

## 2007 DRAFTING REQUEST

### Senate Substitute Amendment (SSA-SB12)

Received: 02/11/2008

Received By: jkuesel

Wanted: As time permits

Identical to LRB:

For: Jon Erpenbach (608) 266-6670

By/Representing: Julie Laundrie

This file may be shown to any legislator: NO

Drafter: jkuesel

May Contact:

Addl. Drafters: mshovers

Subject: Elections - campaign finance  
Tax, Individual - income  
Public Util. - telco

Extra Copies:

Submit via email: YES

Requester's email: Sen.Erpenbach@legis.wisconsin.gov

Carbon copy (CC:) to:

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#### Pre Topic:

No specific pre topic given

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#### Topic:

S-Sub to SB-12

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#### Instructions:

Per attached E mail, 2/8/08. P/C w/ Julie Laundrie, 2/12: Use SS SB-1 as base document. Since it is SB-12 rather than SB-171 that regulates "issue ads", OK to retain as is. It is understood that since the Brennan exception [s. 11.38 (2m)] does not apply to judicial races, the effect of the SB-12 language is a ban on direct payment for "issue ads" by corporations. Clarify application of Brennan language to cover state and local elections. Change start date of fundraising ban to January 1 but leave application as in SS SB-1. Retain \$5 checkoff per SS SB-1. Retain 6/1/08 effective date for SB-171 changes. Exclude loans and advances from tax credit.

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#### Drafting History:

<u>Vers.</u>	<u>Drafted</u>	<u>Reviewed</u>	<u>Typed</u>	<u>Proofed</u>	<u>Submitted</u>	<u>Jacketed</u>	<u>Required</u>
/?	jkuesel	csicilia		_____			State
	02/12/2008	02/19/2008		_____			Crime
	mshovers			_____			

<u>Vers.</u>	<u>Drafted</u>	<u>Reviewed</u>	<u>Typed</u>	<u>Proofed</u>	<u>Submitted</u>	<u>Jacketed</u>	<u>Required</u>
	02/13/2008			_____			
/1			jfrantze 02/19/2008	_____ _____	lparisi 02/19/2008	lparisi 02/19/2008	

FE Sent For:

**<END>**

DNOTES

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1? / 1	jkuesel 2/12/08	1 jgs 2/19/08	[Signature] 2/19	[Signature] 2/19			

FE Sent For:

**<END>**

## Kuesel, Jeffery

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**From:** Laundrie, Julie  
**Sent:** Friday, February 08, 2008 10:50 AM  
**To:** Kuesel, Jeffery  
**Cc:** Laundrie, Julie  
**Subject:** sub to SB 12

Hi Jeff,

Can you please draft for Senator Erpenbach a substitute amendment to Senate Bill 12 that would incorporate all of the following:

\*\*Add in SB 171 judicial campaign regulation with a BAN on issue ads rather than just regulation.

\*\*The Brennan fix for Issue ad regulation just like the Gov's bill

\*\*The ban on campaign fundraising from January 1 in a budget year Including all Legislature and Governor

\*\*In addition, language like the Brennan regulation of issue ads for all local elections enforced through the current means.

Note – please keep the ban on pac to pac transfers that the Gov took out.

I would love to have by the Tuesday hearing but understand if not possible. Call or email with questions.

Julie

*Julie Laundrie*  
*Office of State Senator Jon Erpenbach*  
*608-266-6670*  
*cell 608-772-0110*

"People who are really good at politics are really good at getting people to be themselves," Karen Hanretty, Fred Thompson for President.

DNOTES

SO 269/1

2007 - 2008 LEGISLATURE

LRB-3568/3

December 2007 Special Session

JTK&MES:kjf&cs:jf

stamps

(scribble)  
TODAY

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SENATE SUBSTITUTE AMDR  
TO 2007 SENATE BILL 12

SA  
bill intro

(regenerate)

1 AN ACT ~~to repeal~~ 11.01 (12s), 11.01 (17g) and (17r), 11.05 (3) (o), 11.06 (3r), 11.06  
2 (3w), 11.21 (17), 11.265, 11.31 (2m), 11.50 (2) (i), 11.50 (3) and 11.50 (4); **to**  
3 **renumber** 11.24 (2), 11.50 (1) (a) 1. and 11.50 (1) (a) 2.; **to renumber and**  
4 **amend** 11.05 (1), 11.05 (2), 11.05 (2r), 11.12 (6), 11.26 (10), 11.50 (5) and 11.50  
5 (9); **to amend** 5.02 (13), 7.08 (2) (c) and (cm), 8.30 (2), 8.35 (4) (a) 1. a. and b.,  
6 8.35 (4) (b), 8.35 (4) (c) and (d), 11.05 (3) (c), 11.05 (5), 11.05 (9) (b), 11.05 (12)  
7 (title), 11.05 (12) (b), 11.05 (13), 11.06 (1) (intro.), 11.06 (1) (e), 11.06 (2), 11.06  
8 (3) (b) (intro.), 11.06 (4) (b), 11.06 (5), 11.06 (7m) (a), 11.06 (7m) (b), 11.06 (7m)  
9 (c), 11.07 (1), 11.07 (5), 11.09 (3), 11.10 (1), 11.12 (2), 11.12 (2), 11.12 (4), 11.12  
10 (5), 11.14 (3), 11.16 (2), 11.16 (2), 11.16 (3), 11.16 (5), 11.19 (title), 11.19 (1), 11.20  
11 (1), 11.20 (7), 11.20 (9), 11.20 (10) (a), 11.20 (12), 11.21 (2), 11.21 (15), 11.21 (16),  
12 11.22 (3), 11.23 (1), 11.23 (2), 11.26 (1) (intro.), 11.26 (1) (a), 11.26 (2) (intro.),  
13 11.26 (2) (a), 11.26 (4), 11.26 (8), 11.26 (9) (a), 11.26 (9) (a), 11.26 (9) (b), 11.26  
14 (9) (b), 11.26 (13), 11.30 (4), 11.31 (1) (intro.), 11.31 (1) (a) to (d), 11.31 (1) (d),

**BILL**

1 11.31 (1) (e) and (f), 11.31 (2), 11.31 (3), 11.38 (1) (a) 2., 11.38 (6), 11.38 (8) (b),  
2 11.50 (1) (a) 1. a., 11.50 (2) (a), 11.50 (2) (b) 5., 11.50 (2) (c), 11.50 (2) (f), 11.50  
3 (2) (g), 11.50 (5) (title), 11.50 (6), 11.50 (9) (title), 11.50 (11) (e), 11.50 (13), 11.60  
4 (4), 11.61 (1) (a), 11.61 (2), 20.511 (1) (q), 20.855 (4) (b), 25.42, 71.10 (3) (a), 71.10  
5 (3) (a) and 71.10 (3) (b); **to repeal and recreate** 11.05 (9) (title) and 11.26 (2)  
6 (an); and **to create** 7.08 (2) (cs), 11.001 (2m), 11.01 (14m), 11.01 (16) (a) 3., 11.05  
7 (1) (b), 11.05 (2) (b), 11.05 (3) (m), 11.05 (3) (r), 11.05 (3) (s), 11.05 (5r), 11.06 (2m)  
8 (title), 11.06 (2m) (b) to (d), 11.12 (2m), 11.12 (6) (c) and (d), 11.12 (8) and (9),  
9 11.24 (4), 11.26 (1) (am), 11.26 (2) (ad), 11.26 (2) (am), 11.26 (2) (an), 11.26 (2)  
10 (au), 11.26 (9) (ba), 11.26 (10) (b), 11.31 (3p), 11.31 (9), 11.38 (2m), 11.50 (1) (a)  
11 1. (intro.), 11.50 (1) (a) 2m., 11.50 (1) (am), 11.50 (1) (bm) and (cm), 11.50 (1) (e),  
12 11.50 (2) (bm), 11.50 (2s), 11.50 (2w), 11.50 (4e), 11.50 (5) (b) and (c), 11.50 (9)  
13 (ba) and (bb), 11.50 (14), 11.501 to 11.522, 11.60 (3s) and (3u), 20.511 (1) (r),  
14 20.585 (1) (q), 20.585 (1) (r), 20.855 (4) (ba), 20.855 (4) (bb), 20.855 (4) (bc), 25.17  
15 (1) (cm), 25.421, 71.07 (6n), 71.10 (4) (ds) and 806.041 of the statutes; **relating**  
16 **to:** campaign financing, designations for the Wisconsin election campaign fund  
17 by individuals filing state income tax returns, creating a nonrefundable  
18 individual income tax credit for contributions to the Public Integrity  
19 Endowment, candidate time on public broadcasting television stations and  
20 public access channels, staffing of the Government Accountability Board;

- 1 providing exemptions from emergency rule procedures; granting rule-making  
2 authority; making appropriations; and providing penalties.
- 

***Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau***

This bill makes numerous changes in the campaign financing law. The bill also makes changes to the income tax laws, the lobbying regulation law, and the staffing of the Government Accountability Board.

**FILING OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS**

***Exemptions from registration and reporting***

Currently, with certain limited exceptions, any individual who accepts contributions, makes disbursements, or incurs obligations, and any committee or group that makes or accepts contributions, makes or transfers disbursements (expenditures), or incurs obligations, in connection with one or more elections for state or local office or one or more state or local referenda exceeding \$25 cumulatively within a calendar year must register and file reports with the appropriate filing officer or agency identifying contributions received and disbursements made and providing certain other information.

Currently, a new registrant is generally prohibited from making a contribution or disbursement from property or funds received prior to the date of registration, except that, if a registrant holds property or funds at the time of registration that were not intended for political purposes in connection with an election for state or local office at the time that they were received, the registrant may report the property or funds as received on the date of registration and may then use the property or funds to make a contribution or disbursement.

This bill provides that no individual who or organization which is subject to a registration requirement may make any contribution prior to the date of registration. In addition, the bill provides that no registrant may accept any contribution from any individual who or organization which is subject to a registration requirement prior to the date of registration of that individual or organization.

Currently, a nonresident registrant need report only contributions and other income received from sources in this state and disbursements made and obligations incurred with respect to an election for state or local office in this state. This bill deletes this exception to reporting requirements. The bill also requires nonresident registrants to include in their reports a separate statement of contributions, transfers, loans, and other income received from sources in this state and disbursements and obligations incurred with respect to elections for state and local office in this state. The change does not affect reporting by authorized committees of candidates for the office of U.S. senator or representative in Congress.

Currently, a national political party committee need not file reports for any period covered in a report filed by the committee with the Federal Election Commission. In addition, a state political party committee which is registered with the Federal Election Commission and which makes contributions to candidates for



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national office, as well as contributions to other state political party committees, need not file reports for any period covered by a report filed by the committee with the Federal Election Commission if the Government Accountability Board receives a copy of that report and the committee makes no contributions to any individual who or organization which is required to register with a filing officer under Wisconsin law. This bill deletes these exceptions to state reporting requirements.

***Reporting thresholds***

This bill provides that an individual who accepts contributions, makes disbursements, or incurs obligations or a group that makes or accepts contributions, makes disbursements, or incurs obligations in connection with one or more referenda is not subject to registration and reporting requirements until the individual or group engages in activity exceeding \$100 cumulatively within a calendar year.

The bill also permits an individual or committee to claim an exemption from reporting requirements if the individual or committee does not accept contributions, make disbursements, or incur obligations exceeding \$1,000 cumulatively within a calendar year with respect to an election for state office, and does not accept contributions, other than contributions made by a candidate to his or her own campaign, exceeding \$100 from a single source cumulatively within a calendar year. If an individual or committee does not accept contributions, make disbursements, or incur obligations with respect to an election for any state office but accepts contributions, makes disbursements, or incurs obligations independently of any candidate with respect to an election for local office, the bill permits the individual or committee to claim an exemption from reporting requirements if the individual or committee does not accept contributions, make disbursements, or incur obligations exceeding \$100 cumulatively within a calendar year.

***Mass media activities***

Currently, individuals who accept contributions, organizations that make or accept contributions, and individuals who or organizations that incur obligations or make disbursements for the purpose of influencing an election for state or local office are generally required to register with the appropriate filing officer and to file financial reports with that officer, regardless of whether they act in conjunction with or independently of any candidate who is supported or opposed. Currently, with limited exceptions, a corporation or cooperative association is prohibited from making any contribution or disbursement for the purpose of influencing an election for state or local office.

With certain exceptions, this bill imposes registration and reporting requirements, in addition, upon any individual who and organization that, within 60 days of an election and by means of communications media, makes any communication that includes a reference to a candidate at that election, an office to be filled at that election, or a political party. The bill also requires an individual or organization who or which becomes subject to a registration requirement by making such a communication to report, upon registration, the information that would have been required to be reported if the individual or organization had been registered with respect to any obligation incurred or disbursement made for the purpose of making such a communication prior to registration. The bill, however, does not

require registration and reporting if the communication is made by a corporation, cooperative, or nonpolitical voluntary association and is limited to the corporation's, cooperative's, or association's members, shareholders, or subscribers.

The bill also creates an exception to the current prohibition on disbursements by corporations and cooperatives which permits a corporation or cooperative to make a disbursement for the purpose of making a communication within 60 days of an election by means of communications media that includes a reference to a candidate at that election, an office to be filled at that election, or a political party unless the communication is susceptible of no reasonable interpretation other than as an appeal to vote for or against a candidate for state or local office whose name is certified to appear on the ballot at the election. Under the bill, a corporation or cooperative making any such communication is subject to applicable registration and reporting requirements. The exception applies only if the communication: 1) does not mention an election, candidacy, opposing candidate, political party, or voting by the general public; and 2) does not take a position on a candidate's or officeholder's character, qualifications, or fitness for office, and either a) focuses on a legislative or executive matter or issue and urges a candidate to take a particular position or action with respect to the matter or issue or urges the public to contact a candidate with respect to the matter or issue, or b) proposes a commercial transaction, such as the purchase of a book, video, or other product or service.

✓  
state  
or  
local

***Special reporting by certain registrants***

Currently, a committee making contributions or a candidate or other individual or committee accepting contributions, making disbursements, or incurring obligations in support of or opposition to a candidate is generally required to file a report no later than the eighth day before a primary or election at which the candidate seeks nomination or election to office. The report must disclose contributions made or accepted, disbursements made, and obligations incurred through the 14th day prior to the primary or election. Currently, if a candidate for state office receives one or more contributions from a single contributor aggregating \$500 or more during the 14-day period preceding an election, the candidate must report to the Government Accountability Board the information currently required to be disclosed pertaining to contributions received by the candidate no later than 24 hours following receipt of any such contribution or contributions.

This bill requires each candidate at the general or a special election for a major state office (the office of governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, secretary of state, state treasurer, superintendent of public instruction, justice of the supreme court, state senator, or representative to the assembly) who does not accept a public grant (see below) and who makes any disbursement after the candidate has accumulated cash in his or her campaign depository or has made disbursements in his or her campaign exceeding a combined total of 75 percent of the amount of the disbursement limitation for the office that the candidate seeks, to file daily reports, by electronic mail or facsimile transmission, with the Government Accountability Board and with each candidate whose name appears on the ballot for the office in connection with which the disbursement is made. The daily reports may be filed no later than 24 hours after each disbursement is made, and must include the

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information that is currently required to be reported pertaining to disbursements made by candidates. The daily reports must be filed during the time period beginning with the later of the date of the disbursement that triggers the requirement or the seventh day after the applicable primary election or the date that a primary would be held, if required, and ending with date of the election at which the candidate seeks office.

The bill also creates additional reporting requirements, applicable to certain special interest committees. Under the bill, reporting may be required of any special interest committee, other than a conduit, that makes any disbursement (as currently defined) or incurs any obligation independently of a candidate for the purpose of advocating the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate for a major state office at the general or a special election or any applicable primary election. These additional reporting requirements do not apply to communications that are made by a corporation, cooperative, or nonpolitical voluntary association and that are limited to the corporation's, cooperative's, or association's members, shareholders, or subscribers. Under the bill, the special interest committee must file these additional reports within 24 hours after a reportable transaction occurs.

***Timeliness in filing reports***

Currently, where a requirement is imposed under the campaign finance law for filing of a report by a specified date, the requirement may be satisfied by depositing the report with the U.S. Postal Service no later than the date provided by law for receipt of the report.

This bill permits satisfaction of the filing requirement only by delivering a report to the appropriate filing officer or agency on or before the date provided by law for receipt of the report or by depositing the report with the U.S. Postal Service no later than the third day before that date.

**DISBURSEMENT LIMITATIONS AND INDEPENDENT DISBURSEMENTS**

Under current law, disbursement (expenditure) levels are specified for candidates for various state and local offices. These levels become a binding limitation upon any candidate for state office who accepts a state grant from the Wisconsin election campaign fund or who agrees to be bound by the limitation, unless the candidate is opposed by a major opponent who could have qualified for a grant but declines to accept one. A candidate for state office who accepts a grant from the Wisconsin election campaign fund and who agrees to be bound by the disbursement limitation applicable to the office which the candidate seeks may receive a grant equal to 45 percent of that disbursement limitation, less contributions accepted by the candidate from committees other than political party and legislative campaign committees, if there are sufficient moneys in the fund to finance the full amount of grants for which candidates qualify.

Current law also imposes registration and financial reporting requirements on committees and individuals making disbursements independently of a candidate in support of or in opposition to a candidate for a state or local office. One requirement is the obligation of the committee or individual to file reports with the appropriate filing officer within 24 hours of making such a disbursement, if the disbursement is

made less than 15 days before a primary or election and if the cumulative amount of such disbursements exceeds \$20.

This bill does the following:

1. It revises the current disbursement levels applicable to candidates for the offices shown below as follows:

<i>Office</i>	<i>Current Level</i>	<i>Proposed Level</i>
Governor	\$1,078,200	\$4,000,000
Lieutenant governor	323,475	500,000
Attorney general	539,000	700,000
Secretary of state	215,625	250,000
State treasurer	215,625	250,000
State superintendent	215,625	250,000
State senator	34,500	150,000
Representative to the assembly	17,250	75,000

2. It creates a biennial cost-of-living adjustment that causes the statutory disbursement levels to be adjusted biennially, beginning in 2008, in accordance with a formula tied to the “consumer price index” determined by the U.S. Department of Labor.

3. It provides that the current provision requiring reports of cumulative independent disbursements exceeding \$20 made later than 15 days prior to a primary or election does not apply to a committee or individual that is required to file a special report concerning the same disbursement (see above), nor to a committee or individual that is subject to an electronic filing requirement (see above).

4. It increases the disbursement limitation of any candidate who accepts a public grant by certain amounts for which matching grants from the Wisconsin election campaign fund are potentially available (see grant eligibility requirements and amounts, below). Under the bill, the disbursement limitation of the candidate accepting the grant is increased by a total amount equal to: 1) the amount or value of disbursements made by an opponent in excess of the disbursement limitation; and 2) the amount or value of independent disbursements made to expressly advocate the defeat of the candidate or the election of his or her opponents by special interest committees during election campaign periods, as reported to the Government Accountability Board.

5. It repeals the procedure by which a candidate who would not otherwise be subject to statutory disbursement limitations may voluntarily agree to comply with these limitations.

6. It repeals the exemption from disbursement and self-contribution limitations that currently applies to any candidate who accepts a grant from the Wisconsin election campaign fund and who is opposed by a major opponent who could have qualified for a grant but declines to accept one.

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**CONTRIBUTION LIMITATIONS**

Under current law, committees other than political party committees and legislative campaign committees are subject to limitations on the amount of contributions made cumulatively to a particular candidate. A committee may contribute up to \$43,238 to a candidate for statewide office. Current law also limits the cumulative amount of contributions that a committee may make annually to a particular political party, limits the cumulative amount of contributions that a political party may accept annually from a particular committee, and limits the aggregate total of contributions that a political party may accept during any biennium from all committees. Currently, a committee may annually contribute up to \$6,000 to a particular political party, a political party may annually accept up to \$6,000 from a particular committee, and a political party may accept up to \$150,000 in contributions from all committees during any biennium.

This bill establishes specified limitations on committee contributions to candidates for statewide office as follows: a) candidates for governor, \$45,000; b) candidates for lieutenant governor, \$15,000; c) candidates for attorney general, \$25,000; and d) candidates for secretary of state, state treasurer, or superintendent of public instruction, \$10,000. Under the bill, the limitation on committee contributions to a particular political party, and on the annual amount that a political party may accept from a particular committee, is increased to \$18,000, and the aggregate limitation on contributions that a political party may accept during a biennium from all committees is increased to \$600,000.

Under current law, the aggregate contributions accepted by a candidate for state or local office from all committees, when combined with any grant received from the Wisconsin election campaign fund, may not exceed 65 percent of the disbursement level or limitation for the office that the candidate seeks. In addition, the contributions received by a candidate for state or local office from all committees other than political party or legislative campaign committees, when combined with any grant received from the Wisconsin election campaign fund, may not exceed 45 percent of the disbursement level or limitation for the office that the candidate seeks. This bill provides that the contributions received by a candidate for state or local office from all committees other than political party committees, when combined with any nonsupplemental grant received from the Wisconsin election campaign fund, may not exceed 35 percent of the disbursement level or limitation for the office that the candidate seeks. Under the bill, a candidate who qualifies to receive a supplemental grant from the Wisconsin election campaign fund (see below) may exceed aggregate committee contribution limitations by an amount equal to the amount of the supplemental grant. The bill makes the aggregate contribution limits inapplicable to a candidate for the office of justice of the supreme court who receives a public financing benefit from the democracy trust fund (see below).

Under current law, a candidate who accepts a grant from the Wisconsin election campaign fund may not make contributions to his or her own campaign in an amount or value greater than 200 percent of the contribution limitation that applies to individuals making contributions to his or her campaign. Under the bill, if a candidate's disbursement limitation is increased as a result of disbursements made

by an opposing candidate or independent disbursements or obligations made or incurred by others, this self-contribution limitation is increased by an amount equal to the ratio that the contribution limitation otherwise applicable to the candidate bears to the disbursement limitation otherwise applicable to the candidate, multiplied by the amount of the increased disbursement limitation authorized under the bill for that candidate.

#### TREATMENT OF LEGISLATIVE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEES

Currently, the adherents of any political party in either house of the legislature may organize a "legislative campaign committee" to support the candidacy of members of their party for legislative office. Committees other than legislative campaign committees and political party committees are generally subject to a limitation upon the contributions that they may make to candidates for legislative office or to political parties. Legislative campaign committees are subject only to overall limitations on the aggregate contributions that may be accepted by a candidate from entities other than individuals.

This bill eliminates the special status of legislative campaign committees, thus causing them to be treated in the same manner as other special interest committees for the purpose of contribution limitations.

#### OTHER CONTRIBUTION RESTRICTIONS

*tws 9A*  
~~This bill~~ prohibits contributions to incumbent partisan state officials and candidates for partisan state office during the period from ~~the date of introduction of the executive budget bill~~ through the date of enactment of the biennial budget act. The prohibition does not apply to contributions made to an incumbent who is subject to a recall election or to a nonincumbent candidate at a recall election beginning on the date on which a petitioner registers an intent to circulate a petition for a recall election against the incumbent and ending on the date of the recall election, except that if the circulation period expires without offering of the recall petition for filing, the filing officer determines not to file the petition, or the incumbent resigns, the period ends on the date of that event. The prohibition also does not apply to a candidate for a partisan state office at a special election. No similar provision exists currently.

*tws 9B* → Currently, if a registrant receives a contribution, the registrant must deposit the contribution in its campaign depository account no later than the end of the fifth business day commencing after receipt, unless the registrant returns the contribution before that time. A registrant must report the occupation and principal place of employment of any individual who makes any contribution or contributions to a registrant exceeding \$100 in amount or value cumulatively within a calendar year. This bill provides that whenever a registrant receives a contribution in the form of money the registrant must obtain this information from a contributor, if required, before depositing the contributor's contribution in its campaign depository account. Under the bill, if the registrant does not obtain the required information within the period prescribed for making deposits, the registrant must return the contribution.

*January 1 of any  
odd-numbered  
year* ✓

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**DISPOSITION OF RESIDUAL OR EXCESS FUNDS**

Under current law, residual funds remaining when a person who is required to register under the campaign financing law disbands or ceases incurring obligations, making disbursements, or accepting contributions or excess funds received by a registrant that may not be legally expended may generally be used for any lawful political purpose, returned to the original contributors, or donated to a charitable organization or the common school fund.

This bill allows residual or excess funds to be transferred to the Wisconsin election campaign fund.

**WISCONSIN ELECTION CAMPAIGN FUND**

***Sources and uses of funds***

Under current law, the Wisconsin election campaign fund is financed through an individual income tax “checkoff.” Every individual filing a state income tax return who has a tax liability or is entitled to a tax refund may direct that \$1 of general purpose revenue be transferred to the fund. Individuals filing a joint return may separately choose whether to direct that the \$1 transfer be made. All moneys transferred to the fund are placed in accounts for specified state offices, and candidates for those offices may qualify for grants from the fund to be used for specified campaign expenses. No moneys in the fund may be used for any other purpose. The amounts of grants may be reduced if insufficient moneys are available in the fund to finance full payment of all grants for which candidates qualify.

This bill does the following:

1. It increases the amount of the individual income tax checkoff for the Wisconsin election campaign fund from \$1 to \$5, effective for tax returns filed for taxable years beginning on or after January 1 following the day on which the bill becomes law. Under the bill, individuals filing a joint return may separately choose whether to make the \$5 checkoff. The bill also permits individuals to determine whether to designate their checkoffs for a “general account,” which is distributed to all candidates who qualify for a grant, or for the account of an eligible political party, which is distributed to all candidates representing that party who qualify for a grant. In addition, if there are insufficient moneys in these accounts to permit any candidate who qualifies for a grant from receiving the full amount for which the candidate qualifies, the bill provides for the deficiency to be drawn from state general purpose revenue.

2. It directs the legal counsel to the Government Accountability Board to take steps to incorporate a nonstock, nonprofit corporation to be known as the “Public Integrity Endowment.” The bill directs the legal counsel to ensure that the corporation is structured so that contributions made to the foundation will be tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Under the bill, the sole purpose of the endowment is to solicit contributions for the purpose of supplementing the assets of the Wisconsin election campaign fund and transferring those contributions, after deduction of solicitation costs, to the general account of the fund. Currently, any person may make an unrestricted donation to the Wisconsin election campaign fund. The donation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. However, the fund does not solicit contributions.



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***Grant eligibility requirements and amounts***

Under current law, grants from the Wisconsin election campaign fund are available to finance specified campaign expenses of eligible candidates for the offices of state senator, representative to the assembly, governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, state treasurer, secretary of state, justice of the supreme court, and superintendent of public instruction. To receive a grant, a candidate must file an application with the state Government Accountability Board no later than the deadline for filing nomination papers. Following the primary election or the date on which a primary would be held, if required, the board determines whether a candidate who applies for a grant meets the following eligibility requirements:

1. If the candidate seeks a partisan state office at a general election, the candidate must have received at least six percent of the total votes cast in the primary and have won the primary. If the candidate seeks a partisan state office at a special election, the candidate must either: a) appear on the ballot or in the column of a political party whose candidate for the same office at the preceding general election received at least six percent of the vote; or b) receive at least six percent of the votes cast at the special election.

2. The candidate must have an opponent in the election.

3. The candidate must receive, during a specified time period, a specified amount through contributions from individuals of \$100 or less. For a candidate for the office of governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state treasurer, attorney general, justice of the supreme court, or superintendent of public instruction, the amount is five percent of the authorized disbursement level for the office which the candidate seeks. For a candidate for the office of state senator or representative to the assembly, the amount is ten percent of the authorized disbursement level for the office which the candidate seeks.

Under current law, a candidate for any office who accepts a grant must comply with statutorily prescribed contribution and disbursement limitations, unless at least one of the candidate's opponents who received at least six percent of the votes cast for all candidates for that office at a partisan primary, if a primary was held, does not accept a grant and does not voluntarily agree to comply with the contribution and disbursement limitations for that office. The maximum grant that a candidate may receive is that amount which, when added to all other contributions accepted from sources other than individuals, political party committees, and legislative campaign committees, is equal to 45 percent of the authorized disbursement level for the office which the candidate seeks. No grants are available to finance campaign expenses in primary elections.

Currently, the Government Accountability Board must notify the state treasurer that a candidate has qualified to receive a grant as soon as possible after the board is able to determine that the candidate has qualified to receive the grant. The state treasurer then has three business days to transmit the grant to the candidate.

This bill does the following:

1. It provides that a candidate for the office of state senator or representative to the assembly must receive contributions equal to only five percent of the



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authorized disbursement level for the office which the candidate seeks in order to qualify for a grant, but provides that the contributions of \$100 or less from individuals used by a candidate for any state office to determine eligibility for a grant from the Wisconsin election campaign fund must be made by individuals who reside in this state and, in the case of a candidate for legislative office, at least 50 percent of those contributions must be made by individuals who reside in the district in which the candidate seeks office, except that a candidate may substitute contributions received from political party committees for not more than 50 percent of the contributions required to be received from residents of the district.

2. It provides that the maximum grant that a candidate for state office may receive is that amount which, when added to all other contributions accepted by the candidate from committees other than political party committees, is equal to 35 percent of the disbursement limitation for the office that the candidate seeks, unless the candidate qualifies to receive a supplemental grant (see below).

3. It provides that a candidate who accepts a grant shall receive a supplemental grant in a maximum amount equal to: a) the total amount of disbursements exceeding the amount of the disbursement limitation for that office made by an opposing candidate who does not accept a grant; and b) the total amount of any independent disbursements in close proximity to the election that are made by special interest committees to oppose that candidate, or to support that candidate's opponent, if that total amount exceeds ten percent of the disbursement limitation for the office that the candidate seeks, except that the total supplemental grant received by a candidate may not exceed an amount equal to three times the disbursement limitation for the office that the candidate seeks.

4. It requires the state treasurer to electronically transmit supplemental grants to qualifying candidates who so request as soon as possible after the candidates qualify to receive the supplemental grants, but in no case later than the end of the third business day after the Government Accountability Board notifies the treasurer that a candidate has qualified to receive a grant.

**PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS**

Currently, violators of the campaign finance law are subject to a forfeiture (civil penalty) of not more than \$500 for each violation, except that violators of contribution limitations are subject to a forfeiture of not more than treble the amount unlawfully contributed. In addition, currently, any person who is delinquent in filing a report is subject to a forfeiture of not more than \$50 or one percent of the annual salary of the office for which a candidate is being supported or opposed, whichever is greater, for each day of delinquency.

Currently, whoever intentionally violates certain provisions of the campaign finance law, such as registration requirements, contribution limitations, the prohibition against making contributions in the name of another person, the prohibition against using contributions for most nonpolitical purposes, and the prohibition against filing false reports and statements, may be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both, if the violation does not exceed \$100 in amount or value, and may be fined not more than \$10,000 or

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imprisoned for not more than three years and six months, or both, if the violation exceeds \$100 in amount or value.

This bill provides that if any person, including a candidate or committee other than a conduit, makes a disbursement to support or oppose a candidate for a major state office (governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, secretary of state, state treasurer, or state superintendent of public instruction) without first reporting to the extent required under the bill, the offender is subject to a forfeiture (civil penalty) of not more than \$500 for each day of violation. The bill also provides that if any person, including any of these candidates or committees, makes one or more disbursements or other expenditures for such a purpose in an amount that is more or less than the amount reported by that person:

1. By more than five percent but not more than ten percent, the person must forfeit four times the amount of the difference.
2. By more than ten percent but not more than 15 percent, the person must forfeit six times the amount of the difference.
3. By more than 15 percent, the person must forfeit eight times the amount of the difference.

**PUBLIC BROADCASTING TELEVISION STATIONS AND PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNELS**

Current law requires that free time on public broadcasting television stations and public access channels be provided to candidates for state office. Under current law, the Federal Communications Commission grants licenses for the operation of public broadcasting television stations. Also under current law, a city, village, or town is authorized to grant a franchise to a person that allows that person to operate a cable television system in the city, village, or town. Under the franchise, the person may be required to provide cable television channels that the city, village, or town may use for public, educational, or governmental purposes. A channel that is used exclusively for public, rather than educational or governmental purposes, is commonly referred to as a public access channel. A city, village, or town may operate a public access channel, or a city, village, or town may allow another person to operate the channel. Current law requires the Government Accountability Board to promulgate rules that require licensees of public broadcasting stations and operators of public access channels to provide a minimum amount of free time to candidates for state office at general, spring, and special elections. The rules must require the same amount of time for each candidate for a particular state office, but may require different amounts of time for different offices.

This bill repeals these provisions.

**INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX CREDIT**

This bill creates a nonrefundable individual income tax credit for contributions to the Public Integrity Endowment. Under the bill, an individual may claim as an income tax credit, up to the amount of the individual's income tax liability, any amount that he or she contributes to the Public Integrity Endowment. If a married couple files a joint return, each spouse may claim the credit.

**PUBLIC FINANCING OF CAMPAIGNS FOR JUSTICE**

This bill makes numerous changes in the campaign finance law affecting campaigns for the office of justice of the supreme court. The bill limits the application

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of the Wisconsin election campaign fund, under which eligible candidates for certain state offices (including justice of the supreme court) may receive public grants from state general purpose revenues derived from designations made by individuals filing state income tax returns, to state offices other than the office of justice. To finance elections for the office of justice of the supreme court, the bill creates a democracy trust fund, under which eligible candidates for this office may receive public grants derived from general purpose revenues.

Under the bill, a candidate for the office of justice of the supreme court may qualify for public financing from the democracy trust fund to finance a campaign in a primary or election by receiving qualifying contributions of at least \$5 but not more than \$100 each made by an elector of this state in an aggregate amount of at least \$5,000 but not more than \$15,000. A candidate who accepts public financing may also accept “seed money” contributions in amounts of \$100 or less, subject to aggregate limitations, and may contribute personal funds in specified amounts during specified periods. In order to qualify for a public financing benefit for the primary, a candidate at the primary must have an opponent who qualifies to have his or her name appear on the ballot at the spring primary, and in order to qualify for a public financing benefit for the spring election, a candidate at the election must have an opponent who qualifies to have his or her name appear on the ballot at the election. A candidate who accepts a public financing benefit may not accept any contributions other than qualifying and seed money contributions and contributions from personal funds within the limitations permitted. Public financing benefits for eligible candidates are \$100,000 in the spring primary and \$300,000 in the spring election. The benefits are subject to a biennial cost of living adjustment. A candidate who accepts more than a specified amount of qualifying or seed money contributions has the excess deducted from his or her public financing benefit. In addition, if a candidate’s opponent declines to accept a public financing benefit and makes expenditures in a total amount that exceeds by more than 5 percent the amount permitted for a candidate who accepts a public financing benefit, the candidate who accepts a public financing benefit receives additional funding equivalent to the excess expenditures made by his or her opponent, but not more than three times the amount of the public financing benefit for the office that the candidate seeks. A candidate also receives additional public financing equivalent to any independent expenditures made against the candidate or in support of his or her opponents if those expenditures exceed 20 percent of the amount of the public financing benefit for the office that the candidate seeks (but not more than three times the amount of that benefit).

The bill provides that if a candidate makes disbursements that exceed the total amount of the public financing benefit allocated to the candidate and the total qualifying and seed money contributions lawfully accepted by the candidate, the candidate is subject to a forfeiture (civil penalty) of not more than ten times the amount by which his or her disbursements exceed the allocation. In addition, the bill provides that a candidate who accepts contributions in excess of any limitation imposed under the bill is subject to a forfeiture of not more than ten times the amount by which the contributions exceed the applicable limitation. The bill also provides

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that if any candidate or agent of a candidate knowingly accepts more contributions than the candidate is entitled to receive, or makes disbursements exceeding the total amount of the public financing benefit received by the candidate and the qualifying and seed money contributions lawfully received by the candidate, the candidate or agent may be fined not more than \$25,000 or imprisoned for not more than ten years, or both. Under the bill, any person who, in connection with the receipt or disbursement of a public financing benefit, knowingly provides false information to the Government Accountability Board, or knowingly conceals or withholds information from the board, is subject to the same penalty.

Currently, a candidate for the office of justice of the supreme court may qualify to receive a grant from the Wisconsin election campaign fund for use in an election campaign only (no funding is provided for primary campaigns). In order to qualify for a grant, a candidate must qualify to have his or her name appear on the spring election ballot and must have an opponent who qualifies to have his or her name appear on that ballot. The maximum amount of a grant that a candidate may receive is \$97,031. This amount is not subject to any cost of living adjustment. In addition, this amount is reduced by the total amount of contributions received by a candidate from special interest committees and this amount may not be fully funded in a particular year if there are not sufficient moneys in the Wisconsin election campaign fund to provide full financing for all qualifying candidates. A candidate must agree to abide by spending and self-contribution limits in order to receive a grant, but this agreement does not apply if the candidate has an opponent who could have qualified for a grant but declines to do so and declines to file an affidavit of voluntary compliance with spending and self-contribution limits.

Currently, individuals and committees making political contributions to candidates for the office of justice of the supreme court are subject to limitations on the amount or value of any contribution or contributions that may be made cumulatively to any candidate in a campaign. The limitations are \$10,000 in the case of an individual making a contribution to a candidate and \$8,625 in the case of a committee making a contribution to a candidate. This bill replaces these limitations with a contribution limitation of \$1,000 applicable to an individual or committee making any contribution or contributions cumulatively during a campaign period to any candidate for the office of justice of the supreme court who is eligible to qualify for a public financing benefit but who declines to accept one.

The changes take effect on June 1, 2008.

**NONSEVERABILITY**

Currently, if any part of an act is found by a court to be invalid, those parts that are valid are severed from the invalid part and the severed parts continue in force. This bill provides that, if any of the following parts of the bill is unconstitutional, then all of the following parts are void: 1) parts relating to the reporting of certain expenditures and obligations by candidates and special interest committees; and 2) parts relating to the provision of supplemental grants to candidates whose opponents exceed disbursement limitations or who are opposed or whose opponents are supported by any reportable disbursements by candidates or independent disbursements or obligations, including those that are reportable under current law.

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*the day the bill becomes law*

**INITIAL APPLICABILITY**

All campaign finance changes under the bill apply to elections held on or after ~~January 1, 2008~~, except that the directive to incorporate a Public Integrity Endowment takes effect on the day on which the bill becomes law. Under the bill, changes to the income tax checkoff and the creation of an individual income tax credit for contributions to the endowment apply to taxable years beginning on January 1 of the year in which the bill becomes law, if the bill becomes law by July 31, in any year, or otherwise to taxable years beginning on January 1 of the following year.

Because this bill creates a new crime or revises a penalty for an existing crime, the Joint Review Committee on Criminal Penalties may be requested to prepare a report concerning the proposed penalty and the costs or savings that are likely to result if the bill is enacted.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***

1           **SECTION 1.** 5.02 (13) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           5.02 (13) "Political party" or "party" means a state committee registered under  
3 s. 11.05 and organized exclusively for political purposes under whose name  
4 candidates appear on a ballot at any election, and all county, congressional,  
5 legislative, local and other affiliated committees authorized to operate under the  
6 same name. For purposes of ch. 11, the term does not include ~~a legislative campaign~~  
7 ~~committee or a committee filing an oath under s. 11.06 (7).~~

8           **SECTION 2.** 7.08 (2) (c) and (cm) of the statutes are amended to read:

9           7.08 (2) (c) As soon as possible after the canvass of the spring and September  
10 primary votes, but no later than the first Tuesday in March and the 4th Tuesday in  
11 September, transmit to the state treasurer a certified list of all eligible candidates  
12 for state office who have filed applications under s. 11.50 (2) and whom the board  
13 determines ~~to be~~ are eligible to receive payments grants from the Wisconsin election  
14 campaign fund. The board shall also electronically transmit a similar list containing

*changes relating to public financing of  
campaigns for the office of justice of the  
supreme court take effect on June 1, 2008,  
and except that*

1 the name of each candidate whom the board determines is eligible to receive a grant  
2 under s. 11.50 (9) (ba) or (bb) within 24 hours after the candidate qualifies to receive  
3 such a grant. Each list shall contain each candidate's name, the mailing address  
4 indicated upon the candidate's registration form, the office for which the individual  
5 is a candidate and the party or principle which he or she represents, if any.

6 (cm) As soon as possible after the canvass of a special primary, or the date that  
7 the primary would be held, if required, transmit to the state treasurer a certified list  
8 of all eligible candidates for state office who have filed applications under s. 11.50 (2)  
9 and whom the board determines to be eligible to receive ~~a grant~~ grants from the  
10 Wisconsin election campaign fund prior to the election. The board shall also transmit  
11 a similar list of candidates, if any, who have filed applications under s. 11.50 (2) and  
12 whom the board determines to be eligible to receive ~~a grant~~ grants under s. 11.50 (1)  
13 (a) ~~2. 1. b.~~ after the special election. The board shall electronically transmit a similar  
14 list containing the name of each candidate whom the board determines is eligible to  
15 receive a grant under s. 11.50 (9) (ba) or (bb) within 24 hours after the candidate  
16 qualifies to receive such a grant. Each list shall contain each candidate's name, the  
17 mailing address indicated upon the candidate's registration form, the office for which  
18 the individual is a candidate and the party or principle which he or she represents,  
19 if any.

20 **SECTION 3.** 7.08 (2) (cs) of the statutes is created to read:

21 7.08 (2) (cs) In each even-numbered year, certify to the state treasurer for the  
22 period beginning with the month following certification and ending with the month  
23 in which the next certification is made by the board:

24 1. No later than July 1, the name of each political party that qualifies under  
25 s. 11.50 (1) (am) 1. as an eligible political party as of the preceding June 1 and whose

1 state chairperson has filed a written request to establish an account for the party  
2 under s. 11.50 (2s) (a).

3 2. No later than December 15, the name of each political party that qualifies  
4 under s. 11.50 (1) (am) 2. as an eligible political party as of the date of the preceding  
5 general election and whose state chairperson has filed a written request to establish  
6 an account for the party under s. 11.50 (2s) (a).

7 **SECTION 4.** 8.30 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 8.30 (2) If no registration statement has been filed by or on behalf of a candidate  
9 for state or local office in accordance with s. 11.05 (2g) ~~or (2r)~~ by the applicable  
10 deadline for filing nomination papers by such the candidate, or the deadline for filing  
11 a declaration of candidacy for an office for which nomination papers are not filed, the  
12 name of the candidate may not appear on the ballot. This subsection may not be  
13 construed to exempt ~~a candidate~~ an individual from applicable penalties if the  
14 individual is a candidate, as defined in s. 11.01 (1), and he or she files a registration  
15 statement later than the time prescribed in ss. 11.01 (1) and s. 11.05 (2g).

16 **SECTION 5.** 8.35 (4) (a) 1. a. and b. of the statutes are amended to read:

17 8.35 (4) (a) 1. a. ~~Donated to the former candidate's local or state political party~~  
18 ~~if~~ If the former candidate was a partisan candidate ~~or, donated to the former~~  
19 ~~candidate's local or state political party, donated to the a charitable organization of~~  
20 ~~the former candidate's choice or the charitable organization chosen, or transferred~~  
21 ~~to the board for deposit in the Wisconsin election campaign fund, as instructed by the~~  
22 ~~former candidate or, if the candidate left no instruction, as instructed by the former~~  
23 ~~candidate's next of kin if the former candidate is deceased, or if no choice is made~~  
24 ~~returned to the donors on a proportional basis; or~~

1           b. If the former candidate was a nonpartisan candidate, donated to the a  
2 charitable organization of the former candidate's choice or the or the charitable  
3 organization chosen or transferred to the board for deposit in the Wisconsin election  
4 campaign fund, as instructed by the former candidate or, if the candidate left no  
5 instruction, as instructed by the former candidate's next of kin if the former  
6 candidate is deceased; or

7           **SECTION 6.** 8.35 (4) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

8           8.35 (4) (b) Notwithstanding par. (a), any unspent and unencumbered moneys  
9 received by a candidate from the Wisconsin election campaign fund shall be  
10 immediately transferred to any candidate who is appointed to replace such  
11 candidate, upon filing of a proper application therefor under s. 11.50 (2). If there is  
12 no candidate appointed or if no proper application is filed within 7 days of the date  
13 on which the vacancy occurs, such moneys shall revert to the state as provided in s.  
14 11.50 (8). Notwithstanding par. (a), any unspent and unencumbered moneys  
15 received by a candidate from the democracy trust fund shall be immediately  
16 transferred to any candidate who is appointed to replace that candidate upon filing  
17 of a proper application therefor under s. 11.502 (1). For purposes of qualification,  
18 contributions received and disbursements made by the former candidate are  
19 considered to have been received or made by the replacement candidate. If there is  
20 no candidate appointed or if no proper application is filed within 7 days of the date  
21 on which a vacancy occurs, the moneys shall revert to the state.

22           **SECTION 7.** 8.35 (4) (c) and (d) of the statutes are amended to read:

23           8.35 (4) (c) The transfer to the replacement candidate under par. (b) shall be  
24 made and reported to the appropriate filing officer in a special report submitted in  
25 a special report submitted by the former candidate's campaign treasurer. If the



1 former candidate is deceased and was serving as his or her own campaign treasurer,  
2 the former candidate's petitioner or personal representative shall ~~file the report and~~  
3 ~~make the transfer required by par. (b), if any~~ and file the report. The report shall be  
4 made at the appropriate interval under s. 11.20 (2) or (4) or in the manner required  
5 under s. 11.21 (16), if applicable, and shall include a complete statement of all  
6 contributions, disbursements and incurred obligations pursuant to s. 11.06 (1)  
7 covering the period from the day after the last date covered on the former candidate's  
8 most recent report to the date of disposition.

9 (d) The newly appointed candidate shall file his or her report at the next  
10 appropriate interval under s. 11.20 (2) or (4) after his or her appointment or in the  
11 manner required under s. 11.21 (16), if applicable. The appointed candidate shall  
12 include any transferred funds moneys in his or her first report.

13 **SECTION 8.** 11.001 (2m) of the statutes is created to read:

14 11.001 (2m) The legislature finds a compelling justification for minimal  
15 disclosure of all communications made near the time of an election that include a  
16 reference to a clearly identified candidate at that election, an office to be filled at that  
17 election, or a political party in order to permit increased funding for candidates who  
18 are affected by those communications. The legislature finds that this minimal  
19 disclosure burden is outweighed by the need to establish an effective funding  
20 mechanism for affected candidates to effectively respond to communications that  
21 may impact an election.

22 **SECTION 9.** 11.01 (12s) of the statutes is repealed.

23 **SECTION 10.** 11.01 (14m) of the statutes is created to read:

1           11.01 (14m) “Partisan state office” means the office of governor, lieutenant  
2 governor, secretary of state, state treasurer, attorney general, state senator, state  
3 representative to the assembly, or district attorney.

4           **SECTION 11.** 11.01 (16) (a) 3. of the statutes is created to read:

5           11.01 (16) (a) 3. A communication that is made by means of one or more  
6 communications media, other than a communication that is exempt from reporting  
7 under s. 11.29, that is made during the period beginning on the 60th day preceding  
8 an election and ending on the date of that election, and that includes a reference to  
9 a candidate whose name is certified under s. 7.08 (2) (a) or 8.50 (1) (d) to appear on  
10 the ballot at that election, a reference to an office to be filled at that election, or a  
11 reference to a political party.

12           **SECTION 12.** 11.01 (17g) and (17r) of the statutes are repealed. *is*  
13           *as affected by 2007 Wisconsin Act 42*  
14           *ser. #. RP; 11.01 (17r)*

15           **SECTION 13.** 11.05 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 11.05 (1) (a) and amended  
16 to read:

17           11.05 (1) (a) Except as provided in s. 9.10 (2) (d), every committee, other than  
18 a personal campaign committee, ~~and every political group subject to a registration~~  
19 ~~requirement under s. 11.23 which that~~ makes or accepts contributions, incurs  
20 obligations, or makes disbursements in a calendar year in an aggregate amount in  
21 excess of \$25 shall file a statement with the appropriate filing officer giving the  
22 information required by sub. (3). ~~In the case of any committee other than a personal~~  
23 ~~campaign committee, the~~ The statement shall be filed by the treasurer. A personal  
24 campaign committee shall register under sub. (2g) ~~or (2r)~~.

25           **SECTION 14.** 11.05 (1) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

          11.05 (1) (b) Every political group subject to registration under s. 11.23 that  
          makes or accepts contributions, incurs obligations, or makes disbursements in a

1 calendar year in an aggregate amount in excess of \$100 shall file a statement with  
2 the appropriate filing officer giving the information required by sub. (3).

3 **SECTION 15.** 11.05 (2) of the statutes is renumbered 11.05 (2) (a) and amended  
4 to read:

5 11.05 (2) (a) Except as provided in s. 9.10 (2) (d), every individual, other than  
6 a candidate or agent of a candidate, who accepts contributions, incurs obligations,  
7 or makes disbursements with respect to one or more elections for state or local office  
8 in a calendar year in an aggregate amount in excess of \$25 shall file a statement with  
9 the appropriate filing officer giving the information required by sub. (3). An  
10 individual who guarantees a loan on which an individual, committee or group subject  
11 to a registration requirement defaults is not subject to registration under this  
12 ~~subsection~~ paragraph solely as a result of such default.

13 **SECTION 16.** 11.05 (2) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

14 11.05 (2) (b) Every individual who accepts contributions, incurs obligations, or  
15 makes disbursements with respect to one or more referenda in a calendar year in an  
16 aggregate amount in excess of \$100 shall file a statement with the appropriate filing  
17 officer giving the information required by sub. (3).

18 **SECTION 17.** 11.05 (2r) of the statutes is renumbered 11.06 (2m) (a) and  
19 amended to read:

20 11.06 (2m) (a) Any person, committee or group, other than ~~a committee or an~~  
21 individual or committee required to file an oath under ~~s. 11.06 (7) sub. (7)~~, who or  
22 which does not anticipate accepting contributions, making disbursements, or  
23 incurring obligations in an aggregate amount in excess of \$1,000 in a calendar year  
24 and does not anticipate accepting any contribution or contributions from a single  
25 source, other than contributions made by a candidate to his or her own campaign,

1 exceeding \$100 in ~~that~~ any calendar year may indicate on its registration statement  
2 that the person, committee, or group will not accept contributions, incur obligations,  
3 or make disbursements in the aggregate in excess of \$1,000 in any calendar year and  
4 will not accept any contribution or contributions from a single source, other than  
5 contributions made by a candidate to his or her own campaign, exceeding \$100 in  
6 ~~such~~ any calendar year. Any registrant making such an indication is not subject to  
7 any filing requirement if the statement is true. The registrant need not file a  
8 termination report. A registrant not making such an indication on a registration  
9 statement is subject to a filing requirement. The indication may be revoked and the  
10 registrant is then subject to a filing requirement as of the date of revocation, or the  
11 date that aggregate contributions, disbursements, or obligations for the calendar  
12 year exceed \$1,000, or the date on which the registrant accepts any contribution or  
13 contributions exceeding \$100 from a single source, other than contributions made by  
14 a candidate to his or her own campaign, during ~~that~~ any calendar year, whichever  
15 is earlier. ~~If the revocation is not timely, the registrant violates s. 11.27 (1).~~

16 **SECTION 18.** 11.05 (3) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 11.05 (3) (c) In the case of a committee, a statement as to whether the  
18 committee is a personal campaign committee, a political party committee, ~~a~~  
19 ~~legislative campaign committee,~~ a support committee, or a special interest  
20 committee.

21 **SECTION 19.** 11.05 (3) (m) of the statutes is created to read:

22 11.05 (3) (m) In the case of a personal campaign committee, the name of the  
23 candidate on whose behalf the committee was formed or intends to operate and the  
24 office or offices that the candidate seeks.

25 **SECTION 20.** 11.05 (3) (o) of the statutes is repealed.

1           **SECTION 21.** 11.05 (3) (r) of the statutes is created to read:

2           11.05 **(3)** (r) In the case of a candidate or personal campaign committee of a  
3 candidate, the telephone number or numbers and a facsimile transmission number  
4 or electronic mail address, if any, at which the candidate may be contacted.

5           **SECTION 22.** 11.05 (3) (s) of the statutes is created to read:

6           11.05 **(3)** (s) In the case of a registrant that has made a communication  
7 identified in s. 11.01 (16) (a) 3., a report containing the information specified in s.  
8 11.06 (1) with respect to any obligation to make a disbursement incurred or any  
9 disbursement made for the purpose of making such a communication prior to  
10 registration.

11           **SECTION 23.** 11.05 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

12           11.05 **(5)** CHANGE OF INFORMATION. Any change in information previously  
13 submitted in a statement of registration shall be reported by the registrant to the  
14 appropriate filing officer within 10 days following the change. This period does not  
15 apply in case of change of an indication made under ~~sub. (2r)~~ s. 11.06 (2m), which  
16 shall be reported no later than the date that a registrant is subject to a filing  
17 requirement under ~~sub. (2r)~~ s. 11.06 (2m). Any such change may be reported only by  
18 the individual or by the officer who has succeeded to the position of an individual who  
19 signed the original statement; but in the case of a personal campaign committee, a  
20 candidate or campaign treasurer may report a change in the statement except as  
21 provided in s. 11.10 (2), and in the case of any other committee or group, the chief  
22 executive officer or treasurer indicated on the statement may report a change. If a  
23 preexisting support committee is adopted by a candidate as his or her personal  
24 campaign committee, the candidate shall file an amendment to the committee's

1 statement under this subsection indicating that all information contained in the  
2 statement is true, correct and complete.

3 **SECTION 24.** 11.05 (5r) of the statutes is created to read:

4 11.05 **(5r)** CONTRIBUTION PRIOR TO REGISTRATION PROHIBITED. (a) Except as  
5 provided in sub. (13), no person, committee, or group that is subject to a registration  
6 requirement may make any contribution prior to the date of registration under this  
7 section.

8 (b) No registrant may accept any contribution received from a person,  
9 committee, or group that is subject to a registration requirement prior to the date of  
10 registration of that person, committee, or group.

11 **SECTION 25.** 11.05 (9) (title) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

12 11.05 **(9)** (title) DEPOSIT OF CONTRIBUTIONS; CONDUITS.

13 **SECTION 26.** 11.05 (9) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 11.05 **(9)** (b) An individual who or a committee or group which receives a  
15 contribution of money and transfers the contribution to another individual,  
16 committee, or group while acting as a conduit is not subject to registration under this  
17 section unless the individual, committee, or group transfers the contribution to a  
18 candidate or a personal campaign, ~~legislative campaign~~, political party, or support  
19 committee.

20 **SECTION 27.** 11.05 (12) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 11.05 **(12)** (title) TIME OF REGISTRATION; ACCEPTANCE OF UNLAWFUL CONTRIBUTIONS.

22 **SECTION 28.** 11.05 (12) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 11.05 **(12)** (b) Except as authorized under sub. (13), a committee, group or  
24 individual other than a candidate or agent of a candidate shall comply with sub. (1)  
25 or (2) no later than the 5th business day commencing after receipt of the first

1 contribution by such committee, group or individual, and before making any  
2 disbursement. No committee, group or individual, other than a candidate or agent  
3 of a candidate, may accept any contribution or contributions exceeding \$25 in the  
4 aggregate the amount specified in sub. (1) or (2) during a calendar year at any time  
5 when the committee, group or individual is not registered under this section except  
6 within the initial 5-day period authorized by this paragraph.

7 **SECTION 29.** 11.05 (13) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 11.05 **(13)** BANK ACCOUNT AND POSTAL BOX; EXEMPTION. An individual, committee  
9 or group does not violate this section by accepting a contribution and making a  
10 disbursement in the amount required to rent a postal box, or in the minimum amount  
11 required by a bank or trust company to open a checking account, prior to the time of  
12 registration, if the disbursement is properly reported on the first report submitted  
13 under s. 11.20 or 11.21 (16) after the date that the individual, committee or group is  
14 registered, whenever a reporting requirement applies to the registrant.

15 **SECTION 30.** 11.06 (1) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 11.06 **(1)** CONTENTS OF REPORT. (intro.) Except as provided in subs. (2), ~~(3)~~ and  
17 ~~(3m)~~ and ~~ss. 11.05 (2r)~~ and (2m) and s. 11.19 (2), each registrant under s. 11.05 shall  
18 make full reports, upon a form prescribed by the board and signed by the appropriate  
19 individual under sub. (5), of all contributions received, contributions or  
20 disbursements made, and obligations incurred. Each report shall contain the  
21 following information, covering the period since the last date covered on the previous  
22 report, unless otherwise provided:

23 **SECTION 31.** 11.06 (1) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

24 11.06 **(1)** (e) An itemized statement of contributions over \$20 from a single  
25 source donated to a charitable organization or to the common school fund, with the

1 full name and mailing address of the donee, and a statement of contributions over  
2 \$20 transferred to the board for deposit in the Wisconsin election campaign fund.

3 **SECTION 32.** 11.06 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 11.06 (2) DISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN INDIRECT DISBURSEMENTS. Notwithstanding  
5 sub. (1), if a disbursement is made or obligation incurred by an individual other than  
6 a candidate or by a committee or group which is not primarily organized for political  
7 purposes, and the disbursement does not constitute a contribution to any candidate  
8 or other individual, committee, or group, and the disbursement is not made or the  
9 obligation is not incurred for the purpose of making a communication specified in s.  
10 11.01 (16) (a) 3., the disbursement or obligation is required to be reported only if the  
11 purpose is to expressly advocate the election or defeat of a clearly identified  
12 candidate or the adoption or rejection of a referendum. The exemption provided by  
13 this subsection shall in no case be construed to apply to a political party, legislative  
14 campaign, personal campaign or support committee.

15 **SECTION 33.** 11.06 (2m) (title) of the statutes is created to read:

16 11.06 (2m) (title) GENERAL REPORTING EXEMPTIONS.

17 **SECTION 34.** 11.06 (2m) (b) to (d) of the statutes are created to read:

18 11.06 (2m) (b) Any individual or committee who or which is required to file an  
19 oath under sub. (7) and who or which accepts contributions, makes disbursements,  
20 or incurs obligations for the purpose of supporting or opposing one or more  
21 candidates for state office and who or which does not anticipate accepting  
22 contributions, making disbursements, or incurring obligations in an aggregate  
23 amount in excess of \$1,000 in a calendar year and does not anticipate accepting any  
24 contribution or contributions from a single source exceeding \$100 in any calendar  
25 year may indicate on its registration statement that the individual or committee will



1 not accept contributions, incur obligations, or make disbursements in the aggregate  
2 in excess of \$1,000 in any calendar year and will not accept any contribution or  
3 contributions from a single source exceeding \$100 in any calendar year. Any  
4 registrant making such an indication is not subject to any filing requirement if the  
5 statement is true. The registrant need not file a termination report. A registrant not  
6 making such an indication on a registration statement is subject to a filing  
7 requirement. The indication may be revoked and the registrant is then subject to a  
8 filing requirement as of the date of revocation, or the date on which aggregate  
9 contributions, disbursements, or obligations for the calendar year exceed \$1,000, or  
10 the date on which the registrant accepts any contribution or contributions exceeding  
11 \$100 from a single source during any calendar year, whichever is earlier.

12 (c) Any individual or committee who or which is required to file an oath under  
13 sub. (7) and who or which accepts contributions, makes disbursements, or incurs  
14 obligations for the purpose of supporting or opposing one or more candidates for local  
15 office but not for the purpose of supporting or opposing any candidate for state office  
16 and who or which does not anticipate accepting contributions, making  
17 disbursements, or incurring obligations in an aggregate amount in excess of \$100 in  
18 a calendar year and does not anticipate accepting any contribution or contributions  
19 from a single source exceeding \$100 in any calendar year may indicate on its  
20 registration statement that the individual or committee will not accept  
21 contributions, incur obligations, or make disbursements in the aggregate in excess  
22 of \$100 in any calendar year and will not accept any contribution or contributions  
23 from a single source exceeding \$100 in any calendar year. Any registrant making  
24 such an indication is not subject to any filing requirement if the statement is true.  
25 The registrant need not file a termination report. A registrant not making such an

1 indication on a registration statement is subject to a filing requirement. The  
2 indication may be revoked and the registrant is then subject to a filing requirement  
3 as of the date of revocation, or the date that aggregate contributions, disbursements,  
4 or obligations for the calendar year exceed \$100, or the date on which the registrant  
5 accepts any contribution or contributions exceeding \$100 from a single source during  
6 any calendar year, whichever is earlier.

7 (d) If a revocation by a registrant under this subsection is not timely, the  
8 registrant violates s. 11.27 (1).

9 **SECTION 35.** 11.06 (3) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

10 11.06 (3) (b) (intro.) ~~Notwithstanding sub. (1), a~~ A nonresident registrant shall  
11 ~~report on a form prescribed by the board the applicable information ensure that the~~  
12 ~~report under sub. (1) separately states information~~ under sub. (1) concerning all of  
13 the following, in a manner prescribed by the board:

14 **SECTION 36.** 11.06 (3r) of the statutes is repealed.

15 **SECTION 37.** 11.06 (3w) of the statutes is repealed.

16 **SECTION 38.** 11.06 (4) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 11.06 (4) (b) Unless it is returned or donated within 15 days of receipt, a  
18 contribution must be reported as received and accepted on the date received. This  
19 ~~subsection paragraph~~ applies notwithstanding the fact that the contribution is not  
20 deposited in the a campaign depository account by the closing date for the reporting  
21 period as provided in s. 11.20 (8) or the reporting deadline provided in s. 11.21 (16)  
22 if applicable.

23 **SECTION 39.** 11.06 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

24 11.06 (5) REPORT MUST BE COMPLETE. A registered individual or treasurer of a  
25 group or committee shall make a good faith effort to obtain all required information.

1 The first report shall commence no later than the date that the first contribution is  
2 received and accepted or the first disbursement is made. Each report shall be filed  
3 with the appropriate filing officer on the dates designated in s. 11.20 and, if the  
4 registrant files reports under s. 11.21 (16), at the times specified in s. 11.21 (16). The  
5 individual or the treasurer of the group or committee shall certify to the correctness  
6 of each report. In the case of a candidate, the candidate or treasurer shall certify to  
7 the correctness of each report. If a treasurer is unavailable, any person designated  
8 as a custodian under s. 11.05 (3) (e) may certify to the correctness of a report.

9 **SECTION 40.** 11.06 (7m) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

10 11.06 (7m) (a) If a committee which was registered under s. 11.05 as a political  
11 party committee ~~or legislative campaign committee~~ supporting candidates of a  
12 political party files an oath under sub. (7) affirming that it does not act in cooperation  
13 or consultation with any candidate who is nominated to appear on the party ballot  
14 of the party at a general or special election, that the committee does not act in concert  
15 with, or at the request or suggestion of, such a candidate, that the committee does  
16 not act in cooperation or consultation with such a candidate or agent or authorized  
17 committee of such a candidate who benefits from a disbursement made in opposition  
18 to another candidate, and that the committee does not act in concert with, or at the  
19 request or suggestion of, such a candidate or agent or authorized committee of such  
20 a candidate who benefits from a disbursement made in opposition to another  
21 candidate, the committee filing the oath may not make any contributions in support  
22 of any candidate of the party at the general or special election or in opposition to any  
23 such candidate's opponents exceeding the amounts specified in s. 11.26 (2), except as  
24 authorized in par. (c).

25 **SECTION 41.** 11.06 (7m) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

1           11.06 (7m) (b) If the committee has already made contributions in excess of the  
2 amounts specified in s. 11.26 (2) at the time that it files an oath under sub. (7), each  
3 candidate to whom contributions are made shall promptly return a sufficient amount  
4 of contributions to bring the committee ~~in~~ into compliance with this subsection and  
5 the committee may not make any additional contributions in violation of this  
6 subsection.

7           **SECTION 42.** 11.06 (7m) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

8           11.06 (7m) (c) A committee filing an oath under sub. (7) which desires to change  
9 its status to a political party committee ~~or legislative campaign committee~~ may do  
10 so as of December 31 of any even-numbered year. Section 11.26 does not apply to  
11 contributions received by such a committee prior to the date of the change. Such a  
12 committee may change its status at other times only by filing a termination  
13 statement under s. 11.19 (1) and reregistering as a newly organized committee under  
14 s. 11.05.

15           **SECTION 43.** 11.07 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

16           11.07 (1) Every nonresident committee or group making contributions and  
17 every nonresident individual, committee or group making disbursements exceeding  
18 ~~\$25-cumulatively~~ the amount specified in s. 11.05 (1) or (2) in a calendar year within  
19 this state shall file the name, mailing and street address and the name and the  
20 mailing and street address of a designated agent within the state with the office of  
21 the secretary of state. An agent may be any adult individual who is a resident of this  
22 state. After any change in the name or address of such agent the new address or  
23 name of the successor agent shall be filed within 30 days of the date on which the  
24 change occurs. Service of process in any proceeding under this chapter or ch. 12, or  
25 service of any other notice or demand may be made upon such agent.

1           **SECTION 44.** 11.07 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           11.07 (5) Any campaign treasurer or individual who knowingly receives a  
3 contribution made by an unregistered nonresident in violation of this section may  
4 not use or expend such contribution but shall immediately return it to the source or  
5 at the option of the campaign treasurer or individual, donate the contribution to a  
6 charitable organization or to the common school fund or transfer the contribution to  
7 the board for deposit in the Wisconsin election campaign fund.

8           **SECTION 45.** 11.09 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

9           11.09 (3) Each registrant whose filing officer is the board, who or which makes  
10 disbursements in connection with elections for offices which serve or referenda  
11 which affect only one county or portion thereof, except a candidate, personal  
12 campaign committee, political party committee, or other committee making  
13 disbursements in support of or in opposition to a candidate for state senator,  
14 representative to the assembly, court of appeals judge, or circuit judge, shall file a  
15 duplicate original of each financial report filed with the board with the county clerk  
16 or board of election commissioners of the county in which the elections in which the  
17 registrant participates are held. Such reports shall be filed no later than the dates  
18 specified under s. 11.20 (2) and (4) for the filing of each report with the board. This  
19 subsection does not apply to a registrant who or which files reports under s. 11.21  
20 (16).

21           **SECTION 46.** 11.10 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

22           11.10 (1) Each candidate in an election shall appoint one campaign treasurer.  
23 Except as provided in s. 11.14 (3), each candidate shall designate one campaign  
24 depository account within 5 business days after the candidate receives his or her first  
25 contribution and before the candidate makes or authorizes any disbursement in

1       behalf of his or her candidacy. If a candidate adopts a preexisting support committee  
2       as his or her personal campaign committee, the candidate shall make such  
3       designation within 5 business days of adoption. The person designated as campaign  
4       treasurer shall be the treasurer of the candidate's personal campaign committee, if  
5       any. The candidate may appoint himself or herself or any other elector as campaign  
6       treasurer. A registration statement under s. 11.05 (2g) ~~or (2r)~~ must be filed jointly  
7       by every candidate and his or her campaign treasurer. The candidate does not  
8       qualify for ballot placement until this requirement is met. Except as authorized  
9       under s. 11.06 (5), the campaign treasurer or candidate shall certify as to the  
10      correctness of each report required to be filed, and the candidate bears the  
11      responsibility for the accuracy of each report for purposes of civil liability under this  
12      chapter, whether or not the candidate certifies it personally.

13           **SECTION 47.** 11.12 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

14           11.12 (2) Any anonymous contribution exceeding \$10 received by a campaign  
15      or committee treasurer or by an individual under s. 11.06 (7) may not be used or  
16      expended. The contribution shall be donated to the common school fund or to any  
17      charitable organization, or transferred to the board for deposit in the Wisconsin  
18      election campaign fund, at the option of the treasurer.

19           **SECTION 48.** 11.12 (2) of the statutes, as affected by 2007 Wisconsin Act .... (this  
20      act), is amended to read:

21           11.12 (2) Any No registrant, except a candidate who receives a public financing  
22      benefit from the democracy trust fund, may accept an anonymous contribution  
23      exceeding \$10 ~~received by a campaign or committee treasurer or by an individual~~  
24      ~~under s. 11.06 (7) may not be used or expended. The.~~ No candidate who receives a  
25      public financing benefit from the democracy trust fund may accept an anonymous

1 contribution exceeding \$5. Any anonymous contribution that may not be accepted  
2 under this subsection shall be donated to the common school fund or to any a  
3 charitable organization, or transferred to the board for deposit in the Wisconsin  
4 election campaign fund, at the option of the registrant's treasurer.

5 **SECTION 49.** 11.12 (2m) of the statutes is created to read:

6 11.12 (2m) If the campaign treasurer of a registrant receives a contribution in  
7 the form of money that is made by an individual who has made contributions to the  
8 registrant cumulatively within a calendar year exceeding \$100 in amount or value,  
9 and the contributor has not provided to the treasurer the information required under  
10 s. 11.06 (1) (b), the treasurer shall obtain the information from the contributor before  
11 depositing the contribution in the campaign depository account. If the treasurer does  
12 not receive the information within the period prescribed under s. 11.14 (1), the  
13 treasurer shall return the contribution to the contributor.

14 **SECTION 50.** 11.12 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

15 11.12 (4) Each registrant shall report contributions, disbursements, and  
16 incurred obligations in accordance with s. 11.20 and, if the registrant files reports  
17 under s. 11.21 (16), in accordance with s. 11.21 (16). Except as permitted under s.  
18 11.06 (2), ~~(3)~~ and (3m), each report shall contain the information which is required  
19 under s. 11.06 (1).

20 **SECTION 51.** 11.12 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 11.12 (5) If any contribution or contributions of \$500 or more cumulatively are  
22 received by a candidate for state office or by a committee or individual from a single  
23 contributor later than 15 days prior to a primary or election such that it is they are  
24 not included in the preprimary or preelection report submitted under s. 11.20 (3), the  
25 treasurer of the committee or the individual receiving the contribution shall, within

1 24 hours of receipt, inform the appropriate filing officer of the information required  
2 under s. 11.06 (1) in such manner as the board may prescribe. The information shall  
3 also be included in the treasurer's or individual's next regular report. For purposes  
4 of the reporting requirement under this subsection, only contributions received  
5 during the period beginning with the day after the last date covered on the  
6 preprimary or preelection report, and ending with the day before the primary or  
7 election need be reported.

8 **SECTION 52.** 11.12 (6) of the statutes is renumbered 11.12 (6) (a) and amended  
9 to read:

10 11.12 (6) (a) If ~~any~~ an individual or committee incurs an obligation or makes  
11 a disbursement of more than \$20 cumulatively is made to advocate the election or  
12 defeat of a clearly identified candidate by an individual or committee later than 15  
13 days prior to a primary or election in which the candidate's name appears on the  
14 ballot without cooperation or consultation with a candidate or agent or authorized  
15 committee of a candidate who is supported or whose opponent is opposed, and not in  
16 concert with or at the request or suggestion of such a candidate, agent or committee,  
17 the individual or treasurer of the committee shall, within 24 hours of after incurring  
18 the obligation or making the disbursement, inform the appropriate filing officer of  
19 the information required under s. 11.06 (1) in such manner as the board may  
20 prescribe. The information shall also be included in the next regular report of the  
21 individual or committee under s. 11.20. For purposes of this subsection, paragraph,  
22 obligations and disbursements cumulate beginning with the day after the last date  
23 covered on the preprimary or preelection report and ending with the day before the  
24 primary or election. Upon receipt of a report under this subsection paragraph, the  
25 filing officer shall, within 24 hours of receipt, mail a copy of the report to all



1 candidates for any office in support of or opposition to one of whom ~~a~~ an incurred  
2 obligation or disbursement identified in the report is incurred or made. A committee  
3 that files a report pertaining to a disbursement under par. (c) is not required to file  
4 a report pertaining to the same disbursement under this paragraph.

5 **SECTION 53.** 11.12 (6) (c) and (d) of the statutes are created to read:

6 11.12 **(6)** (c) If any committee identified under s. 11.05 (3) (c) as a special  
7 interest committee, other than a conduit, makes any disbursement for the purpose  
8 of advocating the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate for a state office  
9 specified in s. 11.31 (1) (a) to (d), (e), or (f) at the general or a special election, or any  
10 such candidate who seeks a nomination for such an office at a primary election, or  
11 for a purpose described in s. 11.01 (16) (a) 3., without cooperation or consultation with  
12 a candidate or agent or authorized committee of a candidate who is supported or  
13 whose opponent is opposed, and not in concert with or at the request or suggestion  
14 of such a candidate, agent, or committee, the committee shall report to the board  
15 within 24 hours thereafter, in such manner as the board may prescribe, the total  
16 amount of disbursements made for such a purpose in support of or opposition to that  
17 candidate, the amount and date of each such disbursement, and the name of the  
18 candidate in support of or in opposition to whom the disbursement was made. A  
19 committee which files a report under this paragraph concerning a disbursement is  
20 not required to file a report pertaining to the same disbursement under par. (a).

21 (d) All information reported by a registrant under this subsection shall also be  
22 included in the next regular report of the registrant under s. 11.20 or 11.21 (16).

23 **SECTION 54.** 11.12 (8) and (9) of the statutes are created to read:

24 11.12 **(8)** If a candidate for a state office specified in s. 11.31 (1) (a) to (d), (e),  
25 or (f) who does not accept a grant under s. 11.50 makes any disbursement after that

1 candidate has accumulated cash in his or her campaign depository account or has  
2 made disbursements during his or her campaign, as defined in s. 11.31 (7), exceeding  
3 a combined total of 75 percent of the amount specified in s. 11.31 (1) (a) to (d), (e), or  
4 (f), as adjusted under s. 11.31 (9), for the office that the candidate seeks, that  
5 candidate or the candidate's personal campaign committee shall file daily reports  
6 with the board and with each candidate whose name is certified to appear on the  
7 ballot for the office in connection with which the disbursement is made, by electronic  
8 mail or facsimile transmission, on each day beginning with that date or the 7th day  
9 after the primary election or the date that a primary would be held, if required,  
10 whichever is later, and ending on the date of the election at which the candidate seeks  
11 office. Each report shall be filed no later than 24 hours after that disbursement is  
12 made. Each report shall include the same information pertaining to each  
13 disbursement made by the candidate or committee that is required to be reported for  
14 other disbursements under s. 11.06 (1). The information shall also be included in the  
15 next regular report of the candidate or committee under s. 11.20.

16 **(9)** Whenever a report is required to be filed with a candidate by electronic mail  
17 or facsimile transmission under this section, the report shall be filed at the address  
18 or number of the candidate or personal campaign committee as shown on the  
19 registration statement of the candidate or committee. If no electronic mail address  
20 or facsimile transmission number is shown, the report shall be filed at the mailing  
21 address shown on the statement.

22 **SECTION 55.** 11.14 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 11.14 **(3)** Notwithstanding sub. (1), any candidate who serves as his or her own  
24 campaign treasurer and who is authorized to make and makes an indication on his  
25 or her registration statement under s. ~~11.05 (2r)~~ 11.06 (2m) that he or she will not

1 accept contributions, make disbursements or incur obligations in an aggregate  
2 amount exceeding ~~\$1,000 in a calendar year~~ the amount authorized in s. 11.06 (2m),  
3 and will not accept any contribution or contributions from a single source, other than  
4 contributions made by the candidate to his or her own campaign, exceeding \$100 in  
5 a calendar year, may designate a single personal account as his or her campaign  
6 depository account, and may intermingle personal and other funds with campaign  
7 funds. If a separate depository account is later established by the candidate, the  
8 candidate shall transfer all campaign funds in the personal account to the new  
9 depository account. Disbursements made from such personal account need not be  
10 identified in accordance with s. 11.16 (3).

11 **SECTION 56.** 11.16 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

12 11.16 (2) LIMITATION ON CASH CONTRIBUTIONS. Every contribution of money  
13 exceeding \$50 shall be made by negotiable instrument or evidenced by an itemized  
14 credit card receipt bearing on the face the name of the remitter. No treasurer may  
15 accept a contribution made in violation of this subsection. The treasurer shall  
16 promptly return the contribution, or, if the donor cannot be identified, donate it the  
17 contribution to the common school fund or to a charitable organization ~~in the event~~  
18 ~~that the donor cannot be identified~~ or transfer the contribution to the board for  
19 deposit in the Wisconsin election campaign fund.

20 **SECTION 57.** 11.16 (2) of the statutes, as affected by 2007 Wisconsin Act .... (this  
21 act), is amended to read:

22 11.16 (2) LIMITATION ON CASH CONTRIBUTIONS. Every Except as provided in s.  
23 11.506 (6), every contribution of money exceeding \$50 shall be made by negotiable  
24 instrument or evidenced by an itemized credit card receipt bearing on the face the  
25 name of the remitter. No treasurer may accept a contribution made in violation of

1 this subsection. The treasurer shall promptly return the contribution, or, if the donor  
2 cannot be identified, donate the contribution to the common school fund or to a  
3 charitable organization or transfer the contribution to the board for deposit in the  
4 Wisconsin election campaign fund.

5 **SECTION 58.** 11.16 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 11.16 (3) FORM OF DISBURSEMENTS. Every Except as authorized under s. 11.511  
7 (1), every disbursement which is made by a registered individual or treasurer from  
8 the campaign depository account shall be made by negotiable instrument. Such  
9 instrument shall bear on the face the full name of the candidate, committee,  
10 individual or group as it appears on the registration statement filed under s. 11.05  
11 and where necessary, such additional words as are sufficient to clearly indicate the  
12 political nature of the registrant or account of the registrant. The name of a political  
13 party shall include the word “party”. The instrument of each committee registered  
14 with the board and designated under s. 11.05 (3) (c) as a special interest committee  
15 shall bear the identification number assigned under s. 11.21 (12) on the face of the  
16 instrument.

17 **SECTION 59.** 11.16 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 11.16 (5) ESCROW AGREEMENTS. Any personal campaign committee, or political  
19 party committee ~~or legislative campaign committee~~ may, pursuant to a written  
20 escrow agreement with more than one candidate, solicit contributions for and  
21 conduct a joint fund raising effort or program on behalf of more than one named  
22 candidate. The agreement shall specify the percentage of the proceeds to be  
23 distributed to each candidate by the committee conducting the effort or program.  
24 The committee shall include this information in all solicitations for the effort or  
25 program. All contributions received and disbursements made by the committee in

1 connection with the effort or program shall be received and disbursed through a  
2 separate depository account under s. 11.14 (1) that is identified in the agreement.  
3 For purposes of s. 11.06 (1), the committee conducting the effort or program shall  
4 prepare a schedule in the form prescribed by the board supplying all required  
5 information under s. 11.06 (1) and items qualifying for exclusion under s. 11.31 (6)  
6 for the effort or program, and shall transmit a copy of the schedule to each candidate  
7 who receives any of the proceeds within the period prescribed in s. 11.06 (4) (c).

8 **SECTION 60.** 11.19 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 **11.19 (title) Dissolution Carry-over of surplus funds; dissolution of**  
10 **registrants; termination reports.**

11 **SECTION 61.** 11.19 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

12 11.19 (1) Whenever any registrant disbands or determines that obligations will  
13 no longer be incurred, and contributions will no longer be received nor disbursements  
14 made during a calendar year, and the registrant has no outstanding incurred  
15 obligations, the registrant shall file a termination report with the appropriate filing  
16 officer. Such report shall indicate a cash balance on hand of zero at the end of the  
17 reporting period and shall indicate the disposition of residual funds. Residual funds  
18 may be used for any political purpose not prohibited by law, returned to the donors  
19 in an amount not exceeding the original contribution, transferred to the board for  
20 deposit in the Wisconsin election campaign fund, or donated to a charitable  
21 organization or the common school fund. The report shall be filed and certified as  
22 were previous reports, and shall contain the information required by s. 11.06 (1). A  
23 registrant to which s. 11.055 (1) applies shall pay the fee imposed under that  
24 subsection with a termination report filed under this subsection. If a termination  
25 report or suspension report under sub. (2) is not filed, the registrant shall continue

1 to file periodic reports with the appropriate filing officer, no later than the dates  
2 specified in s. 11.20 and, if the registrant files reports under s. 11.21 (16), no later  
3 than the times specified in s. 11.21 (16). This subsection does not apply to any  
4 registrant making an indication under s. ~~11.05 (2r)~~ 11.06 (2m).

5 **SECTION 62.** 11.20 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 11.20 (1) All reports required by s. 11.06 which relate to activities which  
7 promote or oppose candidates for state office or statewide referenda and all reports  
8 under s. 11.08 shall be filed with the board. All reports required by s. 11.06 which  
9 relate to activities which promote or oppose candidates for local office or local  
10 referenda shall be filed with the appropriate filing officer under s. 11.02, except  
11 reports filed under s. 11.08. Each registrant shall file the reports required by this  
12 section. If the registrant is subject to a requirement under s. 11.21 (16) to report  
13 electronically the same information that is reportable under this section, the  
14 registrant shall, in addition, file the reports required by this section recorded on a  
15 medium specified by the board.

16 **SECTION 63.** 11.20 (7) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 11.20 (7) ~~In~~ Except as otherwise required under s. 11.21 (16), in the event that  
18 any report is required to be filed under this section ~~chapter~~ on a nonbusiness day, it  
19 may be filed on the next business day thereafter.

20 **SECTION 64.** 11.20 (9) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 11.20 (9) Except as provided in ss. ~~11.05 (2r)~~ 11.06 (2m) and 11.19 (2), the duty  
22 to file reports under this section or s. 11.21 (16), where applicable, continues until a  
23 termination report is filed in accordance with s. 11.19.

24 **SECTION 65.** 11.20 (10) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

1           11.20 **(10)** (a) Where a requirement is imposed under this section for the filing  
2 of a financial report which is to be received by the appropriate filing officer no later  
3 than a certain date, the requirement may be satisfied either by actual receipt of the  
4 report by the prescribed time for filing at the office of the filing officer, or by filing a  
5 report with the U.S. postal service by first class mail with sufficient prepaid postage,  
6 addressed to the appropriate filing officer, no later than the 3rd day before the date  
7 provided by law for receipt of such report.

8           **SECTION 66.** 11.20 (12) of the statutes is amended to read:

9           11.20 **(12)** If a candidate is unopposed in a primary or election, the obligation  
10 to file the reports required by this chapter does not cease. Except as provided in ss.  
11 ~~11.05 (2r)~~ 11.06 (2m) and 11.19 (2), a registrant who makes or receives no  
12 contributions, makes no disbursements or incurs no obligations shall so report on the  
13 dates designated in subs. (2) and (4).

14           **SECTION 67.** 11.21 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

15           11.21 **(2)** Furnish to each registrant prescribed forms for the making of reports  
16 and statements. Forms shall be sent by 1st class mail not earlier than 21 days and  
17 not later than 14 days prior to the applicable filing deadline under s. 11.20, and  
18 addressed to the attention of the treasurer or other person indicated on the  
19 registration statement. Forms need not be sent to a registrant who has made an  
20 indication that aggregate contributions, disbursements and obligations will not  
21 exceed the amount specified under s. ~~11.05 (2r)~~ 11.06 (2m) or to a registrant who has  
22 been granted a suspension under s. 11.19 (2). Forms for reports shall not be sent by  
23 the board to a registrant if the registrant is required to file reports with the board  
24 in an electronic format. Whenever any notice of filing requirements under this  
25 chapter is sent to a candidate's campaign treasurer, the board shall also send a notice

1 to the candidate if he or she has appointed a separate treasurer. Failure to receive  
2 any form or notice does not exempt a registrant from compliance with this chapter.

3 **SECTION 68.** 11.21 (15) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 11.21 (15) Inform each candidate who files an application to become eligible to  
5 receive a grant from the Wisconsin election campaign fund of the dollar amount of  
6 the applicable disbursement limitation under s. 11.31 (1), adjusted as provided under  
7 s. 11.31 (9), which applies to the office for which such person is a candidate. Failure  
8 to receive the notice required by this subsection does not constitute a defense to a  
9 violation of s. 11.27 (1) or 11.31.

10 **SECTION 69.** 11.21 (16) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 11.21 (16) Require each registrant for whom the board serves as filing officer  
12 and who or which accepts contributions in a total amount or value of \$20,000 or more  
13 during a campaign period to file each campaign finance report that is required to be  
14 filed under this chapter in an electronic format, and accept from any other registrant  
15 for whom the board serves as a filing officer any campaign finance report that is  
16 required to be filed under this chapter in an electronic format. A registrant who or  
17 which becomes subject to a requirement to file reports in an electronic format under  
18 this subsection shall initially file the registrant's report in an electronic format for  
19 the period which includes the date on which the registrant becomes subject to the  
20 requirement or, if the registrant is required to report transactions within 24 hours  
21 of their occurrence, within 24 hours after the date on which the registrant becomes  
22 subject to the requirement. To facilitate implementation of this subsection, the board  
23 shall specify, by rule, a type of software that is suitable for compliance with the  
24 electronic filing requirement under this subsection. The board shall provide copies  
25 of the software to registrants at a price fixed by the board that may not exceed cost.



1 Each registrant who or which files a report under this subsection in an electronic  
2 format shall also file a copy of the report with the board that is recorded on a medium  
3 specified by the board. The copy shall be signed by an authorized individual and filed  
4 with the board by each registrant no later than the time prescribed for filing of the  
5 report under this chapter. If a registrant is a committee, a copy shall be certified by  
6 an authorized individual and filed with the board by the registrant no later than 24  
7 hours after the occurrence of any transaction that is reportable under s.11.06 (1). If  
8 a registrant becomes subject to a requirement to report electronically under this  
9 subsection, the registrant shall continue to report electronically regardless of the  
10 amount of contributions accepted by the registrant until the registrant files a  
11 termination report. The board shall provide complete instructions to any registrant  
12 who or which files a report under this subsection. In this subsection, the “campaign  
13 period” of a candidate, personal campaign committee or support committee begins  
14 and ends with the “campaign” of the candidate whose candidacy is supported, as  
15 defined in s. 11.26 (17), and the “campaign period” of any other registrant begins on  
16 January 1 of each odd-numbered year and ends on December 31 of the following year.  
17 Section 990.001 (4) does not apply to the computation of time permitted for  
18 compliance with the filing requirements under this subsection.

19 **SECTION 70.** 11.21 (17) of the statutes is repealed.

20 **SECTION 71.** 11.22 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 11.22 (3) Furnish to each registrant prescribed forms for the making of reports  
22 and statements. Forms shall be sent by 1st class mail not earlier than 21 days and  
23 not later than 14 days prior to the applicable filing deadline under s. 11.20 and  
24 addressed to the attention of the treasurer or other person indicated on the  
25 registration statement. Forms need not be sent to a registrant who has made an

1 indication that aggregate contributions, disbursements and obligations will not  
2 exceed the amount specified under s. ~~11.05 (2r)~~ 11.06 (2m) or to a registrant who has  
3 been granted a suspension under s. 11.19 (2). Whenever any notice of the filing  
4 requirements under this chapter is sent to a candidate's campaign treasurer, the  
5 filing officer shall also send a notice to the candidate if he or she has appointed a  
6 separate treasurer. Failure to receive any form or notice does not exempt a registrant  
7 from compliance with this chapter.

8 **SECTION 72.** 11.23 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 11.23 (1) Any group or individual may promote or oppose a particular vote at  
10 any referendum in this state. Before making disbursements, receiving contributions  
11 or incurring obligations in excess of ~~\$25~~ \$100 in the aggregate in a calendar year for  
12 such purposes, the group or individual shall file a registration statement under s.  
13 11.05 (1), or (2) ~~or (2r)~~. In the case of a group the name and mailing address of each  
14 of its officers shall be given in the statement. Every group and every individual  
15 under this section shall designate a campaign depository account under s. 11.14.  
16 Every group shall appoint a treasurer, who may delegate authority but is jointly  
17 responsible for the actions of his or her authorized designee for purposes of civil  
18 liability under this chapter. The appropriate filing officer shall be notified by a group  
19 of any change in its treasurer within 10 days of the change under s. 11.05 (5). The  
20 treasurer of a group shall certify the correctness of each statement or report  
21 submitted by it under this chapter.

22 **SECTION 73.** 11.23 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 11.23 (2) Any anonymous contribution exceeding \$10 received by an individual  
24 or group treasurer may not be used or expended. The contribution shall be donated  
25 to the common school fund or to any charitable organization or transferred to the

1 board for deposit in the Wisconsin election campaign fund at the option of the  
2 treasurer.

3 **SECTION 74.** 11.24 (2) of the statutes is renumbered 11.24 (5).

4 **SECTION 75.** 11.24 (4) of the statutes is created to read:

5 11.24 (4) (a) No person may make a contribution to an incumbent partisan state  
6 elective official, to a candidate for a partisan state office, or to the personal campaign  
7 committee or support committee authorized under s. 11.05 (3) (p) of such an official  
8 or candidate for the purpose of promoting that official's or candidate's nomination,  
9 election, or reelection to a partisan state office during the period beginning on <sup>January 1</sup> ~~the~~  
10 ~~date of introduction of the executive budget bill under s. 16.47 (1m)~~ <sup>of an odd-numbered year</sup> and ending on  
11 the date of enactment of the biennial budget act.

12 (b) If in any year there is more than one executive budget bill, par. (a) <sup>ends</sup> ~~applies~~  
13 ~~beginning on the date of introduction of the first such bill and ending~~ <sup>unders. 16.47(1m),</sup> on the date of <sup>the period</sup>  
14 enactment of the last such bill. <sup>under</sup>

15 (c) Notwithstanding par. (a), a person may make a contribution to an  
16 incumbent partisan state elective official against whom a recall petition is circulated  
17 or a candidate for a partisan state office at a recall election during the period  
18 beginning on the date that a petitioner registers an intent to circulate a petition  
19 under s. 9.10 (2) (d) and ending on the date of the recall election, except that if the  
20 circulation period expires without offering of the recall petition for filing, the filing  
21 officer determines not to file the petition, or the official resigns as provided in s. 9.10  
22 (3) (c), the period ends on the date of that event.

23 (d) Paragraph (a) does not apply to a candidate for a partisan state office at a  
24 special election or to the personal campaign committee or authorized support  
25 committee of such a candidate.

