

# CHAPTER 155

## ELECTIONS: CAMPAIGN FINANCING

### **Sec. 9-613. (Formerly Sec. 9-333o). Business entities. (a)**

**Contributions or expenditures for candidate or party prohibited.** No business entity shall make any contributions or expenditures to, or for the benefit of, any candidate's campaign for election to any public office or position subject to this chapter or for nomination at a primary for any such office or position, or to promote the defeat of any candidate for any such office or position. No business entity shall make any other contributions or expenditures to promote the success or defeat of any political party, except as provided in subsection (b) of this section. No business entity shall establish more than one political committee. A political committee shall be deemed to have been established by a business entity if the initial disbursement or contribution to the committee is made under subsection (b) of this section or by an officer, director, owner, limited or general partner or holder of stock constituting five per cent or more of the total outstanding stock of any class of the business entity.

**(b) Transfers or disbursements to political committee.** A business entity may make reasonable and necessary transfers or disbursements to or for the benefit of a political committee established by such business entity, for the administration of, or solicitation of contributions to, such political committee. Nonmonetary contributions by a business entity which are incidental in nature and are directly attributable to the administration of such political committee shall be exempt from the reporting requirements of this chapter.

**(c) Contributions or expenditures for referendum.** The provisions of this section shall not preclude a business entity from making contributions or expenditures to promote the success or

defeat of a referendum question.

**(d) Contribution limits for particular offices.** A political committee organized by a business entity shall not make a contribution or contributions to or for the benefit of any candidate's campaign for nomination at a primary or any candidate's campaign for election to the office of: (1) Governor, in excess of five thousand dollars; (2) Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Comptroller or Attorney General, in excess of three thousand dollars; (3) state senator, probate judge or chief executive officer of a town, city or borough, in excess of one thousand five hundred dollars; (4) state representative, in excess of seven hundred fifty dollars; or (5) any other office of a municipality not included in subdivision (3) of this subsection, in excess of three hundred seventy-five dollars. The limits imposed by this subsection shall apply separately to primaries and elections and contributions by any such committee to candidates designated in this subsection shall not exceed one hundred thousand dollars in the aggregate for any single election and primary preliminary thereto. Contributions to such committees shall also be subject to the provisions of section 9-618 in the case of committees formed for ongoing political activity or section 9-619 in the case of committees formed for a single election or primary.

**(e) Contributions to political committees and party committees.** No political committee organized by a business entity shall make a contribution or contributions to (1) a state central committee of a political party, in excess of seven thousand five hundred dollars in any calendar year, (2) a town committee of any political party, in excess of one thousand five hundred dollars in any calendar year, (3) an exploratory committee in excess of three hundred seventy-five dollars, or (4) any other kind of political committee, in excess of two thousand dollars in any calendar year.

**(f) Contributions for candidate for State Treasurer.** As used in this subsection, "investment services" means investment legal services, investment banking services, investment advisory services, underwriting services, financial advisory services or brokerage firm services. No political committee established by a firm which provides investment services and to which the State Treasurer pays compensation, expenses or fees or issues a contract shall make a contribution to, or solicit contributions on behalf of, an exploratory committee or candidate committee established by a candidate for nomination or election to the office of State Treasurer during the term of office of the State Treasurer who does business with such firm.

(P.A. 86-99, S. 16, 34; 86-240, S. 7, 12; P.A. 91-351, S. 15, 28; P.A. 95-188, S. 3; P.A. 00-99, S. 35, 154; P.A. 02-130, S. 12; Oct. 25 Sp. Sess. P.A. 05-5, S. 33.)

History: P.A. 86-240 amended Subsec. (d) to limit contributions by political committee organized by a business entity to candidate for nomination or election to at-large municipal office other than chief executive officer to \$250; P.A. 91-351 inserted references to "position" in Subsec. (a); P.A. 95-188 added Subsec. (f) re contributions for candidates for Treasurer by "investment services" firms or individuals associated with such firms; P.A. 00-99 deleted Subsec. (d)(3) re sheriffs and renumbered Subdivs. (4) to (6) as Subdivs. (3) to (5), effective December 1, 2000; P.A. 02-130 amended Subsec. (f) by replacing "legal services" with "investment legal services" and making technical changes, effective May 10, 2002; Oct. 25 Sp. Sess. P.A. 05-5 amended Subsec. (a) by making technical changes, prohibiting business entity from establishing more than one political committee and adding provision re when political committee deemed established by business entity, amended Subsec. (d) by increasing contribution limit for office of state senator, probate judge or municipal chief executive officer from \$1,000 to \$1,500, for office of state representative from \$500

to \$750, and for any other office of a municipality from \$250 to \$375 and by deleting exploratory committee contribution limit, and amended Subsec. (e) by deleting provision allowing political committee established by business entity to make unlimited contributions to another such political committee, establishing \$7,500 limit on contributions to state central committee and \$1,500 limit on contributions to town committee and increasing limit on contributions to exploratory committee from \$250 to \$375, effective December 31, 2006, and applicable to elections held on or after that date; Sec. 9-333o transferred to Sec. 9-613 in 2007.

See Sec. 9-717 re effect of court of competent jurisdiction's prohibiting or limiting the expenditure of funds from the Citizens' Election Fund established in Sec. 9-701.

[\(Return to  
Chapter Table of Contents\)](#)

[\(Return to  
List of Chapters\)](#)

[\(Return to  
List of Titles\)](#)

**Sec. 9-614. (Formerly Sec. 9-333p). Organizations.** (a)  
**Formation of political committee. Method of funding.** An organization may make contributions or expenditures, other than those made to promote the success or defeat of a referendum question, only by first forming its own political committee. The political committee shall then be authorized to receive funds exclusively from the organization's treasury or from voluntary contributions made by its members, but not both, from another political committee or, from a candidate committee distributing a surplus and (1) to make contributions or expenditures to, or for the benefit of, a candidate's campaign or a political party, or (2) to make contributions to another political committee. No organization shall form more than one political committee. A political committee shall be deemed to have been established by an organization if the initial contribution to the committee is made by

the organization's treasury or an officer or director of the organization.

**(b) Change in method of funding.** A political committee established by an organization may elect to alter the manner in which it is funded if it complies with the requirements of this subsection. The committee chairperson shall notify the repository with which the committee's most recent statement of organization is filed, in writing, of the committee's intent to alter its manner of funding. Within fifteen days after the date of receipt of such notification, the campaign treasurer of such political committee shall return any funds remaining in the account of the committee to the organization's treasury after payment of each outstanding liability. Within seven days after the distribution and payments have been made, the campaign treasurer shall file a statement with the same repository itemizing each such distribution and payment. Upon such filing, the campaign treasurer may receive voluntary contributions from any member of the organization which established such committee subject to the limitations imposed in subsection (b) of section 9-612.

**(c) Designation of funding method.** The chairperson of each political committee established by an organization on or after July 1, 1985, shall designate the manner in which the committee shall be funded in the committee's statement of organization.

(P.A. 86-99, S. 17, 34; Oct. 25 Sp. Sess. P.A. 05-5, S. 34.)

History: Oct. 25 Sp. Sess. P.A. 05-5 added provision in Subsec. (a) re when political committee deemed established by an organization, effective December 31, 2006, and applicable to elections held on or after that date; Sec. 9-333p transferred to Sec. 9-614 in 2007.

See Sec. 9-717 re effect of court of competent jurisdiction's prohibiting or limiting the expenditure of funds from the Citizens' Election Fund established in Sec. 9-701.