costs related to a nurse, home care provider, or other care provider for a disabled dependent child. "Childcare expenses" do not include private school tuition, medical expenses, tutoring services, or payments to a relative, within the third degree of consanguinity, of a child, unless the relative owns or operates a professional daycare or babysitting service and the cost of the service is no greater than the relative would otherwise charge.

(2) Campaign funds may be used to pay or reimburse a candidate for reasonable and necessary childcare expenses for a dependent child resulting directly from the candidate engaging in campaign activities. For purposes of this paragraph, "directly" means that the candidate would not have incurred the childcare expenses if the candidate did not engage in the campaign activities.

(3) This section shall not be construed to limit the use of campaign funds to pay for childcare expenses resulting from an officeholder engaging in a campaign activity with both political and legislative or governmental purposes.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; amended by Stats. 1990, Ch. 1075; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2006, Ch. 155; amended by Stats. 2006, Ch. 538; amended by Stats. 2007, Ch. 130; amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 881 and 884; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 384; amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 564; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 576.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18229.1, 18404.3, 18421.7

§ 89514. Use of Campaign Funds for Attorney's Fees.

(a) Expenditures of campaign funds for attorney's fees and other costs in connection with administrative, civil, or criminal litigation are not directly related to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose except where the litigation is directly related to activities of a committee that are consistent with its primary objectives or arises directly out of a committee's activities or out of a candidate's or elected officer's activities, duties, or status as a candidate or elected officer, including, but not limited to, an action to enjoin defamation, defense of an action to enjoin defamation, defense of an action brought for a violation of state or local campaign, disclosure, or election laws, and an action arising from an election contest or recount.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), campaign funds shall not be used to reimburse expenditures for attorney's fees and other costs in connection with criminal litigation if the litigation results in a conviction of the candidate or elected officer for a felony described in Section 20 of the Elections Code, or for a felony involving fraud.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 576.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18404.3

§ 89515. Use of Campaign Funds for Donations and Loans.

Campaign funds may be used to make donations or loans to bona fide charitable, educational, civic, religious, or similar tax-exempt, nonprofit organizations, where no substantial part of the proceeds will have a material financial effect on the candidate, elected officer, campaign treasurer, or any individual or individuals with authority to approve the expenditure of campaign funds held by a committee, or an immediate family member of one of those individuals, and where the donation or loan bears a reasonable relation to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18404.3, 18229.1

§ 89516. Use of Campaign Funds for Vehicle Expenses.

Notwithstanding Sections 89512 and 89513, this section governs the use of campaign funds for vehicle expenses.

(a) Campaign funds shall not be used to purchase a vehicle unless both of the following apply:

(1) Title to the vehicle is held by the committee and not the candidate, elected officer, campaign treasurer, or any other individual or individuals with authority to approve the expenditure of campaign funds held by a committee, or an immediate family member of one of those individuals.

(2) The use of the vehicle is directly related to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose.

(b) Campaign funds shall not be used to lease a vehicle unless both of the following apply:

(1) The lessee is the committee, or a state or local government agency and not the candidate, elected officer, or an immediate family member of the candidate or elected officer; or the lessor is a state or local government agency.

(2) The use of the vehicle is directly related to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose.

(c) Campaign funds may be used to pay for or reimburse the operating costs, including, but not limited to, insurance, maintenance, and repairs, for any vehicle for which campaign funds may be spent pursuant to this section.

(d) Campaign funds may be used to reimburse a candidate, elected officer, a candidate's or elected officer's immediate family, or any individual or individuals with authority to approve the expenditure of campaign funds held by a committee, or an employee or member of the staff of the committee or of the elected officer's governmental agency, for the use of that individual's vehicle at the rate approved by the Internal Revenue Service pursuant to Section 162 of the Internal Revenue Code in connection with deductible mileage expenses under the federal income tax law, if both of the following requirements are met:

(1) The vehicle use for which reimbursement is sought is directly related to political, governmental, or legislative purposes.

(2) The specific purpose and mileage in connection with each expenditure is documented in a manner approved

by the Internal Revenue Service in connection with deductible mileage expenses.

(e) For the purposes of this section, use of a vehicle is considered to be directly related to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose as long as its use for other purposes is only incidental to its use for political, legislative, or governmental purposes.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18229.1, 18404.3, 18961

§ 89517. Use of Campaign Funds for Real Property, Appliances or Equipment.

(a) Campaign funds shall not be used for payment or reimbursement for the lease of real property or for the purchase, lease, or refurbishment of any appliance or equipment, where the lessee or sublessor is, or the legal title resides, in whole or in part, in a candidate, elected officer, campaign treasurer, or any individual or individuals with authority to approve the expenditure of campaign funds, or an immediate family member of one of those individuals.

(b) Campaign funds shall not be used to purchase real property. Except as prohibited by subdivision (a), campaign funds may be used to lease real property for up to one year at a time where the use of that property is directly related to political, legislative, or governmental purposes.

(c) For the purposes of this section, real property, appliance, or equipment is considered to be directly related to a political, legislative, or governmental purpose as long as its use for other purposes is only incidental to its use for political, legislative, or governmental purposes.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18229.1, 18404.3, 18961

§ 89517.5. Use of Campaign Funds for Security Expenses.*

(a) (1) For purposes of this section, “security expenses” include all of the following:

(A) The reasonable costs of installing and monitoring a home or office electronic security for a candidate, elected officer, or the immediate family or staff of a candidate or elected officer.

(B) The reasonable costs of providing personal security to a candidate, elected officer, or the immediate family or staff of a candidate or elected officer.

(C) Any other tangible item related to security for a candidate, elected officer, or the immediate family or staff of a candidate or elected officer.

(2) “Security expenses” do not include either of the following:

(A) Payments to the candidate’s or elected officer’s spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister, parent-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, nephew, niece, aunt, uncle, or first cousin or the spouse of any such person.

(B) Payments for a firearm.

(b) (1) Notwithstanding Section 89517, campaign funds may be used to pay, or reimburse the state, for security expenses to protect a candidate, an elected officer, or the immediate family or staff of a candidate or elected officer, provided that the threat or potential threat to safety arises from the candidate’s or elected officer’s activities, duties, or status as a candidate or elected officer or from staff’s position as staff of the candidate or elected officer.

(2)(A) A candidate or elected officer may expend campaign funds pursuant to this section without any monetary cap until January 1, 2029.

(B) Beginning January 1, 2029, a candidate or elected officer may expend up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) of campaign funds pursuant to this section per calendar year. This limit applies regardless of the number of offices the candidate or elected officer seeks or holds.

(c) (1) If a committee uses campaign funds to pay, or reimburse the state, for the costs of installing a home or office electronic security system or for any other tangible item related to security, either the security system or other item shall be returned to the committee or reimbursement for the security system or other item shall be made to the campaign fund account of the committee that paid for the security system or other item, pursuant to the requirements of paragraphs (2) and (3).

(2) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), return or reimbursement is due within one year of when the elected officer leaves the office for which the security system or other tangible item related to security was purchased or when the candidate is no longer a candidate for the office for which the security system or other item was purchased, or, if applicable, upon sale of the property on which the security system is installed, whichever occurs sooner.

(B) If there is a continuing threat to the physical safety of the candidate or elected officer, the threat arises from the candidate’s or elected officer’s activities, duties, or status as a candidate or elected officer, and the threat has been reported to and verified by an appropriate law enforcement agency, return or reimbursement is due within one year of when the threat verified by the law enforcement agency ceases, or, if applicable, upon sale of the property on which the security system is installed, whichever occurs sooner.

(3) The amount of the reimbursement shall be the fair market value of the security system or other tangible item related to security at the time that reimbursement is paid or due pursuant to paragraph (2), whichever occurs sooner. For a security system installed at the home or office of, or for an item purchased for, a candidate or elected officer, the candidate or elected officer shall pay the reimbursement. For a security system installed at the home or office of, or for an item purchased for, immediate family or staff, either the candidate or elected officer, or the immediate family or staff, shall pay the reimbursement.

(d) The immediate family or staff of the candidate or elected officer shall not be personally liable for reimbursement for expenditures for security expenses pursuant to this section.

(e) (1) The candidate or elected officer shall report an expenditure pursuant to subdivision (b) and a reimbursement pursuant to subdivision (c) on the candidate's or elected officer's campaign statement filed pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 84200) of Chapter 4.

(2) With each report described in paragraph (1), the candidate or elected officer shall also submit a form to the Commission, in a manner prescribed by the Commission and signed under penalty of perjury, that describes and verifies the threat or potential threat to the candidate or elected officer, or to their immediate family or staff, that arose from the candidate's or elected officer's activities, duties, or status as a candidate or elected officer and that necessitated the expenditure or reimbursement.

(3) As part of the recordkeeping requirements in Section 84104, the candidate or elected officer shall maintain detailed accounts, records, bills, and receipts relating to an expenditure or reimbursement described in paragraph (1), including records providing evidence of the threat or potential threat to safety that gave rise to the need for the expenditure.

History: Added by Stats. 1993, Ch. 1143; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50; repealed and added by Stats. 2024, Ch. 372, effective September 22, 2024; amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 621, Sec. 1.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18404.3

*Section 89517.5 was amended by AB 789 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 621, Sec. 1.5) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 89517.6 Use of Campaign Funds for Cybersecurity of Electronic Devices*

Notwithstanding Section 89517, campaign funds may be used to pay for, or reimburse the state for, the costs of installing and monitoring hardware, software, or services related to the cybersecurity of electronic devices of a candidate, elected officer, or campaign worker. The candidate or elected officer shall report any expenditure of campaign funds made pursuant to this section to the commission in the candidate's or elected officer's campaign statements filed pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 84200) of Chapter 4 of this title.

History: Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 46.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18404.3

*Section 89517.6 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 89518. Use of Campaign Funds for Compensation.

(a) Campaign funds shall not be used to compensate a candidate or elected officer for the performance of political, legislative, or governmental activities, except for reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses incurred for political, legislative, or governmental purposes.

(b) Campaign funds shall not be used to compensate any individual or individuals with authority to approve the expenditure of campaign funds for the performance of political, legislative, or governmental activities, except as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 89513 and for reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses incurred for political, legislative, or governmental purposes.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 546.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18404.3

§ 89519. Use of Surplus Campaign Funds.

(a) Upon the 90th day after leaving an elective office, or the 90th day following the end of the postelection reporting period following the defeat of a candidate for elective office, whichever occurs last, campaign funds under the control of the former candidate or elected officer shall be considered surplus campaign funds and shall be disclosed pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 84100).

(b) Surplus campaign funds shall be used only for the following purposes:

(1) The payment of outstanding campaign debts or elected officer's expenses.

(2) The repayment of contributions.

(3) Donations to a bona fide charitable, educational, civic, religious, or similar tax-exempt, nonprofit organization, where no substantial part of the proceeds will have a material financial effect on the former candidate or elected officer, any member of the former candidate's or elected officer's immediate family, or the former candidate's or elected officer's campaign treasurer.

(4) Contributions to a political party committee, provided the campaign funds are not used to support or oppose candidates for elective office. However, the campaign funds may be used by a political party committee to conduct partisan voter registration, partisan get-out-the-vote activities, and slate mailers as that term is defined in Section 82048.3.

(5) Contributions to support or oppose a candidate for federal office, a candidate for elective office in a state other than California, or a ballot measure.

(6) The payment for professional services reasonably required by the committee to assist in the performance of its administrative functions, including payment for attorney's fees and other costs for litigation that arises directly out of a candidate's or elected officer's activities, duties, or status as a candidate or elected officer, including, but not limited to, an action to enjoin defamation, defense of an action brought for a violation of state or local campaign, disclosure, or election laws, and an action from an election contest or recount.

(c) For purposes of this section, the payment of, or the reimbursement to the state for, security expenses, as defined in Section 89517.5, to protect a candidate, an elected officer, or the immediate family or staff of a candidate or elected officer, shall be deemed an outstanding campaign debt or elected officer's expense, provided that the threat or potential threat to safety arises from the candidate's or elected officer's activities, duties, or status as a candidate or elected

officer. The candidate or elected officer shall report a payment or reimbursement for security expenses made pursuant to this section to the Commission.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 1993, Ch. 1143; amended by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election]; amended by Stats. 2013, Ch. 9, effective July 1, 2014; amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 884; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 372, effective September 22, 2024.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18229.1, 18404.3, 18530.4, 18531.2, 18951

Opinions: *In re Pirayou* (2006) 19 FPPC Ops. 1

§ 89519.5. Use of Campaign Funds Held by an Officeholder Convicted of Certain Felonies of the Election Code.

(a) An officeholder who is convicted of a felony enumerated in Section 20 of the Elections Code, and whose conviction has become final, shall use funds held by the officeholder's candidate controlled committee only for the following purposes:

(1) The payment of outstanding campaign debts or elected officer's expenses.

(2) The repayment of contributions.

(b) Six months after the conviction becomes final, the officeholder shall forfeit any remaining funds subject to subdivision (a), and these funds shall be deposited in the General Fund.

(c) This section does not apply to funds held by a ballot measure committee or in a legal defense fund formed pursuant to Section 85304.

History: Added by Stats. 2016, Ch. 837.

§ 89520. Violations.

The remedies provided in Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 91000) shall not apply to violations of this chapter.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84.

§ 89521. Unlawful Honorarium, Gift or Expenditure; Egregious Personal Benefit.

(a) Any person who makes or receives an honorarium, gift, or expenditure in violation of this chapter is liable in a civil action brought by the commission for an amount of up to three times the amount of the unlawful honorarium, gift, or expenditure.

(b)(1) Any person who uses campaign funds in a manner that violates this article and results in an egregious personal benefit is liable in an administrative or civil action brought by the commission for an amount of up to two times the amount of the unlawful expenditure.

(2) For purposes of this subdivision, "egregious personal benefit" means a direct personal benefit with a total value of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or more to a candidate, elected officer, or any individual or individuals with

authority to approve the expenditure of campaign funds held by a committee.

History: Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 84; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 315.
Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18960

§ 89522. Campaign Funds; Prohibited Use Under Elections Code.

This chapter shall not be construed to permit an expenditure of campaign funds prohibited by Section 18680 of the Elections Code.

History: Added by Stats. 1991, Ch. 546; amended by Stats. 1994, Ch. 923

Chapter 10. Auditing.

§ 90000-90009

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§ 90000. Responsibility.

Except as provided in Section 90006, the Franchise Tax Board shall make audits and field investigations with respect to the following:

(a) Reports and statements filed with the Secretary of State under Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 84100), Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 85100), and Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 86100).

(b) Local candidates and their controlled committees selected for audit pursuant to subdivision (i) of Section 90001.

History: Amended by Stats. 1987, Ch. 230; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 483.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18531.62, 18993, 18994, 18995, 18998

§ 90001. Mandatory Audits and Investigations.*

Audits and investigations shall be made pursuant to Section 90000 with respect to the reports and statements of:

(a) Each lobbying firm and each lobbyist employer who employs one or more lobbyists shall be subject to an audit on a random basis with these lobbying firms or lobbyist employers having a 25-percent chance of being audited. When a lobbying firm or lobbyist employer is audited, the individual lobbyists who are employed by the lobbying firm or the lobbyist employer shall also be audited.

(b) Each statewide, Supreme Court, court of appeal, or Board of Equalization candidate in a direct primary or general election for whom it is determined that twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) or more in contributions have been raised or twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) or more in expenditures have been made, whether by the candidate or by a committee or committees controlled by the candidate or whose participation in the direct primary or general election is primarily in support of the candidate's candidacy. Each statewide candidate whose contributions and expenditures are less than twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) shall be subject to an audit on a random basis of 10 percent of the number of such candidates.

(c) Each candidate for the Legislature or superior court judge in a direct primary or general election shall be subject to audit by random selection if it is determined that fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) or more in contributions have been received or fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) or more

in expenditures have been made, whether by the candidate or by a committee or committees controlled by the candidate or primarily supporting the candidate's candidacy. Random selection shall be made of 25 percent of the Senate districts, 25 percent of the Assembly districts, and 25 percent of the judicial offices contested in an election year.

(d) Each candidate for the Legislature in a special primary or special runoff election for whom it is determined that fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) or more in contributions have been raised or fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) or more in expenditures have been made, whether by the candidate or by a committee or committees controlled by the candidate or primarily supporting the candidate's candidacy.

(e) Each controlled committee of any candidate who is being audited pursuant to subdivision (b), (c), or (d).

(f) Each committee, other than a committee specified in subdivision (c) of Section 82013, primarily supporting or opposing a candidate who is being audited pursuant to subdivision (b), (c), or (d) if it is determined that the committee has expended more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

(g) Each committee, other than a committee specified in subdivision (c) of Section 82013, whose participation is primarily in support of or in opposition to a state measure or state measures if it is determined that the committee has expended more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) on such measure or measures.

(h) Each committee, other than a committee defined in subdivision (c) of Section 82013, a controlled committee or a committee primarily supporting or opposing a state candidate or measure, if it is determined that the committee has raised or expended more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) supporting or opposing state candidates or state measures during any calendar year, except that if the commission determines from an audit report that a committee is in substantial compliance with the provisions of the act, the committee thereafter shall be subject to an audit on a random basis with each such committee having a 25-percent chance of being audited.

(i)(1) With respect to local candidates and their controlled committees, the Commission shall promulgate regulations which provide a method of selection for these audits.

(2) With respect to candidates for the Board of Administration of the Public Employees' Retirement System, the commission shall promulgate regulations that provide a method for selection of these audits. The Public Employees' Retirement System shall reimburse the commission for all reasonable expenses incurred pursuant to this section.

(j) In accordance with subdivisions (a), (b), (c), and (h), the Fair Political Practices Commission shall select by lot the persons or districts to be audited on a random basis. For campaign audits the selection shall be made in public after the last date for filing the first report or statement following the general or special election for which the candidate ran, or following the election at which the measure was adopted or defeated. For lobbying firm and lobbyist employer audits, the selection shall be made in public in February of odd-numbered years.

History: Amended by Stats. 1978, Ch. 1411; amended by Stats. 1979, Ch. 551; amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 1368; amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1183,

effective September 29, 1985; amended by Stats. 1986, Ch. 835; amended by Stats. 1994, Ch. 1139; amended by Stats. 1998, Ch. 923; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18531.62, 18601, 18991, 18992, 18993, 18995, 18997, 18998

*Section 90001 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 90002. Audits and Investigations; Time.*

(a) The scope of audits and investigations under Section 90001 is as follows:

(1) Audits and investigations of lobbying firms and employers of lobbyists shall be conducted biennially covering reports filed during the previous two-year period. If a lobbying firm or lobbyist employer keeps a separate account for all receipts and payments for which reporting is required by this chapter, the requirement of an audit under subdivision (a) of Section 90001 shall be satisfied by an audit of that account and the supporting documentation required to be maintained by Section 86110.

(2) For campaign statements or reports of a candidate, controlled committee, or committee primarily supporting or opposing a candidate, the audit or investigation shall cover all campaign statements and reports filed for the primary and general election, or a special or runoff election, as well as any previous campaign statements or reports filed since the last election for that office. The audit or investigation shall not include statements or reports previously audited under Section 90001 or 90003.

(3) For campaign statements or reports of a committee primarily supporting or opposing a measure, the audit or investigation shall cover all campaign statements and reports filed by the committee in connection with the measure.

(4) For all other committees, the audit or investigation shall cover all campaign statements and reports filed during the previous two calendar years.

(b) The audit or investigation periods may be extended to include any transaction that relates to or is connected with the election being audited or investigated or the two-year period.

(c) An audit or investigation conducted under Section 90001 shall not include campaign statements or reports filed in conjunction with an election for any other office.

(d) This section shall not be interpreted to act as a limit on the Franchise Tax Board or the Commission in undertaking a discretionary audit under Section 90003.

History: Amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 9; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 312.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18530.4, 18530.45, 18531.62, 18992, 18998

*Section 90002 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 90003. Discretionary Audits.

In addition to the audits and investigations required by Section 90001, the Franchise Tax Board and the Commission may make investigations and audits with respect to any reports or statements required by this title.

History: Amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 483; amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 9.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18531.62, 18998

§ 90004. Periodic Reports; Public Documents.*

(a) The Franchise Tax Board shall periodically prepare reports, which, except as otherwise provided in this section, shall be sent to the Commission, the Secretary of State, and the Attorney General. If the reports relate to candidates for or committees supporting or opposing candidates for the office of Attorney General, the reports shall be sent to the Commission, the Secretary of State, and the District Attorneys of the Counties of Los Angeles, Sacramento, and San Francisco. If the reports relate to local candidates and their controlled committees, the reports shall be sent to the Commission, the local filing officer with whom the candidate or committee is required to file the originals of campaign reports pursuant to Section 84215, and the district attorney for the candidate's county of domicile.

(b) The Franchise Tax Board shall complete its report of any audit conducted on a random basis pursuant to Section 90001 within two years after the person or entity subject to the audit is selected by the Commission to be audited.

(c) The reports of the Franchise Tax Board shall be public documents and shall contain in detail the Franchise Tax Board's findings with respect to the accuracy and completeness of each report and statement reviewed and its findings with respect to any report or statement that should have been but was not filed. The Secretary of State and the local filing officer shall place the audit reports in the appropriate campaign statement or lobbying files.

History: Amended by Stats. 1976, Ch. 564; amended by Stats. 1979, Ch. 531; amended by Stats. 1987, Ch. 230; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 591; amended by Stats. 2005, Ch. 22; amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 9.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18531.62, 18993, 18995, 18998

*Section 90004 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 90005. Confidentiality; Exception.

A member, employee, or agent of the Franchise Tax Board or the Commission shall not divulge or make known in any manner the particulars of any record, documents, or information that the individual receives by virtue of this chapter, except in furtherance of the work of the Franchise Tax Board or the Commission or in connection with a court proceeding or the lawful investigation of any agency.

History: Amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 9; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18531.62

§ 90006. Audit and Investigation by Commission.

Audits and field investigations of candidates for Controller and member of the Board of Equalization and of committees supporting such candidates shall be made by the Commission instead of the Franchise Tax Board.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18531.62, 18998

§ 90007. Auditing Guidelines and Standards.

(a) The commission shall adopt auditing guidelines and standards which shall govern audits and field investigations conducted under Section 90001. The guidelines and standards shall be formulated to accomplish the following purposes:

(1) The audits should encourage compliance and detect violations of this title;

(2) The audits should be conducted with maximum efficiency in a cost-effective manner; and

(3) The audits should be as unobtrusive as possible consistent with the foregoing purposes.

(b) In adopting its guidelines and standards the commission shall consider relevant guidelines and standards of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants to the extent such guidelines and standards are applicable and consistent with the purposes set forth in this section.

History: Added by Stats. 1978, Ch. 779, effective September 18, 1978.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18531.62, 18993,-18995

§ 90008. Preelection Auditing.

(a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the people of California have timely access to information concerning the campaign contributions and expenditures of all committees, corporations, and individuals, and that this information be provided before the election, when it is relevant, in accordance with the requirements of this title. It is the further intent of the Legislature that the Commission ensure that these disclosures are being made, and that this title be liberally construed and any judicial process be expedited to achieve this purpose.

(b) The Commission, and the Franchise Tax Board at the direction of the Commission, may audit any record required to be maintained under this title to ensure compliance with this title prior to an election, even if the record is a report or statement that has not yet been filed.

History: Added by Stats. 2014, Ch. 9.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18998

§ 90009. Injunction to Compel Disclosure.

(a) To further the purposes of this title, the Commission may seek injunctive relief in a superior court to compel disclosure consistent with this title.

(b) A court shall grant expedited review to an action filed pursuant to subdivision (a) as follows:

(1) The court shall conduct an expedited hearing with an opportunity for the defendant to respond.

(2) Briefs of the parties shall be required pursuant to an expedited schedule.

(c) A superior or appellate court may, at its discretion, grant a stay of an order granting relief pursuant to subdivision (a).

History: Added by Stats. 2014, Ch. 9.

Chapter 11. Enforcement.

§ 91000-91014

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§ 91000. Violations; Criminal.

(a) Any person who knowingly or willfully violates any provision of this title is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(b) In addition to other penalties provided by law, a fine of up to the greater of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or three times the amount the person failed to report properly or unlawfully contributed, expended, gave or received may be imposed upon conviction for each violation.

(c) Prosecution for violation of this title must be commenced within four years after the date on which the violation occurred.

History: Amended by Stats. 1978, Ch. 1411; amended by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election].

§ 91000.5. Administrative Proceedings.

An administrative action brought pursuant to Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 83100) alleging a violation of any of the provisions of this title shall not be commenced more than five years after the date on which the violation occurred.

(a) The service of the probable cause hearing notice, as required by Section 83115.5, upon the person alleged to have violated this title shall constitute the commencement of the administrative action.

(b) If the person alleged to have violated this title engages in the fraudulent concealment of the person's acts or identity, the five-year period shall be tolled for the period of

the concealment. For purposes of this subdivision, "fraudulent concealment" means the person knows of material facts related to the person's duties under this title and knowingly conceals them in performing or omitting to perform those duties, for the purpose of defrauding the public of information to which it is entitled under this title.

(c) If, upon being ordered by a superior court to produce any documents sought by a subpoena in any administrative proceeding under Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 83100), the person alleged to have violated this title fails to produce documents in response to the order by the date ordered to comply therewith, the five-year period shall be tolled for the period of the delay from the date of filing of the motion to compel until the date the documents are produced.

History: Added by Stats. 1997, Ch. 179; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18610, 18612, 18615

§ 91001. Responsibility for Enforcement.

(a) The Attorney General is responsible for enforcing the criminal provisions of this title with respect to state agencies, lobbyists and state elections. The district attorney of any county in which a violation occurs has concurrent powers and responsibilities with the Attorney General.

(b) The civil prosecutor is primarily responsible for enforcement of the civil penalties and remedies of this title. The civil prosecutor is the commission with respect to the state or any state agency, except itself. The Attorney General is the civil prosecutor with respect to the commission. The district attorneys are the civil prosecutors with respect to any other agency. The civil prosecutor may bring any civil action under this title which could be brought by a voter or resident of the jurisdiction. Upon written authorization from a district attorney, the commission may bring any civil action under this title which could be brought by a voter or resident of the jurisdiction. Under such circumstances, Section 91007 shall not apply to the commission.

(c) Whether or not a violation is inadvertent, negligent or deliberate, and the presence or absence of good faith shall be considered in applying the remedies and sanctions of this title.

History: Amended by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1161; repealed and reenacted as amended by Stats. 1977, Ch. 230, effective July 7, 1977; amended by Stats. 1979, Ch. 357.

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18315

§ 91001.5. Authority of City Attorneys of Charter Cities.

In any case in which a district attorney could act as the civil or criminal prosecutor under the provisions of this title, the elected city attorney of any charter city may act as the civil or criminal prosecutor with respect to any violations of this title occurring within the city.

History: Added by Stats. 1976, Ch. 594, effective August 26, 1976.

§ 91002. Effect of Conviction.

No person convicted of a misdemeanor under this title shall be a candidate for any elective office or act as a lobbyist

for a period of four years following the date of the conviction unless the court at the time of sentencing specifically determines that this provision shall not be applicable. A plea of nolo contendere shall be deemed a conviction for purposes of this section. Any person violating this section is guilty of a felony.

§ 91003. Injunction.

(a) Any person residing in the jurisdiction may sue for injunctive relief to enjoin violations or to compel compliance with the provisions of this title. The court may in its discretion require any plaintiff other than the commission to file a complaint with the commission prior to seeking injunctive relief. The court may award to a plaintiff or defendant who prevails that party's costs of litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.

(b) Upon a preliminary showing in an action brought by a person residing in the jurisdiction that a violation of Article 1 (commencing with Section 87100), Article 4 (commencing with Section 87400), or Article 4.5 (commencing with Section 87450) of Chapter 7 of this title or of a disqualification provision of a conflict of interest code has occurred, the court may restrain the execution of any official action in relation to which such a violation occurred, pending final adjudication. If it is ultimately determined that a violation has occurred and that the official action might not otherwise have been taken or approved, the court may set the official action aside as void. The official actions covered by this subsection include, but are not limited to, orders, permits, resolutions, and contracts, but do not include the enactment of any state legislation. In considering the granting of preliminary or permanent relief under this subsection, the court shall accord due weight to any injury that may be suffered by innocent persons relying on the official action.

History: Amended by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1161; amended by Stats. of 1987, Ch. 628; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

§ 91003.5. Conflicts of Interest Violation.

Any person who violates a provision of Article 2 (commencing with Section 87200), 3 (commencing with Section 87300), or 4.5 (commencing with Section 87450) of Chapter 7 is subject to discipline by that person's agency, including dismissal, consistent with any applicable civil service or other personnel laws, regulations, and procedures.

History: Amended by Stats. 1986, Ch. 653; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

§ 91004. Violations of Reporting Requirements; Civil Liability.

Any person who intentionally or negligently violates any of the reporting requirements of this title shall be liable in a civil action brought by the civil prosecutor or by a person residing within the jurisdiction for an amount not more than the amount or value not properly reported.

History: Amended by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election].

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18315, 18427

§ 91005. Civil Liability for Campaign, Lobbyist, Conflict of Interest Violation.

(a) Any person who makes or receives a contribution, gift, or expenditure in violation of Section 84300, 84304, 86203, or 86204 is liable in a civil action brought by the civil prosecutor or by a person residing within the jurisdiction for an amount up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or three times the amount of the unlawful contribution, gift, or expenditure, whichever amount is greater.

(b) Any designated employee or public official specified in Section 87200, except an elected state officer, who realizes an economic benefit as a result of a violation of Section 87100 or of a disqualification provision of a conflict of interest code is liable in a civil action brought by the civil prosecutor or by a person residing within the jurisdiction for an amount up to three times the value of the benefit.

History: Amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 455, effective September 24, 1997; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 130.

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sections 18315

§ 91005.5. Civil Penalties.

Any person who violates any provision of this title, except Sections 84305, 84307, and 89001, for which no specific civil penalty is provided, shall be liable in a civil action brought by the commission or the district attorney pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 91001, or the elected city attorney pursuant to Section 91001.5, for an amount up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per violation.

No civil action alleging a violation of this title may be filed against a person pursuant to this section if the criminal prosecutor is maintaining a criminal action against that person pursuant to Section 91000.

The provisions of this section shall be applicable only as to violations occurring after the effective date of this section.

History: Amended by Stats. 1982, Ch. 727; amended by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; Repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election].

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18315

§ 91006. Joint and Several Liability.

If two or more persons are responsible for any violation, they shall be jointly and severally liable.

History: Amended by Proposition 208 of the November 1996 Statewide General Election; repealed and added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 102 [Proposition 34 of the November Statewide General Election].

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18316.6

§ 91007. Procedure for Civil Actions.

(a) Any person, before filing a civil action pursuant to Sections 91004 and 91005, must first file with the civil prosecutor a written request for the civil prosecutor to commence the action. The request shall include a statement of the grounds for believing a cause of action exists. The civil prosecutor shall respond to the person in writing, indicating whether the civil prosecutor intends to file a civil action.

(1) If the civil prosecutor responds in the affirmative and files suit within 120 days from receipt of the written request to commence the action, no other action may be brought unless the action brought by the civil prosecutor is dismissed without prejudice as provided for in Section 91008.

(2) If the civil prosecutor responds in the negative within 120 days from receipt of the written request to commence the action, the person requesting the action may proceed to file a civil action upon receipt of the response from the civil prosecutor. If, pursuant to this subdivision, the civil prosecutor does not respond within 120 days, the civil prosecutor shall be deemed to have provided a negative written response to the person requesting the action on the 120th day and the person shall be deemed to have received that response.

(3) The time period within which a civil action shall be commenced, as set forth in Section 91011, shall be tolled from the date of receipt by the civil prosecutor of the written request to either the date that the civil action is dismissed without prejudice or the date of receipt by the person of the negative response from the civil prosecutor, but only for a civil action brought by the person who requested the civil prosecutor to commence the action.

(b) Any person filing a complaint, cross-complaint, or other initial pleading in a civil action pursuant to Section 91003, 91004, 91005, or 91005.5 shall, within 10 days of filing the complaint, cross-complaint, or initial pleading, serve on the commission a copy of the complaint, cross-complaint, or initial pleading or a notice containing all of the following:

- (1) The full title and number of the case.
- (2) The court in which the case is pending.
- (3) The name and address of the attorney for the person filing the complaint, cross-complaint, or other initial pleading.

(4) A statement that the case raises issues under the Political Reform Act of 1974.

(c) A complaint, cross-complaint, or other initial pleading shall not be dismissed for failure to comply with subdivision (b).

History: Amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1200; amended by Stats. 1999, Ch. 577; amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 135; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

§ 91008. Judgment on the Merits; Precedence; Dismissal.

Not more than one judgment on the merits with respect to any violation may be obtained under Sections 91004 and 91005. Actions brought for the same violation or violations shall have precedence for purposes of trial in order of the time filed. Such actions shall be dismissed once judgment has been entered or a settlement approved by the court in a previously filed action. The court may dismiss a pending action without prejudice to any other action for failure of the plaintiff to proceed diligently and in good faith. The action may be so dismissed on motion of the civil prosecutor or any plaintiff in an action based on the same violation.

§ 91008.5. Civil Action Precluded by Commission Order.

No civil action may be filed under Section 91004, 91005, or 91005.5 with regard to any person for any violations of this title after the commission has issued an order pursuant to Section 83116 against that person for the same violation.

History: Added by Stats. 1984, Ch. 670.

§ 91009. Considerations; Liability.

In determining the amount of liability under Sections 91004 or 91005, the court may take into account the seriousness of the violation and the degree of culpability of the defendant. If a judgment is entered against the defendant or defendants in an action brought under Section 91004 or 91005, the plaintiff shall receive fifty percent of the amount recovered. The remaining fifty percent shall be deposited in the General Fund of the state. In an action brought by the civil prosecutor, the entire amount recovered shall be paid to the general fund or treasury of the jurisdiction.

§ 91010. Campaign Disclosure Violations; Request to Civil Prosecutor.*

No request to the civil prosecutor pursuant to Section 91007 shall be made or filed in connection with a report or statement required by Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 84100) until the time when an audit and investigation could be begun under subdivision (c) of Section 90002.

History: Amended by Stats. 1992, Ch. 405.

*Section 91010 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 91011. Statute of Limitations.*

(a) A civil action alleging a violation in connection with a report or statement required by Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 84100) shall not be filed more than four years after an audit could begin as set forth in subdivision (c) of Section 90002, as that section existed on January 1, 2014, or more than one year after the Franchise Tax Board forwards its report to the commission, pursuant to Section 90004, of any audit conducted of the alleged violator, whichever period is less.

(b) A civil action alleging a violation of any provisions of this title, other than those described in subdivision (a), shall not be filed more than four years after the date the violation occurred.

History: Amended by Stats. 1978, Ch. 1411; amended by Stats. 1980, Ch. 742; amended by Stats. 1997, Ch. 455, effective September 24, 1997; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 591; amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 97.

*Section 91011 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 91012. Costs; Attorney Fees; Bond.

The court may award to a plaintiff or defendant other than an agency, who prevails in any action authorized by this

title, that party's costs of litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees. On motion of any party, a court shall require a private plaintiff to post a bond in a reasonable amount at any stage of the litigation to guarantee payment of costs.

History: Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

§ 91013. Late Filing of Statement or Report; Fees.*

(a)(1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) to (4), if any person files an original statement or report after any deadline imposed by this act, the person shall, in addition to any other penalties or remedies established by this act, be liable in the amount of ten dollars (\$10) per day after the deadline until the statement or report is filed, to the officer with whom the statement or report is required to be filed.

(2) Liability need not be enforced by the filing officer if on an impartial basis the filing officer determines that the late filing was not willful and that enforcement of the liability will not further the purposes of the act, except that liability shall not be waived pursuant to this paragraph if a statement or report is not filed within 30 days for a statement of economic interest, other than a candidate's statement filed pursuant to Section 87201, 5 days for a campaign statement required to be filed 12 days before an election, and 10 days for all other statements or reports, after the filing officer has sent specific written notice of the filing requirement.

(3) Liability shall not be enforced by the filing officer if the person who filed the late statement or report was unable to timely file the statement or report due to serious illness or hospitalization.

(4) Liability shall not be enforced by the filing officer if the person who filed the late statement or report completes the political reform education program pursuant to Section 83116.7 for that late filing violation.

(b) If any person files a copy of a statement or report after any deadline imposed by this act, the person shall, in addition to any other penalties or remedies established by this chapter, be liable in the amount of ten dollars (\$10) per day, starting 10 days, or 5 days in the case of a campaign statement required to be filed 12 days before an election, after the officer has sent specific written notice of the filing requirement and until the statement is filed. Liability shall not be enforced by the filing officer in either of the following circumstances:

(1) The person who filed the late copy of the statement or report was unable to timely file the copy of the statement or report due to serious illness or hospitalization.

(2) The person who filed the late copy of the statement or report completes the political reform education program pursuant to Section 83116.7 for that late filing violation.

(c) The officer shall deposit any funds received under this section into the general fund of the jurisdiction of which the filing officer is an officer. Liability under this section shall not exceed the cumulative amount stated in the late statement or report, or one hundred dollars (\$100), whichever is greater.

History: Amended by Stats. 2023, Ch. 696, effective October 10, 2023; amended by Stats. 1975, Ch. 915, effective September 20, 1975, operative January 7, 1975; amended by Stats. 1977, Ch. 555; amended by Stats. 1985,

Ch. 1200; amended by Stats. 1993, Ch. 1140; amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 50.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Opinions: *In re Wood* (2000) 13 FPPC Ops. 21
In re Layton (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 113
In re Rundstrom (1975) 1 FPPC Ops. 188

*Section 91013 was amended by AB 808 (Stats. 2025, Ch. 278) with a delayed operation date conditioned upon the Secretary of State certifying an online filing and disclosure system under 84602 (b)(7). For more information, please refer to Appendix VI.

§ 91013.5. Collection of Penalties.

(a) In addition to any other available remedies, the commission or the filing officer may bring a civil action and obtain a judgment in superior court for the purpose of collecting any unpaid monetary penalties, fees, or civil penalties imposed pursuant to this title. The action may be filed as a small claims, limited civil, or unlimited civil case, depending on the jurisdictional amount. The venue for this action shall be in the county where the monetary penalties, fees, or civil penalties were imposed by the commission or the filing officer. In order to obtain a judgment in a proceeding under this section, the commission or filing officer shall show, following the procedures and rules of evidence as applied in ordinary civil actions, all of the following:

(1) That the monetary penalties, fees, or civil penalties were imposed following the procedures set forth in this title and implementing regulations.

(2) That the defendant or defendants in the action were notified, by actual or constructive notice, of the imposition of the monetary penalties, fees, or civil penalties.

(3) That a demand for payment has been made by the commission or the filing officer and full payment has not been received.

(b) A civil action brought pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be commenced within four years after the date on which the monetary penalty, fee, or civil penalty was imposed.

History: Added by Stats. 1984, Ch. 670; amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 483.

References at the time of publication (see page 2):

Regulations: 2 Cal. Code of Regs. Section 18318

§ 91013.7. Judgment for Collection of Penalties.

(a) If the time for judicial review of a final Commission order or decision has lapsed, or if all means of judicial review of the order or decision have been exhausted, the Commission may apply to the clerk of the court for a judgment to collect the penalties imposed by the order or decision, or the order as modified in accordance with a decision on judicial review.

(b) The application, which shall include a certified copy of the order or decision, or the order as modified in accordance with a decision on judicial review, and proof of service of the order or decision, constitutes a sufficient showing to warrant issuance of the judgment to collect the penalties. The clerk of the court shall enter the judgment immediately in conformity with the application.

(c) An application made pursuant to this section shall be made to the clerk of the superior court in the county where

the monetary penalties, fees, or civil penalties were imposed by the Commission.

(d) A judgment entered in accordance with this section has the same force and effect as, and is subject to all the provisions of law relating to, a judgment in a civil action and may be enforced in the same manner as any other judgment of the court in which it is entered.

(e) The Commission may bring an application pursuant to this section only within four years after the date on which the monetary penalty, fee, or civil penalty was imposed.

(f) The remedy available under this section is in addition to those available under Section 91013.5 or any other law.

History: Added by Stats. 2013, Ch. 645.

§ 91014. Applicability of Other State Law.

Nothing in this chapter shall exempt any person from applicable provisions of any other laws of this state.