

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 431

BY REPRESENTATIVE TIM BURNS

CAMPAIGN FINANCE: Provides relative to certain penalties applicable to certain political committees for participation in certain specified elections

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:1505.4(C), relative to Campaign Finance Disclosure; to
3 provide relative to penalties applicable to certain political committees for
4 participation in specified elections; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 18:1505.4(C) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §1505.4. Civil penalties; failure to file; timely and accurate filing; forfeiture

8 * * *

9 C.(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection A of this Section and the
10 provisions of R.S. 18:1511.4.1, for ~~committees that are~~ a committee that is
11 supporting, opposing, or otherwise influencing the nomination or election of a person
12 to public office, the maximum amount of the penalty that shall be imposed for
13 knowingly failing to file or knowingly failing to timely file any ~~reports~~ report
14 required by this Chapter for a special election shall be the total of the expenditures
15 made for the purpose of supporting, opposing, or otherwise influencing the
16 nomination or election of a person or persons to public office in such special election
17 or the maximum penalty under the provisions of Subsection A of this Section,
18 whichever is less.

19 (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section and the provisions
20 of R.S. 18:1511.4.1, for a committee that is supporting, opposing, or otherwise

file any reports required by present law for a special election shall be the total of the expenditures made for the purpose of supporting, opposing, or otherwise influencing the nomination or election of a person or persons to public office in such special election or the maximum penalty (\$3,000) pursuant to the provisions of present law (R.S. 18:1505.4(A)), whichever is less. Present law specifies that it shall not apply to a candidate's principal campaign committee or any designated subsidiary committee of a candidate.

Proposed law provides that notwithstanding present law, for a committee that is supporting, opposing, or otherwise influencing the nomination or election of a person to public office that has made an expenditure in the form of a direct contribution to a candidate who was an elected official at the time of the contribution and who determines after the contribution was made to seek an office other than the office the candidate held at the time the contribution was made, no penalty for knowingly failing to timely file shall be assessed provided the contribution was disclosed on a report filed by the political committee prior to the election in which the candidate participates. Proposed law retains present law specifying that it shall not apply to a candidate's principal campaign committee or any designated subsidiary committee of a candidate.

(Amends R.S. 18:1505.4(C))