

2016 -- H 7146

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LC003335
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

A N A C T

RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CAMPAIGN FINANCE COMPLIANCE

Introduced By: Representatives Messier, Casey, Morin, Fellela, and McLaughlin

Date Introduced: January 13, 2016

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 17-25-13 of the General Laws in Chapter 17-25 entitled "Rhode
2 Island Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting" is hereby amended to read as
3 follows:

4 **17-25-13. Penalties.** -- (a) Any person who willfully and knowingly violates the
5 provisions of this chapter shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined
6 not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per violation.

7 (b) The state board may fine any person or entity who violates the provisions of this
8 chapter in an amount not more than one hundred dollars (\$100) per violation.

9 (c) Fines, fees and penalties imposed by the state board for violations of this chapter
10 shall be paid for by the candidate, officeholder or entity against whose campaign the fines, fees or
11 penalties have been levied. Fines, fees and penalties levied by the state board pursuant to this
12 chapter shall not be paid for from contributions or funds available in a campaign account.

13 (d) Any person who owes fines, fees, or penalties of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) or
14 more to the state board for violations of this chapter may not be a candidate for public office,
15 unless that person is currently compliant with a state board-approved repayment agreement.

16 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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1 This act would prevent a person from being a candidate for public office who owes fines,
2 fees, or penalties of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) or more for campaign finance violations,
3 unless that person is currently compliant with a state board-approved repayment agreement.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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