# Bill No. CS for SB 1500

	CHAMBER ACTION
	<u>Senate</u> <u>House</u> .
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11	Senator Lee moved the following amendment:
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13	Senate Amendment (with title amendment)
14	On page 50, line 20, to page 80, line 20, delete those
15	lines
16	
17	and insert:
18	Section 25. Effective upon this act becoming a law,
19	section 99.103, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
20	99.103 Department of State to remit part of filing
21	fees and party assessments of candidates to state executive
22	committee <u>and leadership funds</u>
23	(1) Except as provided in subsection (2), if more than
24	three-fourths of the full authorized membership of the state
25	executive committee of any party was elected at the last
26	previous election for such members and if such party is
27	declared by the Department of State to have recorded on the
28	registration books of the counties, as of the first Tuesday
29	after the first Monday in January prior to the first primary
30	in general election years, 5 percent of the total registration
31	of such counties when added together, such committee shall

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receive, for the purpose of meeting its expenses, all filing
fees collected by the Department of State from its candidates
less an amount equal to 15 percent of the filing fees, which
amount the Department of State shall deposit in the General
Revenue Fund of the state.

(2) For state legislative candidates, the leadership fund of the political party of the house to which the candidate seeks office, provided such leadership fund exists, shall receive all filing fees collected by the Department of State from such candidates less an amount equal to 15 percent of the filing fees, which amount the Department of State shall deposit in the General Revenue Fund of the state.

(3) Not later than 20 days after the close of qualifying in even-numbered years, the Department of State shall remit 95 percent of all filing fees, less the amount deposited in general revenue pursuant to subsection (1), or party assessments that may have been collected by the department to the respective state executive committees of the parties complying with subsection (1) or leadership fund as provided in subsection (2). Party assessments collected by the Department of State shall be remitted to the appropriate leadership fund or state executive committee, irrespective of other requirements of this section, provided such committee is duly organized under the provisions of chapter 103. The remainder of filing fees or party assessments collected by the Department of State shall be remitted to the appropriate <u>leadership fund or</u> state executive committees not later than the date of the first primary.

Section 26. Effective upon becoming a law, subsection (1) of section 99.092, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 99.092 Qualifying fee of candidate; notification of

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#### Department of State. --

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(1) Each person seeking to qualify for nomination or election to any office, except a person seeking to qualify by the alternative method pursuant to s. 99.095, s. 99.0955, or s. 99.096 and except a person seeking to qualify as a write-in candidate, shall pay a qualifying fee, which shall consist of a filing fee and election assessment, to the officer with whom the person qualifies, and any party assessment levied, and shall attach the original or signed duplicate of the receipt for his or her party assessment or pay the same, in accordance with the provisions of s. 103.121, at the time of filing his or her other qualifying papers. The amount of the filing fee is 3 percent of the annual salary of the office. The amount of the election assessment is 1 percent of the annual salary of the office sought. The election assessment shall be deposited into the Elections Commission Trust Fund. amount of the party assessment is 2 percent of the annual salary. The annual salary of the office for purposes of computing the filing fee, election assessment, and party assessment shall be computed by multiplying 12 times the monthly salary, excluding any special qualification pay, authorized for such office as of July 1 immediately preceding the first day of qualifying. No qualifying fee shall be returned to the candidate unless the candidate withdraws his or her candidacy before the last date to qualify. If a candidate dies prior to an election and has not withdrawn his or her candidacy before the last date to qualify, the candidate's qualifying fee shall be returned to his or her designated beneficiary, and, if the filing fee or any portion thereof has been transferred to the political party of the 31 candidate or any leadership fund thereof, the Secretary of

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- 1 | State shall direct the party or leadership fund to return that portion to the designated beneficiary of the candidate.
- 3 (2) The supervisor of elections shall, immediately after the last day for qualifying, submit to the Department of 5 State a list containing the names, party affiliations, and addresses of all candidates and the offices for which they 6 7 qualified.
- 8 Section 27. Effective upon this act becoming a law, 9 subsections (1), (5), and (8) of section 106.011, Florida 10 Statutes, are amended to read:
  - 106.011 Definitions.--As used in this chapter, the following terms have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:
    - (1)(a) "Political committee" means:
- 1. A combination of two or more individuals, or a 16 person other than an individual, that, in an aggregate amount in excess of \$500 during a single calendar year:
  - a. Accepts contributions for the purpose of making contributions to any candidate, political committee, committee of continuous existence, <u>leadership fund</u>, or political party;
  - b. Accepts contributions for the purpose of expressly advocating the election or defeat of a candidate or the passage or defeat of an issue;
- 24 c. Makes expenditures that expressly advocate the 25 election or defeat of a candidate or the passage or defeat of 26 an issue; or
- d. Makes contributions to a common fund, other than a joint checking account between spouses, from which contributions are made to any candidate, political committee, committee of continuous existence, <u>leadership fund</u>, or 31 political party.

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- The sponsor of a proposed constitutional amendment by initiative who intends to seek the signatures of registered electors.
- (b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), the following entities are not considered political committees for purposes of this chapter:
- 1. Organizations which are certified by the Department of State as committees of continuous existence pursuant to s. 106.04, <u>leadership funds</u>, national political parties, and the state and county executive committees of political parties regulated by chapter 103.
- 2. Corporations regulated by chapter 607 or chapter 617 or other business entities formed for purposes other than to support or oppose issues or candidates, if their political activities are limited to contributions to candidates, political parties, <u>leadership funds</u>, or political committees or expenditures in support of or opposition to an issue from corporate or business funds and if no contributions are received by such corporations or business entities.
- (5)(a) "Independent expenditure" means an expenditure by a person for the purpose of advocating the election or defeat of a candidate or the approval or rejection of an issue, which expenditure is not controlled by, coordinated with, or made upon consultation with, any candidate, political committee, or agent of such candidate or committee. An expenditure for such purpose by a person having a contract with the candidate, political committee, or agent of such candidate or committee in a given election period shall not be deemed an independent expenditure.
- (b) An expenditure for the purpose of advocating the 31 election or defeat of a candidate which is made by the

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- national, state, or county executive committee of a political party, including any subordinate committee of a national, 3 state, or county committee of a political party, by a leadership fund, or by any political committee or committee of 4 5 continuous existence, or any other person, shall not be considered an independent expenditure if the committee or 6
- 8 1. Communicates with the candidate, the candidate's campaign, or an agent of the candidate acting on behalf of the 9 candidate, including any pollster, media consultant, 10 11 advertising agency, vendor, advisor, or staff member, concerning the preparation of, use of, or payment for, the 12

specific expenditure or advertising campaign at issue; or

- 2. Makes a payment in cooperation, consultation, or concert with, at the request or suggestion of, or pursuant to any general or particular understanding with the candidate, the candidate's campaign, a political committee supporting the candidate, or an agent of the candidate relating to the specific expenditure or advertising campaign at issue; or
- 3. Makes a payment for the dissemination, distribution, or republication, in whole or in part, of any broadcast or any written, graphic, or other form of campaign material prepared by the candidate, the candidate's campaign, or an agent of the candidate, including any pollster, media consultant, advertising agency, vendor, advisor, or staff member; or
- 4. Makes a payment based on information about the candidate's plans, projects, or needs communicated to a member of the committee or person by the candidate or an agent of the candidate, provided the committee or person uses the 31 | information in any way, in whole or in part, either directly

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or indirectly, to design, prepare, or pay for the specific expenditure or advertising campaign at issue; or

- 5. After the last day of qualifying for statewide or legislative office, consults about the candidate's plans, projects, or needs in connection with the candidate's pursuit of election to office and the information is used in any way to plan, create, design, or prepare an independent expenditure or advertising campaign, with:
- a. Any officer, director, employee, or agent of a <u>leadership fund</u>, <u>including a leader</u>, <u>or a</u> national, state, or county executive committee of a political party that has made or intends to make expenditures in connection with or contributions to the candidate; or
- b. Any person whose professional services have been retained by a <u>leadership fund or a</u> national, state, or county executive committee of a political party that has made or intends to make expenditures in connection with or contributions to the candidate; or
- 6. After the last day of qualifying for statewide or legislative office, retains the professional services of any person also providing those services to the candidate in connection with the candidate's pursuit of election to office; or
- 7. Arranges, coordinates, or directs the expenditure, in any way, with the candidate or an agent of the candidate.
- (8) "Person" means an individual or a corporation, association, firm, partnership, joint venture, joint stock company, club, organization, estate, trust, business trust, syndicate, or other combination of individuals having collective capacity. The term includes a <u>leadership fund</u>, 31 | political party, political committee, or committee of

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continuous existence.

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Section 28. Effective upon this act becoming a law, subsection (3) of section 106.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

106.021 Campaign treasurers; deputies; primary and secondary depositories.--

(3) Except for independent expenditures, no contribution or expenditure, including contributions or expenditures of a candidate or of the candidate's family, shall be directly or indirectly made or received in furtherance of the candidacy of any person for nomination or election to political office in the state or on behalf of any political committee except through the duly appointed campaign treasurer of the candidate or political committee; however, a candidate or any other individual may be reimbursed for expenses incurred for travel, food and beverage, office supplies, and mementos expressing gratitude to campaign supporters by a check drawn upon the campaign account and reported pursuant to s. 106.07(4). In addition, expenditures may be made directly by any political committee, leadership fund, or political party regulated by chapter 103 for obtaining time, space, or services in or by any communications medium for the purpose of jointly endorsing three or more candidates, and any such expenditure shall not be considered a contribution or expenditure to or on behalf of any such candidates for the purposes of this chapter.

Section 29. Effective upon this act becoming a law, section 106.025, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

106.025 Campaign fund raisers.--

30 (1)(a) No campaign fund raiser may be held unless the 31 person for whom such funds are to be so used is a candidate

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- (b) All money and contributions received with respect to such a campaign fund raiser shall be deemed to be campaign contributions, and shall be accounted for, and subject to the same restrictions, as other campaign contributions. All expenditures made with respect to such a campaign fund raiser which are made or reimbursed by a check drawn on the campaign depository of the candidate for whom the funds are to be used and shall be deemed to be campaign expenditures to be accounted for, and subject to the same restrictions, as other campaign expenditures.
- (c) Any tickets or advertising for such a campaign fund raiser shall contain the following statement: "The purchase of a ticket for, or a contribution to, the campaign fund raiser is a contribution to the campaign of ... (name of the candidate for whose benefit the campaign fund raiser is held).... "Such tickets or advertising shall also comply with other provisions of this chapter relating to political advertising.
- (d) Any person or candidate who holds a campaign fund raiser, or consents to a campaign fund raiser being held, in violation of the provisions of this subsection is quilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (2) This section shall not apply to any campaign fund raiser held on behalf of a leadership fund by the leader or on behalf of a political party by the state or county executive committee of such party, provided that the proceeds of such campaign fund raiser are reported pursuant to s. 106.29.
- Section 30. Effective upon this act becoming a law, 31 subsections (1) and (4) of section 106.04, Florida Statutes,

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are amended to read:

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- 106.04 Committees of continuous existence.--
- (1) In order to qualify as a committee of continuous existence for the purposes of this chapter, a group, organization, association, or other such entity that which is involved in making contributions to candidates, political committees, <u>leadership funds</u>, or political parties, shall meet the following criteria:
- (a) It shall be organized and operated in accordance with a written charter or set of bylaws which contains procedures for the election of officers and directors and which clearly defines membership in the organization; and
- (b) At least 25 percent of the income of such organization, excluding interest, must be derived from dues or assessments payable on a regular basis by its membership pursuant to provisions contained in the charter or bylaws.
- (4)(a) Each committee of continuous existence shall file an annual report with the Division of Elections during the month of January. Such annual reports shall contain the same information and shall be accompanied by the same materials as original applications filed pursuant to subsection (2). However, the charter or bylaws need not be filed if the annual report is accompanied by a sworn statement by the chair that no changes have been made to such charter or bylaws since the last filing.
- (b)1. Each committee of continuous existence shall file regular reports with the Division of Elections at the same times and subject to the same filing conditions as are established by s. 106.07(1) and (2) for candidates' reports.
- 2. Any committee of continuous existence failing to so 31 | file a report with the Division of Elections pursuant to this

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paragraph on the designated due date shall be subject to a fine for late filing as provided by this section.

- (c) All committees of continuous existence shall file the original and one copy of their reports with the Division of Elections. In addition, a duplicate copy of each report shall be filed with the supervisor of elections in the county in which the committee maintains its books and records, except that if the filing officer to whom the committee is required to report is located in the same county as the supervisor no such duplicate report is required to be filed with the supervisor. Reports shall be on forms provided by the division and shall contain the following information:
- 1. The full name, address, and occupation of each person who has made one or more contributions to the committee during the reporting period, together with the amounts and dates of such contributions. For corporations, the report must provide as clear a description as practicable of the principal type of business conducted by the corporation. However, if the contribution is \$100 or less, the occupation of the contributor or principal type of business need not be listed. However, for any contributions which represent the payment of dues by members in a fixed amount pursuant to the schedule on file with the Division of Elections, only the aggregate amount of such contributions need be listed, together with the number of members paying such dues and the amount of the membership dues.
- 2. The name and address of each political committee or committee of continuous existence from which the reporting committee received, or the name and address of each political committee, committee of continuous existence, leadership fund, 31 or political party to which it made, any transfer of funds,

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together with the amounts and dates of all transfers.

- 3. Any other receipt of funds not listed pursuant to subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2., including the sources and amounts of all such funds.
- 4. The name and address of, and office sought by, each candidate to whom the committee has made a contribution during the reporting period, together with the amount and date of each contribution.
- (d) The treasurer of each committee shall certify as to the correctness of each report and shall bear the responsibility for its accuracy and veracity. Any treasurer who willfully certifies to the correctness of a report while knowing that such report is incorrect, false, or incomplete commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 31. Effective upon this act becoming a law, section 106.08, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

106.08 Contributions; limitations on.--

- (1)(a) Except for political parties, no person, political committee, or committee of continuous existence may, in any election, make contributions in excess of \$500 to any candidate for election to or retention in office or to any political committee supporting or opposing one or more candidates. Candidates for the offices of Governor and Lieutenant Governor on the same ticket are considered a single candidate for the purpose of this section.
- (b)1. The contribution limits provided in this subsection do not apply to contributions made by a state or county executive committee of a political party regulated by chapter 103, contributions made by leadership funds, or to 31 amounts contributed by a candidate to his or her own campaign.

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- 2. Notwithstanding the limits provided in this subsection, an unemancipated child under the age of 18 years of age may not make a contribution in excess of \$100 to any candidate or to any political committee supporting one or more candidates.
- (c) The contribution limits of this subsection apply to each election. For purposes of this subsection, the first primary, second primary, and general election are separate elections so long as the candidate is not an unopposed candidate as defined in s. 106.011(15). However, for the purpose of contribution limits with respect to candidates for retention as a justice or judge, there is only one election, which is the general election. With respect to candidates in a circuit holding an election for circuit judge or in a county holding an election for county court judge, there are only two elections, which are the first primary election and general election.
- (2)(a) A candidate may not accept contributions from national, state, or including any subordinate committee of a national, state, or county committee of a political party, and county executive committees of a political party, including any subordinate committee of a national, state, or county committee of a political party, or from leadership funds pursuant to s. 106.295, which contributions in the aggregate exceed \$50,000, no more than \$25,000 of which may be accepted prior to the 28-day period immediately preceding the date of the general election.
- (b) Polling services, research services, costs for campaign staff, professional consulting services, and telephone calls are not contributions to be counted toward the 31 | contribution limits of paragraph (a). Any item not expressly

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identified in this paragraph as nonallocable is a contribution in an amount equal to the fair market value of the item and must be counted as allocable toward the \$50,000 contribution limits of paragraph (a). Nonallocable, in-kind contributions must be reported by the candidate under s. 106.07 and by the political party and leadership fund under s. 106.29.

- (3)(a) Any contribution received by a candidate with opposition in an election or by the campaign treasurer or a deputy campaign treasurer of such a candidate on the day of that election or less than 5 days prior to the day of that election must be returned by him or her to the person or committee contributing it and may not be used or expended by or on behalf of the candidate.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c), any contribution received by a candidate or by the campaign treasurer or a deputy campaign treasurer of a candidate after the date at which the candidate withdraws his or her candidacy, or after the date the candidate is defeated, becomes unopposed, or is elected to office must be returned to the person or committee contributing it and may not be used or expended by or on behalf of the candidate.
- (c) With respect to any campaign for an office in which an independent or minor party candidate has filed as required in s. 99.0955 or s. 99.096, but whose qualification is pending a determination by the Department of State or supervisor of elections as to whether or not the required number of petition signatures was obtained:
- 1. The department or supervisor shall, no later than 3 days after that determination has been made, notify in writing all other candidates for that office of that determination.
  - 2. Any contribution received by a candidate or the

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- campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer of a candidate after the candidate has been notified in writing by the 3 department or supervisor that he or she has become unopposed as a result of an independent or minor party candidate failing 4 5 to obtain the required number of petition signatures shall be returned to the person, political committee, or committee of 6 continuous existence contributing it and shall not be used or 7 8 expended by or on behalf of the candidate.
  - (4) Any contribution received by the chair, campaign treasurer, or deputy campaign treasurer of a political committee supporting or opposing a candidate with opposition in an election or supporting or opposing an issue on the ballot in an election on the day of that election or less than 5 days prior to the day of that election may not be obligated or expended by the committee until after the date of the election.
  - (5)(a) Except for contributions from leadership funds, a person may not make any contribution through or in the name of another, directly or indirectly, in any election.
  - (b) Candidates, political committees, leadership funds, and political parties may not solicit contributions from any religious, charitable, civic, or other causes or organizations established primarily for the public good.
  - (c) Candidates, political committees, <u>leadership</u> funds, and political parties may not make contributions, in exchange for political support, to any religious, charitable, civic, or other cause or organization established primarily for the public good. It is not a violation of this paragraph for:
- 1. A candidate, political committee, <u>leadership fund</u>, 31 or political party executive committee to make gifts of money

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in lieu of flowers in memory of a deceased person;

- 2. A candidate to continue membership in, or make regular donations from personal or business funds to, religious, political party, civic, or charitable groups of which the candidate is a member or to which the candidate has been a regular donor for more than 6 months; or
- 3. A candidate to purchase, with campaign funds, tickets, admission to events, or advertisements from religious, civic, political party, or charitable groups.
- (6) A political party or leadership fund may not accept any contribution which has been specifically designated for the partial or exclusive use of a particular candidate. Any contribution so designated must be returned to the contributor and may not be used or expended by or on behalf of the candidate.
- (7)(a) Any person who knowingly and willfully makes no more than one contribution in violation of subsection (1) or subsection (5), or any person who knowingly and willfully fails or refuses to return any contribution as required in subsection (3), commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. If any corporation, partnership, or other business entity or any political party, political committee, or committee of continuous existence is convicted of knowingly and willfully violating any provision punishable under this paragraph, it shall be fined not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$10,000. If it is a domestic entity, it may be ordered dissolved by a court of competent jurisdiction; if it is a foreign or nonresident business entity, its right to do business in this state may be forfeited. Any officer, partner, agent, 31 attorney, or other representative of a corporation,

775.082 or s. 775.083.

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- partnership, or other business entity or of a political party, political committee, or committee of continuous existence who 3 aids, abets, advises, or participates in a violation of any provision punishable under this paragraph commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.
- (b) Any person who knowingly and willfully makes two or more contributions in violation of subsection (1) or 8 subsection (5) commits a felony of the third degree, 9 punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 10 11 775.084. If any corporation, partnership, or other business entity or any political party, political committee, or 12 13 committee of continuous existence is convicted of knowingly and willfully violating any provision punishable under this 14 15 paragraph, it shall be fined not less than \$10,000 and not 16 more than \$50,000. If it is a domestic entity, it may be ordered dissolved by a court of competent jurisdiction; if it 17 18 is a foreign or nonresident business entity, its right to do 19 business in this state may be forfeited. Any officer, 20 partner, agent, attorney, or other representative of a 21 corporation, partnership, or other business entity, or of a

political committee, committee of continuous existence, or

violation of any provision punishable under this paragraph

commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided

political party who aids, abets, advises, or participates in a

in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. (8) Except when otherwise provided in subsection (7), any person who knowingly and willfully violates any provision of this section shall, in addition to any other penalty prescribed by this chapter, pay to the state a sum equal to 31 twice the amount contributed in violation of this chapter.

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- Each campaign treasurer shall pay all amounts contributed in violation of this section to the state for deposit in the 3 General Revenue Fund.
  - (9) A leader who is also a candidate for any office other than an office in the house in which the candidate serves as leader, shall not make contributions from his or her own leadership funds to support his or her own candidacy.
- (10) (9) This section does not apply to the transfer of funds between a primary campaign depository or primary leadership depository and a savings account or certificate of 10 deposit or to any interest earned on such account or 12 certificate.
  - Section 32. Effective upon this act becoming a law, subsection (3) of section 106.147, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 106.147 Telephone solicitation; disclosure requirements; prohibitions; exemptions; penalties .--
  - (3)(a) Any person who willfully violates any provision of this section commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- 21 (b) For purposes of paragraph (a), the term "person" includes any candidate; any officer of any political 22 23 committee, committee of continuous existence, or political 24 party executive committee; any officer, partner, attorney, or 25 other representative of a corporation, partnership, or other 26 business entity; and any agent or other person acting on 27 behalf of any candidate, political committee, committee of continuous existence, <u>leadership fund</u>, political party 2.8 executive committee, or corporation, partnership, or other 30 business entity.
- 31 Section 33. Effective upon this act becoming a law,

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section 106.148, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 106.148 Disclosure of on-line computer 3 solicitation. -- A message placed on an information system accessible by computer by a candidate, <u>leader expending</u> 4 5 <u>leadership funds</u>, political party, political committee, or 6 committee of continuous existence, or an agent of any such 7 candidate, <u>leadership fund</u>, party, or committee, which message is accessible by more than one person, other than an internal 8 communication of the <u>leadership fund</u>, party, committee, or 9 campaign, must include a statement disclosing all information 10 11 required of political advertisements under s. 106.143. Section 34. Effective upon this act becoming a law, 12 13 section 106.17, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 106.17 Polls and surveys relating to candidacies. -- Any 14 15 candidate, political committee, <u>leadership fund</u>, or state or 16 county executive committee of a political party may authorize or conduct a political poll, survey, index, or measurement of 17 18 any kind relating to candidacy for public office so long as 19 the candidate, political committee, <u>leadership fund</u>, or political party maintains complete jurisdiction over the poll 21 in all its aspects. 2.2 Section 35. Effective upon this act becoming a law, 23 section 106.29, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 24 106.29 Reports by political parties and leadership 25 funds; restrictions on contributions and expenditures; 26 penalties.--27 (1) The state executive committee of each political 28 party regulated by chapter 103, and each county executive 29 committee of each political party regulated by chapter 103, and each leadership fund shall file regular reports of all 30

31 contributions received and all expenditures made by such

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- committee. Such reports shall contain the same information as do reports required of candidates by s. 106.07 and shall be 3 filed on the 10th day following the end of each calendar quarter, except that, during the period from the last day for 4 5 candidate qualifying until the general election, such reports shall be filed on the Friday immediately preceding the first 6 primary election, the second primary election, and the general election. Each state executive committee and each leader 8 shall file the original and one copy of its reports with the 9 Division of Elections. Each county executive committee shall 10 11 file its reports with the supervisor of elections in the county in which such committee exists. Any state or county 12 13 executive committee or any leadership fund failing to file a report on the designated due date shall be subject to a fine 14 15 as provided in subsection (3). No separate fine shall be 16 assessed for failure to file a copy of any report required by 17 this section. 18 (2)(a) The chair and treasurer of each state or county 19 executive committee, and the leader and treasurer of a 20 leadership fund, shall certify as to the correctness of each report filed by them on behalf of such committee or leadership 2.1 fund. Any committee chair or treasurer, or any leader or 22 <u>leadership</u> fund treasurer, who certifies the correctness of 23 24 any report while knowing that such report is incorrect, false, 25 or incomplete commits a felony of the third degree, punishable 26 as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. 27 (b) If two or more leaders successively operate the 28
  - (b) If two or more leaders successively operate the same leadership fund during a single reporting period, each must file a separate report pursuant to paragraph (a) for the period that he or she operated the fund.
    - (3)(a) Any state or county executive committee, or any

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- leadership fund, failing to file a report on the designated due date shall be subject to a fine as provided in paragraph 3 (b) for each late day. The fine shall be assessed by the filing officer, or, in the case of a leadership fund, by the 4 division, and the moneys collected shall be deposited in the 5 Elections Commission Trust Fund. 6
  - (b) Upon determining that a state or county executive committee report is late, the filing officer shall immediately notify the chair of the executive committee as to the failure to file a report by the designated due date and that a fine is being assessed for each late day. Upon determining that a leadership fund report is late, the division shall immediately notify the leader as to the failure to file a report by the designated due date and that a fine is being assessed for each late day. The fine shall be \$1,000 for a state executive committee or leadership fund, and \$50 for a county executive committee, per day for each late day, not to exceed 25 percent of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report. However, if an executive committee or leadership fund fails to file a report on the Friday immediately preceding the general election, the fine shall be \$10,000 per day for each day a state executive committee or leadership fund is late and \$500 per day for each day a county executive committee is late. Upon receipt of the report, the division or filing officer, as appropriate, shall determine the amount of the fine which is due and shall notify the committee chair or leader. The division or filing officer, as appropriate, shall determine the amount of the fine due based upon the earliest of the following:
- 1. When the report is actually received by such 31 officer.

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- 2. When the report is postmarked.
- 3. When the certificate of mailing is dated.
- 4. When the receipt from an established courier company is dated.

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Such fine shall be paid to the division or filing officer, as appropriate, within 20 days after receipt of the notice of payment due, unless appeal is made to the Florida Elections Commission pursuant to paragraph (c). An officer or member of an executive committee or a leader shall not be personally liable for such fine.

- (c) The chair of an executive committee or a leader may appeal or dispute the fine, based upon unusual circumstances surrounding the failure to file on the designated due date, and may request and shall be entitled to a hearing before the Florida Elections Commission, which shall have the authority to waive the fine in whole or in part. Any such request shall be made within 20 days after receipt of the notice of payment due. In such case, the chair of the executive committee or the leader shall, within the 20-day period, notify the division or filing officer, as appropriate, in writing of his or her intention to bring the matter before the commission.
- (d) The division or the appropriate filing officer, as appropriate, shall notify the Florida Elections Commission of the repeated late filing by an executive committee or leadership fund, the failure of an executive committee or leadership fund to file a report after notice, or the failure to pay the fine imposed.
- (4) Any contribution received by a state or county 31 executive committee or a leadership fund less than 5 days

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before an election shall not be used or expended in behalf of any candidate, issue, or political party participating in such election.

- (5) No state or county executive committee <u>nor any</u> leadership fund, in the furtherance of any candidate or political party, directly or indirectly, shall give, pay, or expend any money, give or pay anything of value, authorize any expenditure, or become pecuniarily liable for any expenditure prohibited by this chapter. However, the contribution of funds by one executive committee to another or to established party organizations for legitimate party or campaign purposes is not prohibited, but all such contributions shall be recorded and accounted for in the reports of the contributor and recipient. Similarly, the contribution of funds by a national, state, or county executive committee to a leadership fund or from a <u>leadership</u> fund to such committee for legitimate party or leadership purposes is not prohibited, but all such contributions shall be recorded and accounted for in the reports of the contributor and recipient required by state law.
- (6)(a) The national, state, and county executive committees of a political party and leadership funds may not contribute to any candidate any amount in excess of the limits contained in s. 106.08(2), and all contributions required to be reported under s. 106.08(2) by the national executive committee of a political party shall be reported by the state executive committee of that political party.
- (b) A violation of the contribution limits contained in s. 106.08(2) is a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. A civil 31 penalty equal to three times the amount in excess of the

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- limits contained in s. 106.08(2) shall be assessed against any executive committee or leadership fund found in violation thereof.
  - (7) The division shall prescribe a form for reporting leadership fund contributions and expenditures pursuant to this section.
  - (8) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, in any reporting period during which a leadership fund has not received any contributions or made any reportable expenditures, the filing of the report for that period shall be waived. However, the next report filed must specify that it covers the entire period between the last submitted report and the report being filed.
  - Section 36. Effective upon this act becoming a law, section 106.295, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

106.295 Leadership fund.--

- (1) For purposes of this section:
- (a) "Leadership fund" means accounts comprised of any moneys contributed to a <u>leader political party</u>, directly or <u>indirectly</u>, which are designated <u>for deposit into a primary leadership depository</u>. Such funds may to be used at the <u>partial or total discretion of the a leader for any purpose on which the state or county executive committee of a political party could spend its funds, and also for the payment of <u>leadership expenses</u>.</u>
- (b) "Leader" means the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the majority leader and the minority leader of each house, or any member personally designated by the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, or such minority leader, until such time as and any person designated by a

provided in s. 106.11.

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- political caucus of members of either house <u>formally</u>
  designates a successor to succeed to any such position <u>who</u>
  shall, upon such designation, become the leader for purposes
  of this chapter.
- 5 (2) A leader operating a leadership fund shall appoint a fund treasurer and designate a primary leadership depository 6 for the purpose of depositing all contributions received and 8 disbursing all expenditures made by the fund. Except for expenditures made from petty cash funds pursuant to subsection (3), each leader and treasurer shall make expenditures from 10 11 funds on deposit in such primary leadership depository only by means of a bank check or debit card, subject to the same 12 13 limitations governing primary campaign depositories as
  - (3) A leadership fund treasurer may withdraw funds from the primary leadership depository to establish a petty cash fund in the same manner and subject to the same limitations as apply to statewide candidates pursuant to s. 106.12. For purposes of applying this subsection, the term "qualifying" in s. 106.12 shall refer to the period during which state legislative candidates qualify with the Department of State pursuant to chapter 99.
- 24 type of detailed accounts with regard to the leadership fund
  25 as a campaign treasurer keeps for a candidate pursuant to s.
  26 106.06, except that the leadership fund treasurer shall
  27 preserve the accounts kept for 2 years. Accounts kept by the
  28 leadership fund treasurer shall be open to inspection as
  29 provided in s. 106.06.
- 30 (2) Leadership funds are prohibited in this state. No
  31 leader shall accept any leadership funds.

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1	(3) This section applies to leadership funds in
2	existence on or after January 1, 1990.
3	Section 37. Effective upon this act becoming a law,
4	subsection (3) of section 106.33, Florida Statutes, is amended
5	to read:
6	106.33 Election campaign financing; eligibilityEach
7	candidate for the office of Governor or member of the Cabinet
8	who desires to receive contributions from the Election
9	Campaign Financing Trust Fund shall, upon qualifying for
10	office, file a request for such contributions with the filing
11	officer on forms provided by the Division of Elections. If a
12	candidate requesting contributions from the fund desires to
13	have such funds distributed by electronic fund transfers, the
14	request shall include information necessary to implement that
15	procedure. For the purposes of ss. 106.30-106.36, candidates
16	for Governor and Lieutenant Governor on the same ticket shall
17	be considered as a single candidate. To be eligible to
18	receive contributions from the fund, a candidate may not be an
19	unopposed candidate as defined in s. 106.011(15) and must:
20	(3) Limit loans or contributions from the candidate's
21	personal funds to \$25,000 and contributions from <a href="leadership">leadership</a>
22	<u>funds and</u> national, state, and county executive committees of
23	a political party to \$25,000 in the aggregate, which loans or
24	contributions shall not qualify for meeting the threshold
25	amounts in subsection (2).
26	Section 38. Effective upon becoming a law, subsection
27	(2) of section 103.081, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
28	103.081 Use of party name; political advertising

30 abbreviation, or symbol of any political party, the name,

31 abbreviation, or symbol of which is filed with the Department

(2) No person or group of persons shall use the name,

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of State, in connection with any club, group, association, or organization of any kind unless approval and permission have 3 been given in writing by the state executive committee of such party. This subsection shall not apply to county executive 4 5 committees of such parties, leadership funds where the leader is a member of such party, and organizations which are 6 7 chartered by the national executive committee of the party the name, abbreviation, or symbol of which is to be used, or to 8 organizations using the name of any political party which 9 organizations have been in existence and organized on a 10 11 statewide basis for a period of 10 years. Section 39. Effective upon becoming a law, subsection 12 13 (1) of section 103.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 103.091 Political parties.--14 15 (1)(a) Each political party of the state shall be 16 represented by a state executive committee. County executive 17 committees and other committees may be established in accordance with the rules of the state executive committee. A 18 19 political party may provide for the selection of its national 20 committee and its state and county executive committees in 21 such manner as it deems proper. Unless otherwise provided by 22 party rule, the county executive committee of each political 23 party shall consist of at least two members, a man and a woman, from each precinct, who shall be called the precinct 24 25 committeeman and committeewoman. For counties divided into 40 26 or more precincts, the state executive committee may adopt a 27 district unit of representation for such county executive committees. Upon adoption of a district unit of 28 representation, the state executive committee shall request the supervisor of elections of that county, with approval of 30

31 | the board of county commissioners, to provide for election

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- 1 districts as nearly equal in number of registered voters as
  2 possible. Each county committeeman or committeewoman shall be
  3 a resident of the precinct from which he or she is elected.
- (b) There is created within each political party with

  a "leader" as defined in s. 106.295, a leadership fund. Such

  leadership fund, as provided for in s. 106.295, shall be an

  instrumentality of the political party and function as a

  subsidiary thereof pursuant to Chapter 106; however, it shall

  not be subject to control, supervision, or direction of the
- political party or any agent thereof, except for the leader
  operating the leadership fund.
  - Section 40. Subsection (13) of section 106.011, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 14 106.011 Definitions.--As used in this chapter, the
  15 following terms have the following meanings unless the context
  16 clearly indicates otherwise:
- 17 (13) "Communications media" means broadcasting 18 stations, newspapers, magazines, outdoor advertising 19 facilities, printers, direct mailing companies, advertising 20 agencies, the Internet, and telephone companies; but with 21 respect to telephones, an expenditure shall be deemed to be an 22 expenditure for the use of communications media only if made 23 for the costs of telephones, paid telephonists, or automatic 24 telephone equipment to be used by a candidate or a political 25 committee to communicate with potential voters but excluding 26 any costs of telephones incurred by a volunteer for use of 27 telephones by such volunteer.
  - Section 41. Subsection (5) of section 106.11, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 30 106.11 Expenses of and expenditures by candidates and 31 political committees.--Each candidate and each political

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- committee which designates a primary campaign depository pursuant to s. 106.021(1) shall make expenditures from funds 3 on deposit in such primary campaign depository only in the following manner, with the exception of expenditures made from 4 petty cash funds provided by s. 106.12:
  - (5) A candidate who withdraws his or her candidacy, becomes an unopposed candidate, or is eliminated as a candidate or elected to office may expend funds from the campaign account to:
  - (a) Purchase "thank you" advertising for up to 75 days after he or she withdraws, becomes unopposed, or is eliminated or elected.
  - (b) Pay for items which were obligated before he or she withdrew, became unopposed, or was eliminated or elected.
  - (c) Pay for expenditures necessary to close down the campaign office and to prepare final campaign reports.
- (d) Dispose of surplus funds as provided in s. 17 106.141. 18
  - Section 42. Subsection (1) of section 106.141, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 21 106.141 Disposition of surplus funds by candidates.--
- (1) Each candidate who withdraws his or her candidacy, becomes an unopposed candidate, or is eliminated as a candidate, or is elected to office shall, no later than 90 days after such withdrawal, elimination, or election within 90 days, dispose of the funds on deposit in his or her campaign account and file a report reflecting the disposition of all remaining funds. Such candidate shall not accept any contributions, nor shall any person accept contributions on behalf of such candidate, after the candidate withdraws his or 30 31 her candidacy, becomes an unopposed candidate, or is

- 1 | eliminated or elected. However, if a candidate receives a
- 2 refund check after all surplus funds have been disposed of,
- 3 the check may be endorsed by the candidate and the refund
- 4 disposed of under this section. An amended report must be
- 5 | filed showing the refund and subsequent disposition.
- Section 43. Section 106.1433, Florida Statutes, is created to read:
- 8 <u>106.1433 Florida Advertising campaign exposure;</u>
- 9 electioneering advertisements; requirements.--
- 10 (1) As used in this section, the term:
- 11 (a) "Electioneering advertisement" means a paid
- 12 expression in any communications media prescribed in s.
- 13 106.011(13) published on the day of any election or any of the
- 14 the preceding 29 days which names or depicts a candidate for
- 15 office in that election or which references a clearly
- 16 | identifiable ballot measure in that election. Any
- 17 advertisement that qualifies as an independent expenditure
- 18 pursuant to s. 106.011(5) or a political advertisement
- 19 pursuant to s. 106.011(17) is not an electioneering
- 20 advertisement for purposes of this section. However, the term
- 21 does not include:
- 22 1. A statement or depiction by an organization, in
- 23 existence prior to the time during which the candidate named
- 24 or depicted qualifies or the issue clearly-referenced is
- 25 placed on the ballot for that election, made in that
- 26 organization's newsletter, which newsletter is distributed
- 27 only to members of that organization.
- 28 <u>2. An editorial endorsement by any newspaper, radio,</u>
- 29 or television station or other recognized news medium.
- 30 (b) "Contribution" means:
- 1. A gift, subscription, conveyance, deposit, loan,

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- payment, or distribution of money or anything of value,
  including contributions in kind having an attributable
- 3 monetary value in any form, made for the purpose of funding or 4 sponsoring an electioneering advertisement.
- 2. A transfer of funds between a political committee
   or a committee or continuous existence and a person funding or
   sponsoring an electioneering advertisement.
  - 3. The payment, by any person other than a candidate or political committee, of compensation for the personal services of another person which are rendered to a person funding or sponsoring an electioneering advertisement.
  - (c) "Expenditure" means a purchase, payment,
    distribution, loan, advance, or gift of money or anything of
    value made for the purpose of funding or sponsoring an
    electioneering advertisement. However, the term does not
    include a purchase, payment, distribution, loan, advance, or
    gift of money or anything of value made for the purpose of
    funding or sponsoring an electioneering advertisement when
    made by an organization, in existence prior to the time during
    which a candidate qualifies or a ballot measure is placed on
    the ballot for that election, for the purpose of printing or
- 23 <u>statement by such organization in support of or opposition to</u>
  24 <u>a candidate or ballot measure, which newsletter is distributed</u>
  25 <u>only to members of such organization.</u>

distributing such organization's newsletter, containing a

26 (2) Each person that sponsors or funds an
27 electioneering advertisement must file regular reports of all
28 contributions received and all expenditures made by such
29 person with the same officer as a political committee
30 supporting or opposing the candidate named or depicted or the
31 ballot measure referenced in the advertisement. Such reports

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- must contain the same information and are subject to the same
  filing requirements as reports required under s. 106.07 for
  candidates not receiving public financing.
- 3 4 (3)(a) If the initial publication of the electioneering advertisement occurs after the final regular report is due under subsection (2) but prior to the closing of 6 the polls on election day, the person funding or sponsoring 8 the advertisement must file a report electronically with the division no later than 1 hour after the initial publication of the advertisement. The report must contain the same 10 information as required of a candidate by s. 106.07(4). Upon 11 receipt of the filing, the division shall electronically 12 transmit a confirmation of receipt to the person filing the 13 14 report. If the person is unable to file electronically for any 15 reason, a written report containing the required information 16 may be faxed or hand delivered to the division no later than 1 17 hour after the initial publication of the advertisement. However, if a report due to be filed under this paragraph on a 18 19 Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday cannot be electronically 20 filed because of problems with Internet communications, the report must be filed either electronically, by facsimile, or 21 2.2 by hand delivery with the division no later than 10 a.m. on the next business day. 23
  - (b) The division shall adopt rules providing for electronic filing which must, at a minimum, provide that:
- 26 <u>1. The division develop an electronic filing system</u>
  27 <u>using the Internet or other on-line technologies; and</u>
- 28 2. The system be reasonably secure and be designed to
  29 elicit the name, address, birthdate, and any other information
  30 necessary to authenticate the identity of the person
  31 submitting the report.

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1	(c) Information filed with the division pursuant to
2	this subsection must also be included on the next regular
3	report required under subsection (2).
4	(4)(a) The following persons shall be responsible for
5	filing the reports required in subsections (2) and (3), shall
6	certify as to the correctness of each report, and shall bear
7	the responsibility for the accuracy and veracity of each
8	report:
9	1. The candidate and his or her campaign treasurer, if
10	the person funding or sponsoring the electioneering
11	advertisement is a candidate.
12	2. The committee chair and treasurer of the committee,
13	if the person funding or sponsoring the electioneering
14	advertisement is a political committee, committee of
15	continuous existence, or executive committee of a political
16	party;
17	3. The individual, if the person funding or sponsoring
18	the electioneering advertisement is a natural person who is
19	not a candidate; or
20	4. The organization's most senior officer, or, if
21	there is no formal organizational structure, the principal
22	organizer, if the person funding or sponsoring the
23	electioneering advertisement is a group other than a political
24	committee, committee of continuous existence, or executive
25	committee of a political party. The name, address, and title
26	of the designated individual must be filed with the division
27	in writing prior to, or contemporaneous with, the filing of
28	the initial report.
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30	Such a person is liable for violations of report filing
31	requirements to the same extent as candidates nursuant to ss

- 106.07(5), 106.19, and 106.265.
- 2 <u>(b) In addition to the penalties prescribed in</u>
- 3 paragraph (a), the person funding or sponsoring an
- 4 <u>electioneering advertisement and the person responsible for</u>
- 5 reporting pursuant to this subsection shall be jointly and
- 6 severally liable for late filing fines assessed by the Florida
- 7 Elections Commission pursuant to s. 106.07(8). Any such person
- 8 may appeal or dispute the fine in accordance with the
- 9 provisions of s. 106.07(8)(c).
- 10 (5) Any electioneering advertisement must be approved
- 11 by the individual required to certify reports pursuant to
- 12 <u>subsection (4). Such individual shall provide a written</u>
- 13 statement of authorization to the newspaper, radio station,
- 14 television station, or other medium for each such
- 15 advertisement contemporaneous with the advertisement's initial
- 16 publication, display, broadcast, or other distribution.
- 17 (6)(a) If the person funding an electioneering
- 18 advertisement is an individual subject to certifying reports
- 19 pursuant to subparagraph (4)(a)1. or subparagraph (4)(a)3.,
- 20 the advertisement must prominently state, "Paid advertisement
- 21 paid for and approved by ... (Name of person funding the
- 22 <u>electioneering advertisement</u>)..., " followed by the address of
- 23 the person funding the advertisement.
- 24 (b) If the person funding an electioneering
- 25 advertisement is a group, organization, or committee subject
- 26 to certifying reports pursuant to subparagraph (4)(a)2. or
- 27 subparagraph (4)(a)4., the advertisement must prominently
- 28 state, "Paid advertisement paid for and approved by ...(Name
- 29 and title of individual(s) required to certify reports)... of
- 30 ...(name of group, organization, or committee)..., "followed
- 31 by the address of the group, organization, or committee.

1	(c) The Florida Elections Commission is authorized,
2	upon finding a violation of this subsection, to impose a civil
3	penalty in the form of fines not to exceed \$5,000 or the total
4	cost of the advertisements without the proper disclaimer,
5	whichever is greater. In determining the amount of the
6	penalty, the commission must consider any mitigating or
7	aggravating circumstances prescribed in s. 106.265. This
8	penalty shall substitute for the penalties provided in s.
9	106.265, shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund of
10	the state, and, if necessary, shall be collected pursuant to
11	s. 106.265(2).
12	(7) Except for contributions from leadership funds, a
13	person may not make a contribution through or in the name of
14	another, directly or indirectly, for the purpose of funding an
15	electioneering advertisement.
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16 17	(Redesignate subsequent sections.)
	(Redesignate subsequent sections.)
17	(Redesignate subsequent sections.)
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committee, " "independent expenditure, " and
"person"; amending s. 106.021, F.S.; exempting
leadership fund expenditures for communications
jointly endorsing three or more candidates from
the limits applicable to candidate
contributions; amending s. 106.025, F.S.;
exempting certain leadership fund fundraisers
from campaign fund raiser requirements;
amending s. 106.04, F.S.; modifying reporting
requirements for committees of continuous
existence that make contributions to leadership
funds; amending s. 106.08, F.S.; exempting
leadership funds from the limits applicable to
contributions to candidates and political
committees supporting candidates; prescribing
the amount a candidate may accept in
contributions from leadership funds; exempting
contributions from leadership funds from the
statutory proscription against making indirect
contributions; limiting the activities of
leadership funds with regard to soliciting
from, and making contributions to, charitable
and philanthropic groups; prohibiting
leadership funds from accepting earmarked
contributions designed to benefit a specific
candidate; prohibiting leaders who are
candidates from using their own leadership
funds to support their own candidacy in certain
circumstances; prescribing penalties; amending
s. 106.147, F.S.; redefining the term "person"
to include leadership funds for purposes of

telephone solicitation requirements; amending
s. 106.148, F.S.; subjecting leadership funds
to computer solicitation disclosure
requirements; amending s. 106.17, F.S.;
authorizing leadership funds to conduct certain
polls and surveys relating to candidacies;
amending s. 106.29, F.S.; subjecting leadership
funds to the same periodic campaign finance
reporting requirements as executive committees
of political parties; requiring the Division of
Elections to provide a campaign finance form
for reporting leadership fund contributions and
expenditures; providing an exemption from
leadership fund reporting requirements for
periods of inactivity; prescribing penalties;
amending s. 106.295, F.S.; redefining the terms
"leadership fund" and "leader"; authorizing
leadership funds; requiring the creation of a
primary leadership depository; mandating the
appointment of a leadership fund treasurer;
prescribing the method for making leadership
fund expenditures; authorizing the use of petty
cash funds; requiring the leadership fund
treasurer to maintain records and accounts in a
certain manner for a specified period; amending
s. 106.33, F.S.; modifying the contribution
limits applicable to candidates accepting
public financing; amending s. 103.081, F.S.;
exempting leadership funds from the prohibition
against the use of its political party name,
abbreviation, or symbol; amending s. 103.09,

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           F.S.; creating leadership funds as an
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           independent entity within a political party;
          amending s. 106.011, F.S.;
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