

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 262

BY REPRESENTATIVE GREEN

CAMPAIGN FINANCE: Provides for a uniform campaign contribution limit across all levels of office

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:1505.2(H)(1)(a) and (2)(a) and (b) and to repeal R.S.
3 18:1505.2(H)(1)(c) and (2)(c), (e), and (f), relative to campaign finance; to provide
4 relative to campaign contribution limits; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide
5 for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 18:1505.2(H)(1)(a) and (2)(a) and (b) are hereby amended and
8 reenacted to read as follows:

9 §1505.2. Contributions; expenditures; certain prohibitions and limitations

10 * * *

11 H.(1)(a) The contribution limit ~~The following contribution limits are~~
12 ~~established~~ for contributions made to candidates or the principal campaign
13 committee and any subsidiary committee of a candidate for any office is five
14 thousand dollars. ~~the following offices:~~

15 (i) ~~Major office - five thousand dollars.~~

16 (ii) ~~District office - two thousand five hundred dollars.~~

17 (iii) ~~Other office - one thousand dollars.~~

18 * * *

19 (2)(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection,
20 the contribution limit ~~following contribution limits are established~~ for contributions

1 by political committees supporting or opposing a candidate for any office is five
2 thousand dollars. ~~the following offices:~~

3 (i) ~~Major office - five thousand dollars.~~

4 (ii) ~~District office - two thousand five hundred dollars.~~

5 (iii) ~~Other office - one thousand dollars.~~

6 (b)(i) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection and
7 Subparagraph ~~(2)(a)~~ (a) of this ~~Subsection,~~ Paragraph, the contribution limit
8 ~~following campaign contribution limits are established for contributions by political~~
9 ~~committees supporting or opposing a candidate for the following offices,~~ any office,
10 if the membership of which the political committee exceeds two hundred and fifty
11 members as of ~~the~~ December thirty-first of the preceding calendar year; and
12 ~~additionally provided that~~ at least two hundred and fifty of the members have each
13 contributed at least fifty dollars to the political committee during the preceding one-
14 year period, is ten thousand dollars.:

15 (i) ~~Major office - ten thousand dollars.~~

16 (ii) ~~District office - five thousand dollars.~~

17 (iii) ~~Other office - two thousand dollars.~~

18 (ii) No contribution in excess of the ~~limits~~ limit contained in Subparagraph
19 ~~(2)(a)~~ (a) of this ~~Subsection~~ Paragraph shall be made by any political committee until
20 such membership certification is made on the statement of organization form
21 required by this Chapter and timely submitted to the supervisory committee by the
22 applicable due date. Any political committee certified under this ~~Paragraph~~
23 Subparagraph shall notify the supported candidate in writing at the time any
24 contribution is made under this ~~Paragraph~~ Subparagraph.

25 * * *

26 Section 2. R.S. 18:1505.2(H)(1)(c) and (2)(c), (e), and (f) are hereby repealed in
27 their entirety.

28 Section 3. The provisions of this Act are prospective in nature only and apply to
29 contributions made to candidates in elections occurring after January 1, 2025. Any

1 contribution to a candidate made for an election occurring prior to January 1, 2025, is subject
2 to the contribution limits established in R.S. 18:1505.2(H) as of December 31, 2024.

3 Section 4. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2025.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 262 Original

2024 Regular Session

Green

Abstract: Removes differences in campaign contribution limits based on the office sought by the candidate after Jan. 1, 2025.

Present law, applicable to contributions made by persons or political committees other than large political committees, provides that the contribution limit for contributions to candidates or the principal campaign committee and any subsidiary committee of a candidate are as follows:

- (1) Major office - \$5,000.
- (2) District office - \$2,000.
- (3) Other office - \$1,000.

Proposed law changes this contribution limit to \$5,000 regardless of the office sought by the candidate.

Present law provides that the contribution limit for contributions made by a person or a political committee other than a large political committee to an unsuccessful major office candidate or his campaign committee who does not participate in the general election and for the time period for which such candidate has a deficit for expenditures made through the day of the primary election is \$10,000.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Present law, applicable to political committees which have more than 250 members and to which more than 250 members have contributed at least \$50, provides that the contribution limits are as follows:

- (1) Major office - \$10,000.
- (2) District office - \$5,000.
- (3) Other office - \$2,000.

Proposed law changes this contribution limit to \$10,000 regardless of the office sought by the candidate.

Present law provides that the contribution limit for contributions made by a large political committee to an unsuccessful major office candidate or his campaign committee who does not participate in the general election and for the time period for which such candidate has a deficit for expenditures made through the day of the primary election is \$20,000.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Further provides that the changes to the contribution limits in proposed law are prospective only and apply to contributions made to candidates in elections occurring after Jan. 1, 2025. Specifies that any contribution to a candidate made for an election occurring prior to Jan. 1, 2024, is subject to the contribution limits in present law.

Effective January 1, 2025.

(Amends R.S. 18:1505.2(H)(1)(a) and (2)(a) and (b); Repeals R.S. 18:1505.2(H)(1)(c) and (2)(c), (e), and (f))