

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate . House

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The Committee on Ethics and Elections (Latvala) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 2182 - 2222 and insert:

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Section 32. For the purpose of incorporating the amendments made by this act to sections 106.08 and 106.11, Florida Statutes, in references thereto, section 106.19, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

106.19 Violations by candidates, persons connected with campaigns, and political committees.—

(1) Any candidate; campaign manager, campaign treasurer, or deputy treasurer of any candidate; committee chair, vice chair,

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campaign treasurer, deputy treasurer, or other officer of any political committee; agent or person acting on behalf of any candidate or political committee; or other person who knowingly and willfully:

- (a) Accepts a contribution in excess of the limits prescribed by s. 106.08;
- (b) Fails to report any contribution required to be reported by this chapter;
- (c) Falsely reports or deliberately fails to include any information required by this chapter; or
- (d) Makes or authorizes any expenditure in violation of s. 106.11(4) or any other expenditure prohibited by this chapter;

is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

- (2) Any candidate, campaign treasurer, or deputy treasurer; any chair, vice chair, or other officer of any political committee; any agent or person acting on behalf of any candidate or political committee; or any other person who violates paragraph (1)(a), paragraph (1)(b), or paragraph (1)(d) shall be subject to a civil penalty equal to three times the amount involved in the illegal act. Such penalty may be in addition to the penalties provided by subsection (1) and shall be paid into the General Revenue Fund of this state.
- (3) A political committee sponsoring a constitutional amendment proposed by initiative which submits a petition form gathered by a paid petition circulator which does not provide the name and address of the paid petition circulator on the form is subject to the civil penalties prescribed in s. 106.265.

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(4) Except as otherwise expressly stated, the failure by a candidate to comply with the requirements of this chapter has no effect upon whether the candidate has qualified for the office the candidate is seeking.

Section 33. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 106.11, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

106.11 Expenses of and expenditures by candidates and political committees. - Each candidate and each political committee which designates a primary campaign depository pursuant to s. 106.021(1) shall make expenditures from funds on deposit in such primary campaign depository only in the following manner, with the exception of expenditures made from petty cash funds provided by s. 106.12:

- (1) (a) 1. The campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer of a candidate or political committee shall make expenditures from funds on deposit in the primary campaign depository only by means of a bank check drawn upon the campaign account of the candidate or political committee. The campaign account shall be separate from any personal or other account and shall be used only for the purpose of depositing contributions and making expenditures for the candidate or political committee.
- 2. An expenditure by a political committee must also be primarily related to raising or making a contribution, influencing the results of an election, making an electioneering communication, or other political activity authorized by this chapter. A violation of this subparagraph is punishable solely as provided in s. 106.19(2).

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======== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ==========

72 And the title is amended as follows: Delete lines 68 - 74 73 74 and insert: 75 made by the act; reenacting s. 106.075(2), F.S., 76 relating to contributions made to pay back campaign loans incurred, to incorporate the amendment made to 77 78 s. 106.08, F.S., in a reference thereto; reenacting s. 79 106.19, F.S., relating to criminal and enhanced civil 80

penalties for certain campaign finance violations, to incorporate the amendments made to ss. 106.08 and 106.11, F.S., in references thereto; amending s. 106.11, F.S.; specifying restrictions on expenditures

by political committees; providing a penalty; providing effective dates.