

WORKING DRAFT

SENATE FILE NO. _____

Campaign contributions-amendments.

Sponsored by: Joint Corporations, Elections and Political
Subdivisions Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to elections; amending provisions relating
2 to contributions of funds or elections assistance;
3 repealing restrictions on contributions obtained on an
4 automatic basis; and providing for an effective date.

5

6 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

7

8 **Section 1.** W.S. 22-25-102 (a) through (d) and (g) is
9 amended to read:

10

11 **22-25-102. Contribution of funds or election**
12 **assistance restricted; limitation on contributions; right**
13 **to communicate; civil penalty.**

14

1 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, no
2 organization of any kind ~~including a corporation,~~
3 ~~partnership, trade union, professional association or~~
4 ~~civic, fraternal or religious group or other profit or~~
5 ~~nonprofit entity~~ except a political party, political action
6 committee, ~~or~~ a candidate's campaign committee organized
7 under W.S. 22-25-101, any domestic business entity as
8 defined in W.S. 17-10-202(a) registered with the secretary
9 of state or labor organization as defined in W.S.
10 27-7-108(a) directly or indirectly through any officer,
11 member, director or employee, shall contribute funds, other
12 items of value or election assistance to aid, promote or
13 prevent the nomination or election of any candidate or
14 group of candidates or to aid or promote the interests,
15 success or defeat of any political party. No person shall
16 solicit or receive a payment or contribution from an
17 organization prohibited from making contributions under
18 this subsection.

19

20 (b) ~~Except as otherwise provided in this section,~~
21 Only a natural person, political party, ~~or~~ a political
22 action committee, ~~or~~ a candidate's campaign committee
23 organized under W.S. 22-25-101, any domestic business
24 entity as defined in W.S. 17-10-202(a) registered with the

1 secretary of state or labor organization as defined in W.S.
2 27-7-108(a) ~~shall~~ may contribute funds or election
3 assistance in order to aid, promote or prevent the
4 nomination or election of any candidate or group of
5 candidates, or in order to aid or promote the interests,
6 success or defeat of any political party. No person shall
7 solicit or receive a political payment or contribution from
8 any source other than a natural person, political party,
9 political action committee, ~~or~~ a candidate's campaign
10 committee organized under W.S. 22-25-101, any domestic
11 business entity as defined in W.S. 17-10-202(a) registered
12 with the secretary of state or labor organization as
13 defined in W.S. 27-7-108(a).

14
15 (c) ~~Except as otherwise provided in this section,~~ No
16 individual person, organization or entity authorized to
17 make contributions under this section other than the
18 candidate, or the candidate's immediate family shall
19 contribute directly or indirectly, more than ~~one thousand~~
20 ~~dollars (\$1,000.00)~~ two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) per
21 election during the two (2) year period consisting of a
22 general election year and the preceding calendar year to
23 any candidate for political office, or to any candidate's
24 campaign committee, nor make more than ~~twenty five thousand~~

1 ~~dollars~~ ~~(\$25,000.00)~~ thirty-seven thousand five hundred
2 dollars (\$37,500.00) total political contributions during
3 the same two (2) year period. For purposes of this
4 subsection the primary, general and special elections shall
5 be deemed separate elections. No candidate for political
6 office shall accept, directly or indirectly, contributions
7 which violate this subsection. Contributions to a
8 candidate's campaign committee shall be considered to be
9 contributions to the candidate. This subsection does not
10 limit political contributions by political parties, nor
11 expenditures by a candidate from his or her own funds nor
12 from his or her candidate's campaign committee funds.

13

14 (d) The prohibitions in this section do not apply to
15 expenditures by any organization, which are made in the aid
16 of the election or defeat of candidates for public office
17 or for the adoption or defeat of any ballot proposition,
18 ~~may communicate~~ and used to pay for communications by the
19 organization directly with its own members on behalf of a
20 particular candidate or political party.

21

22 (e) Any ~~corporation,~~ person or organization violating
23 the provisions of subsection (a), (b) or (c) of this
24 section is subject to a civil penalty up to ten thousand

1 dollars (\$10,000.00) and costs including a reasonable
2 attorney's fee. The amount of penalty imposed shall be in
3 such amount as will deter future actions of a similar
4 nature. An action to impose the civil penalty may be
5 prosecuted by and in the name of any candidate adversely
6 affected by the transgression, any political party, any
7 county attorney, any district attorney or the attorney
8 general. Proceeds of the penalty imposed shall be credited
9 to the state general fund.

10
11 (g) The prohibitions in this section do not apply to
12 contributions of funds or other items of value to political
13 parties. ~~for the purpose of supporting multi-state or~~
14 ~~national political party conferences or conventions.~~ Any
15 contribution made pursuant to this subsection shall also
16 comply with all applicable federal election commission
17 regulations governing contributions to political parties.
18 Any political party which receives funds ~~to sponsor such~~
19 ~~conferences or conventions~~ pursuant to this subsection
20 shall file an itemized statement of receipts and
21 expenditures with the secretary of state ~~within ten (10)~~
22 ~~days after the conference or convention~~ pursuant to W.S.
23 22-25-106(d).
24

1 **Section 2.** W.S. 22-25-102(h) is repealed.

2

3 **Section 3.** This act is effective immediately upon
4 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
5 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
6 Constitution.

7

8

(END)