

HOUSE MESSAGE SUMMARY

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BILL: CS/CS/SBs 716 & 2660, 1st Eng.
INTRODUCER: Judiciary Committee, Ethics and Elections Committee, and Senator Posey
SUBJECT: Campaign Finance
PREPARED BY: Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections
DATE: May 5, 2006

I. Amendments Contained in Message:

House Amendment 2 – 437569 (body with title)

II. Summary of Amendments Contained in Message:

House Amendment 2 removes all the **\$500 contribution limits** in the Senate Bill applicable to certain CCEs, ECOs, 527s, and 501(c)(4)s that reimburse statewide officers, legislators, and candidates for such offices, as well as those groups established or operated by such persons or that receive contributions solicited by such persons.

This amendment also makes the following major substantive changes to the Senate Bill:

- It removes a requirement that **ECOs** electronically provide a **supplemental report of contributions in the amount of \$5,000** or more within 2 days after receipt.
- It shortens the prohibition against ECOs using contributions received in the last days preceding an election to pay for expenses incurred for that election, from 10 days to **5 days**.
- It adds a new provision that enhances **CCE expenditure reporting**, by requiring CCEs to report **expenditures made for personal services, salary, reimbursement for authorized expenses, and credit card transaction information** on periodic campaign finance reports.
- It modifies the provision in the Senate Bill with respect to statewide officers, legislators, and candidates for those offices **reporting solicitations of contributions** for CCEs, ECOs, and federal 527s and 501(c)(4)s; the House Amendment requires such persons who solicit contributions for 527s or 501(c)(4)s that they **establish, maintain, or control** to register with the Division of Elections within 5 days, create a website with the names of persons associated with the organization, and report contributions and expenditures on the web site within 5 days; it exempts solicitations for one's own campaign or political party. This provision is similar to reporting requirements under current Senate Rule 1.361 and House Rule 15.3.