



1997 ASSEMBLY BILL 925

March 17, 1998 – Introduced by Representative JENSEN, cosponsored by Senator WELCH. Referred to calendar.

1 **AN ACT to amend** 11.61 (1) (b); and **to create** 11.395 of the statutes; **relating to:**
2 prohibition of political contributions by foreign nationals and providing a
3 penalty.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill prohibits any foreign national from making a contribution to any candidate for state or local office in this state or to any individual, committee or group who or which accepts contributions and makes expenditures for the purpose of influencing an election for state or local office or the outcome of a referendum in this state. Under the bill, a “foreign national” means a government of a foreign country, a foreign political party, an entity organized under the laws of and having its principal place of business in a foreign country, or any other individual or entity outside of the United States, except an individual U.S. citizen who is domiciled within the United States or an entity organized under or created by the laws of the United States or any state, territory or possession that has its principal place of business within the United States.

Any person who makes a contribution which is prohibited under the bill is subject to a forfeiture (civil penalty) of treble the amount of the contribution and any person who solicits or accepts a contribution which is prohibited under the bill is subject to a forfeiture of not more than \$500 for each violation. Any person who intentionally makes, solicits or accepts a contribution which is prohibited under the bill may be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned for not more than 6 months, or both, if the contribution does not exceed \$100, and may be fined not more than

