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Campaign Funding. Contribution Limits. Prohibition Of Public Funding.

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Campaign Funding. Contribution Limits. Prohibition of Public Funding. Initiative Statute

Official Title and Summary Prepared by the Attorney General

CAMPAIGN FUNDING, CONTRIBUTION LIMITS, PROHIBITION OF PUBLIC FUNDING, INITIATIVE STATUTE. Limits annual political contributions to a candidate for public office to $1,000 from each person, $2,500 from each political committee, and $5,000 from a political party and each "broad-based political committee," as defined. Permits stricter local limits. Limits gifts and honoraria to elected officials to $1,000 from each single source per year. Prohibits transfer of funds between candidates or their controlled committees. Prohibits sending newsletters or other mass mailings, as defined, at public expense. Prohibits public officials using and candidates accepting public funds for purpose of seeking elective office. Summary of Legislative Analyst's estimate of net state and local government fiscal impact: Measure would result in net savings to state and local governments. State administrative costs would be about $1.1 million a year when measure is fully operational. These costs would be more than completely offset by savings of about $1.8 million annually resulting from ban on publicly funded newsletters and mass mailings. Local governments would have unknown annual savings primarily from the ban on publicly funded newsletters and mass mailings.

Analysis by the Legislative Analyst

Background

Federal law limits the amount of money that an individual may give as a political campaign contribution to a candidate for federal elective office or to the candidate's campaign committee. California law generally does not impose any similar limits on political campaign contributions. Both federal law and the state's Political Reform Act of 1974, however, require candidates for public office to report contributions they receive and money they and their campaign committees spend.

California law does not generally permit any public money to be spent for campaign activities. A few local government agencies, however, have authorized the payment of public matching funds to candidates for certain local elected offices.

Proposal

In summary, this measure:

- Establishes limits on campaign contributions for all candidates for state and local elective offices;
- Prohibits the use of public funds for these campaign expenditures; and
- Prohibits state and local elected officials from spending public funds on newsletters and mass mailings.

Limits on Campaign Contributions

The measure establishes separate limits for different types of contributors.

1. Persons. Contributions from any person to a candidate, or to the candidate's campaign committee, are limited to $1,000 per fiscal year. Contributions to a political committee or political party are limited to $2,500 per fiscal year. The measure defines "person" to include an individual, business firm, association, or labor organization.

2. Political Committees. Contributions from any committee to a candidate or the candidate's campaign committee are limited to $2,500 per fiscal year.

3. Political Parties and Broad-Based Political Committees. Contributions from any political party or broad-based political committee to a candidate or the candidate's campaign committee are limited to $5,000 per year. A broad-based political committee is defined as one which receives contributions from more than 100 persons and makes contributions to five or more candidates.

4. Other Restrictions.

- No transfers of funds are permitted between individual candidates or between their campaign committees.
- State and local elected officials are prohibited from accepting more than $1,000 in gifts or honoraria from any one source during a calendar year.

5. Other Provisions.

- This measure does not affect any existing limitation on campaign contributions enacted by a local government that imposes lower contribution limits. In addition, any local government may enact its own lower limitations.
- The personal contribution limits only apply to financial or other support provided to a political committee or broad-based political committee if the support is used for making contributions directly to a candidate. The contribution limits do not apply if the contributions are used by the committee for other purposes, such as administrative costs.
- The time periods over which the contribution limits apply are modified in the case of special elections and special runoff elections.

Public Funding Prohibition

No candidate may accept any public funds for the purpose of seeking elective office.

Newsletters and Mass Mailings

Public funds cannot be used by state and local elected officials to pay for newsletters or mass mailings.

Administration and Enforcement

The State Fair Political Practices Commission has primary responsibility for administering and enforcing this measure.
Fiscal Effect

The measure would result in net savings to the state and local governments. State administrative costs will be about $1.1 million a year, when the measure is fully operational, and would be financed from the state's General Fund. Most of this cost would be incurred by the Fair Political Practices Commission. These costs would be offset by annual savings of about $1.8 million resulting from the prohibition on the expenditure of public funds for newsletters and mass mailings.

Local government agencies also would experience unknown annual savings. These savings would result primarily from the prohibition on public expenditures for newsletters and mass mailings.

Text of Proposed Law

This initiative measure is submitted to the people in accordance with the provisions of Article II, Section 8 of the Constitution.

This initiative measure amends and adds sections to the Government Code; therefore, existing sections proposed to be deleted are printed in present form and new provisions proposed to be added are printed in italic type to indicate that they are new.

PROPOSED LAW

SECTION 1. Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 8100) is added to Title 9 of the Government Code, to read:

CHAPTER 5. LIMITATIONS ON CONTRIBUTIONS

Article 1. Applicability and Definitions

Section 8100. This chapter shall be known and cited as the "Campaign Contribution Limits Without Taxpayer Financing Amendments to the Political Reform Act."

Section 8101. (a) Nothing in this chapter shall affect the validity of a campaign contribution limitation in effect on the operative date of this chapter which was enacted by a local governmental agency and imposes lower contribution limitations.

(b) Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit a local governmental agency from enacting lower campaign contribution limitations for candidates for elective office in its jurisdiction.

Section 8102. The following terms as used in this chapter shall have the following meanings:

(a) "Fiscal year" means July 1 through June 30.

(b) "Person" means an individual, proprietorship, firm, partnership, joint venture, syndicate, business trust, company, corporation, association, committee, corporation, labor organization.

(c) "Political committee" means a committee of persons who receive contributions from two or more persons and acting in concert make contributions to candidates.

(d) "Broad based political committee" means a committee of persons which has been in existence for more than six months, receives contributions from one hundred or more persons, and acts in concert makes contributions to five or more candidates.

(e) "Public moneys" has the same meaning as defined in Section 426 of the Penal Code.

Section 8103. The provisions of Section 8101 shall apply to the amending of this chapter.

Section 8104. The provisions of this chapter shall become operative on January 1, 1989.

Article 2. Candidacy

Section 8200. Prior to the solicitation or receipt of any contribution or loan, an individual who intends to be a candidate for an elective office shall file with the commission a statement under penalty of perjury of intention to be a candidate for a specific office.

Section 8201. (a) Upon the filing of the statement of intention pursuant to Section 8200, the individual shall establish one campaign contribution account at an office of a financial institution located in the state.

(b) Upon the establishment of an account, the name of the financial institution, the specific location, and the account number shall be filed with the commission within 24 hours.

(c) All contributions or loans made to the candidate, to a person on behalf of the candidate, or to the candidate's controlled committee shall be deposited in the account.

(d) Any personal funds which will be utilized to promote the election of the candidate shall be deposited in the account prior to expenditure.

(e) All campaign expenditures shall be made from the account.

Section 8202. (a) A candidate may only accept contributions from persons, political committees, broad based political committees and political parties and only in the amounts specified in Article 3 (commencing with Section 8300). A candidate shall not accept contributions from any person.

(b) All contributions deposited into the campaign account shall be deemed to be held in trust for expenses associated with the election of the candidate to the specific office for which the candidate has stated, pursuant to Section 8200, that he or she intends to seek or expenses associated with holding that office.

Article 3. Contribution Limitations

Section 8300. No public officer shall expend and no candidate shall accept contributions for the purpose of seeking an elective office.

Section 8301. (a) No person shall make, and no candidate for elective office, campaign treasurer, shall solicit or accept any contribution or loan which would cause the total amount contributed or loaned to that candidate by that political committee, by any other political committee, or by the political party to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars ($2,500) in any fiscal year.

(b) The provisions of this section shall not apply to a candidate's contribution of his or her personal funds to his or her own campaign committee account.

Section 8302. (a) No person shall make, and no political committee, broad based political committee, or political party shall solicit or accept, any contribution or loan from a person which would cause the total amount contributed or loaned by that person to the same political committee, broad based political committee, or political party to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars ($2,500) in any fiscal year.

(b) No person shall make, and no candidate or campaign treasurer shall solicit or accept, any contribution or loan which would cause the total amount contributed or loaned by that political committee or political party to that candidate, controlled by that political committee or political party, or that committee to that candidate to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars ($2,500) in any fiscal year.

(c) No person shall make, and no candidate or campaign treasurer shall solicit or accept, any contribution or loan which would cause the total amount contributed or loaned by that candidate, including contributions or loans to all committees controlled by that candidate, to exceed five thousand dollars ($5,000) in any fiscal year.

(d) No candidate shall accept contributions or loans from one person for a period of more than two calendar years.

Section 8303. (a) This Section shall only apply to candidates who seek elective office during a special election or a special runoff election.

(b) As used in this Section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) "Special election cycle" means the day on which the office becomes vacant until the day of the special runoff election.

(2) "Special runoff election cycle" means the day on which the special election is held until the day of the special runoff election.

(3) "Noncampaign funds" means the funds, including contributions or loans to the candidate and to committees controlled by the candidate, which the candidate has contributed or loaned to the candidate in any other noncampaign purpose.

(4) "Campaign funds" means contributions or loans to the candidate for any campaign purpose.

(5) "Fiscal year" means the period of time between January 1 and December 31.

(c) Notwithstanding Section 8301 or 8302, the following contribution limitations shall apply during special election cycles and special runoff election cycles.

(1) No person shall make, and no candidate for elective office, campaign treasurer, shall solicit or accept any contribution or loan which would cause the total amount contributed or loaned to that person to that candidate, including contributions or loans to all committees controlled by that candidate, to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars ($2,500) during any special election cycle or special runoff election cycle.

(2) No political committee shall make, and no candidate or campaign treasurer shall solicit or accept any contribution or loan which would cause the total amount contributed or loaned to that political committee, by that candidate, to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars ($2,500) during any special election cycle or special runoff election cycle.

(3) No broad based political committee or political party shall make, and no candidate or campaign treasurer shall solicit or accept, any contribution or loan which would cause the total amount contributed or loaned to that political committee or political party to that candidate or any other candidate to exceed five thousand dollars ($5,000) in any fiscal year.

(4) No person shall make, and no political committee, broad based political committee, or political party shall solicit or accept, any contributions or loans which would cause the total amount contributed or loaned by that person to the same political committee, broad based political committee, or political party to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars ($2,500) in any fiscal year.

(d) No person shall make, and no political committee, broad based political committee, or political party shall solicit or accept, any contribution or loan which would cause the total amount contributed or loaned to that political committee, by that candidate, to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars ($2,500) in any fiscal year.

(1) "General election cycle" means the period of time from January 1 of any election year to December 31 of the same election year.

(2) "Runoff election cycle" means the period of time from January 1 of any election year to December 31 of the same election year in which a runoff election is held.

(3) "Fiscal year" means the period of time between January 1 and December 31.

(4) "Campaign funds" means contributions or loans to the candidate for any campaign purpose.

(5) "Noncampaign funds" means the funds, including contributions or loans to the candidate and to committees controlled by the candidate, which the candidate has contributed or loaned to the candidate in any other purpose.

(c) Notwithstanding Section 8301 or 8302, the following contribution limitations shall apply during general election cycles or runoff election cycles.

(1) No person shall make, and no candidate for elective office, campaign treasurer, shall solicit or accept any contribution or loan which would cause the total amount contributed or loaned to that person to that candidate, including contributions or loans to all committees controlled by that candidate, to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars ($2,500) during any general election cycle or runoff election cycle.

(2) No political committee shall make, and no candidate or campaign treasurer shall solicit or accept any contribution or loan which would cause the total amount contributed or loaned to that political committee, by that candidate, to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars ($2,500) during any general election cycle or runoff election cycle.

(3) No broad based political committee or political party shall make, and no candidate or campaign treasurer shall solicit or accept, any contribution or loan which would cause the total amount contributed or loaned to that political committee or political party to that candidate or any other candidate to exceed five thousand dollars ($5,000) in any fiscal year.

(4) No person shall make, and no political committee, broad based political committee, or political party shall solicit or accept, any contributions or loans which would cause the total amount contributed or loaned by that person to the same political committee, broad based political committee, or political party to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars ($2,500) in any fiscal year.
Campaign Funding. Contribution Limits. Prohibition of Public Funding. Initiative Statute

Argument in Favor of Proposition 73

Proposition 73 will reform the way political campaigns are financed in California WITHOUT GIVING YOUR TAX MONEY TO POLITICIANS!

Proposition 73 is the ONLY CAMPAIGN FINANCE PROPOSAL THAT APPLIES TO ALL CALIFORNIA ELECTED OFFICES including State Senate, State Assembly, statewide constitutional offices and local offices.

Clearly, too much money is being spent on political campaigns today. Candidates and officeholders can be unduly influenced by special interest groups that donate large amounts of money.

Currently in California there is NO LIMIT on the amount that any one donor can CONTRIBUTE to a CANDIDATE for office. Contributions of $10,000, $20,000 or $30,000 are routine. $100,000 contributions are becoming commonplace.

Proposition 73 will place a reasonable contribution limit on how much any one donor can give to a candidate.

If Proposition 73 is enacted:

- Individual contributions to a campaign would be limited to $1,000 per year.
- Contributions from businesses and labor unions would be limited to $2,500 per year.
- Contributions from political action committees would be limited to $5,000 per year.

Proposition 73 would also:

- Place a limit on the amount of money a candidate could take as an honorarium for such things as giving a speech.
- Prohibit "transfers"—the practice of political power brokers collecting and transferring huge amounts of money to their anointed candidates.

MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, PROPOSITION 73 ACCOMPLISHES THIS NEEDED REFORM OF CAMPAIGN FINANCING WITHOUT GIVING YOUR HARD-EARNED TAX MONEY TO POLITICIANS.

In fact, it flatly PROHIBITS candidates' use of any tax money in order to campaign for office.

Too much money is spent on political campaigns today! It CERTAINLY MAKES NO SENSE TO OPEN THE BIGGEST MONEY SOURCE OF ALL, THE TAXPAYERS' PURSES AND WALLETS.

Keeping government spending under control is hard enough. Imagine how much harder it will be to keep politicians from spending more tax money on the most important thing in their lives—getting elected and reelected.

Taxpayer financing of political campaigns makes no sense!

- State Senate and Assembly races alone could cost taxpayers $70 million every two years. This is money that could otherwise pay for police protection, fire protection or schools.
- Your tax money would be given to candidates you disagree with. In fact, it would allow extremist candidates such as communists or members of the ku klux klan to have their campaigns paid for with your tax dollars.

Fortunately, you have an alternative to taxpayer financing of political campaigns.

PROPOSITION 73 IS THAT ALTERNATIVE.

Every effort to reform the way political campaigns are financed without taxpayer money has been defeated in the State Legislature. In fact, a bill identical to Proposition 73 was defeated by the Legislature at its first committee hearing! You know, the politicians won't change a system which is run for their benefit by enacting these vitally needed reforms. You must do the job or it won't get done at all!

We must control the overwhelming power that special interests have over our legislative process. It's time for campaign contribution reform.

VOTE YES ON PROPOSITION 73!

JOEL FOX
President, California Tax Reduction Movement

DAN STANFORD
Former Chairman, Fair Political Practices Commission, 1983-85

Rebuttal to Argument in Favor of Proposition 73

DON'T BEfooLED.

PROPOSITION 73 WAS WRITTEN BY THREE INCUMBENT POLITICIANS. ITS MAIN SUPPORTERS ARE SOME OF THE LARGEST SPECIAL INTEREST LOBBYISTS IN CALIFORNIA.

The proponents of Proposition 73 admit that too much money is being spent on political campaigns. But Proposition 73 does nothing to limit campaign spending! In fact, Proposition 73 would actually prohibit the citizens of California from imposing limits on campaign spending.

The proponents of Proposition 73 admit that candidates and officeholders are unduly influenced by large contributions from special interest lobbyists. But Proposition 73 does nothing to reduce the influence of the special interests!

Under Proposition 73's so-called "limits," a single special interest group could give incumbent legislators as much as $800,000 per year, or $1.2 million per election cycle. That's even more than the state's largest lobbying groups contribute now! Just imagine how much influence $1.2 million can buy!

The proponents of Proposition 73 say that they want to limit campaign spending without any public financing. That sounds nice. What they don't tell you is that the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that we can't limit campaign spending without providing some form of public funding. And we can't have effective campaign reform without limiting spending.

PROPOSITION 68 LIMITS CAMPAIGN SPENDING. PROPOSITION 73 DOES NOT.

PROPOSITION 68 ACHIEVES REAL CAMPAIGN REFORM. PROPOSITION 73 DOES NOT.

PROPOSITION 68 IS THE CITIZENS' IDEA FOR REFORM. PROPOSITION 73 IS THE POLITICIANS' AND SPECIAL INTEREST LOBBYISTS' IDEA OF "REFORM." DON'T BE FooLED!

VOTE "NO" ON PROPOSITION 73!

CAROL FEDERIGHI
President, League of Women Voters of California

LUCY BLAKE
Executive Director, California League of Conservation Voters

JOHN K. VAN DE KAMP
Attorney General, State of California
Campaign Funding, Contribution Limits, Prohibition of Public Funding, Initiative Statute

Argument Against Proposition 73

DON'T BE FooLED!!!
Proposition 73 is the politicians' and lobbyists' attempt to hold onto their power using the guise of campaign reform.
Proposition 73 does nothing to reduce the influence of big-money contributors.
Proposition 73 would actually prohibit citizens from limiting campaign spending in California.
VOTE "NO" ON PROPOSITION 73!
PROPOSITION 73 IS A FRAUD PROMOTED BY THE POLITICIANS AND SPECIAL INTEREST LOBBYISTS.
The politicians and lobbyists in Sacramento have joined forces in hopes of confusing the public and preventing you from enacting true campaign reform. DON'T BE FooLED! Proposition 73 is not reform.
- Proposition 73 was drafted by three incumbent politicians. Between them, they received over $2 million in campaign money for their last elections. One of these legislators alone spent well over $900,000, and he didn't even have an opponent! DO THESE SOUND LIKE SPONSORS OF REAL CAMPAIGN REFORM?
- Proposition 73 was placed on the ballot with over $250,000 received from incumbent legislators and five of the largest special interest groups in the state. In the last election, these five lobbying groups contributed over $3 million to legislative candidates! DO THESE SOUND LIKE SUPPORTERS OF REAL CAMPAIGN REFORM?
- WHY DO THESE POLITICIANS AND LOBBYISTS WANT PROPOSITION 73? Because it serves their interests and protects them from true campaign reform!
PROPOSITION 73 WILL DO NOTHING TO REDUCE THE INFLUENCE OF SPECIAL INTEREST LOBBYISTS AND WILL ACTUALLY PREVENT MEANINGFUL CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM.
The real problem with today's election system is runaway campaign spending. By 1990, the average Assembly or Senate race will cost $1 million. Yet not only does Proposition 73 fail to limit campaign spending, it actually prohibits any spending limits in all future campaigns! NO WONDER THE POLITICIANS AND BIG-SPENDING LOBBYISTS SUPPORT PROPOSITION 73.
Without spending limits, legislators will continue to spend their time stuffing their war chests with money received from special interest groups who want something in return. And the more money the politicians raise, the more we pay—in higher taxes, in laws that give special breaks to big contributors, and in elected officials who ignore the needs of the average citizen.
Proposition 73's contribution limits will not solve the campaign finance problem. Proposition 73's purported "limits" are so full of loopholes that they will have virtually no impact. A single lobbying group can still give over $2 million to candidates for the Legislature at a single election! NO WONDER THE POLITICIANS AND BIG-SPENDING LOBBYISTS SUPPORT PROPOSITION 73.
The civic and business leaders and organizations who have been working for real campaign finance reform—such as the League of Women Voters and Common Cause—do not support Proposition 73. Passage of Proposition 73 could prevent Proposition 68 from taking effect.
DON'T BE FooLED!!!
PROPOSITION 73 IS A TRICK DESIGNED TO DEFEAT THE REAL CAMPAIGN REFORM CONTAINED IN PROPOSITION 68 AND TO PROHIBIT THE CITIZENS FROM EVER CONTROLLING CAMPAIGN SPENDING.
THE SUPPORTERS OF PROPOSITION 73 ARE THE VERY POLITICIANS AND LOBBYISTS WHO PROFIT FROM THE CURRENT SYSTEM.
DON'T BE FooLED!!!
VOTE "NO" ON PROPOSITION 73!
WALTER ZELMAN
Executive Director, California Common Cause
ROY ULRICH
Chairman, California Tax Reform Association
TOM K. HOUSTON
Former Chairman, California Fair Political Practices Commission

Rebuttal to Argument Against Proposition 73

WE MUST REFORM THE WAY POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS ARE FINANCED!
YOU HAVE A CLEAR CHOICE!
Proposition 73 will PROHIBIT politicians and special interests from using your tax money to run their campaigns.
IN CONTRAST, Proposition 68 GIVES A BLANK CHECK WORTH MILLIONS OF YOUR TAX DOLLARS TO POLITICIANS, INCLUDING EXTREMISTS, SUCH AS COMMUNISTS OR MEMBERS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN!
The opponents of Proposition 73 understand we are part of a small minority in the Legislature fighting for campaign reform. But these special interests are so intent on increasing their political influence by using your tax money that they will tell any lie!
The FACT is that their rival initiative, Proposition 68, was placed on the ballot with nearly $500,000 in contributions from California's largest corporations and other special interests, including insurance companies, banks, major developers and other huge corporations that contribute hundreds of thousands of dollars to political campaigns. These same special interests --nurally lobby matters before the Legislature.
Under their plan, Proposition 68, contributions from corpo-
PREAMBLE

Second—The People of California find and declare that:

The current constitutional limit on state and local government spending, known as the “Gann Limit,” is essential in order to compel government to set priorities within fiscal reality and to hold government accountable to taxpayers. In addition, the Gann Limit should be improved and modernized as follows:

(a) State government should be required to maintain a permanent emergency reserve fund. To encourage funding for such a reserve, appropriations to the reserve should not be considered “appropriations subject to limitation.” In addition, under urgent and unexpected circumstances, limited withdrawals from the reserve should not be subject to limitation if approved by the Governor and two-thirds of the Legislature.

(b) Local governments should be able to depend on their share of sales tax revenues, and the intent of this amendment is to secure those funds against maneuvering by the Legislature.

(c) Motorists consider the taxes and fees on motor vehicle fuels to be user fees, and the Gann Limit should be clarified to recognize them as such and to earmark them for road construction and transportation purposes. This would also serve the current system of highways a needed long-term commitment of funds for new construction and repairs, without increasing any taxes. State programs remaining under the Gann Limit should be protected against any loss in spending authority due to this recognition of user fees.

(d) Political maneuvering should be prohibited when enacting the Gann Limit at the state and local levels. Further, it is the intent of the people that the Governor be responsible for calculation of the state spending limit.

(e) Passage of this amendment will not increase taxes.

Third—The People of California find and declare that:

(a) Appropriations to the reserve for emergencies and economic uncertainties, and each reserve to the extent necessary to maintain a reserve of three percent (3%) of the total general fund budget. Any revenues appropriated to or retained in such reserve shall not be subject to Section 2 of this Article. Notwithstanding Section 5 of this Article, appropriations to such reserve shall not constitute appropriations subject to limitation and withdrawals from such reserve and expenditures of (or authorizations to expend) such withdrawals shall constitute appropriations subject to limitation.

(b) Any funds remaining on hand on June 30, 1988, in the Special Fund for Economic Uncertainties described in Chapter 133, Section 1230 of the Budget Act of July 7, 1987, shall be transferred to the reserve established by subdivision (a), and such transfer shall not constitute appropriations subject to limitation.

(c) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), withdrawals from such reserve and expenditures of such withdrawals shall not constitute appropriations subject to limitation.

Proposition 73: Text of Proposed Law

Continued from page 33

committee controlled by that candidate to exceed five thousand dollars ($5,000) during any special election cycle or special runoff election cycle.

58306. Any person who possesses campaign funds on the effective date of this chapter may expend these funds for any lawful purpose other than to support or oppose a candidacy for elective office.

58307. The provisions of this article regarding loans shall apply to extensions of credit, but shall not apply to loans made to the candidate by a commercial lending institution in the lender’s regular course of business on terms available to members of the general public for which the candidate is personally liable.

Article 4. Gifts and Honoraria

58400. No elected officeholder shall accept any gift or honorarium for any speech, article, or published work on a subject relating to governmental process from any single source which is in excess of one thousand dollars ($1,000), in any calendar year, except reimbursement for actual travel expenses and reasonable subsistence in connection therewith.

SEC. 2. Section 82041.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

82041.5. "Mass mailing" means two hundred or more identical or substantially similar pieces of mail, but does not include a form letter or other mail which is sent in response to an unsolicited request, letter or other inquiry.

SEC. 3. Section 89001 of the Government Code is amended to read:

58900. No newsletter or other mass mailing shall be sent at public expense by or on behalf of any elected officer to any person residing within the jurisdiction from which the elected officer was elected; or to which he or she seeks election; or at the request of any elector; or for any purpose.

SEC. 4. If any provision of this act, or the application of any such provision to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this act to the extent it can be given effect, or the application of those provisions to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is held invalid, shall not be affected thereby, and to this end the provisions of this act are severable.

for annual travel expenses and reasonable subsistence in connection therewith.

SEC. 2. Section 82041.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

82041.5. "Mass mailing" means two hundred or more identical or substantially similar pieces of mail, but does not include a form letter or other mail which is sent in response to an unsolicited request, letter or other inquiry.

SEC. 3. Section 89001 of the Government Code is amended to read:

89001. No newsletter or other mass mailing shall be sent at public expense by or on behalf of any elected officer to any person residing within the jurisdiction from which the elected officer was elected; or to which he or she seeks election; or at the request of any elector; or for any purpose.

SEC. 4. If any provision of this act, or the application of any such provision to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this act to the extent it can be given effect, or the application of those provisions to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is held invalid, shall not be affected thereby, and to this end the provisions of this act are severable.