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# TITLE 18. LOUISIANA ELECTION CODE

## CHAPTER 11. ELECTION CAMPAIGN FINANCE

### PART I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### §1481. Short title

This Chapter may be cited as the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981.*

#### §1482. Statement of purpose

The legislature recognizes that the effectiveness of representative government is dependent upon a knowledgeable electorate and the confidence of the electorate in their elected public officials. The legislature, therefore, enacts this Chapter to provide public disclosure of the financing of election campaigns and to regulate certain campaign practices.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1.*

#### §1483. Definitions

As used in this Chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings herein given to each unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

(1) "Affiliated organization" means any organization which is not a political committee but which directly or indirectly establishes, administers, or financially supports a political committee.

(2) "Aggregating period" means:

(a) For a political committee, except a political committee which supports only one candidate, the period from January first of the calendar year through December thirty-first of the same calendar year.

(b) For a candidate, the period from the date on which he became a candidate as defined herein through the closing date for the current report.

(c) For a committee which supports only one candidate, the period from the time when the committee first participates in the election through the closing date for the current report.

(3)(a) "Candidate" means a person who seeks nomination or election to public office, except the office of president or vice president of the United States, presidential elector, delegate to a political party convention, United States senator, United States congressman, or political party office. An individual shall be deemed to seek nomination or election to such office if he has:

(i) Since prior participation in an election, if any, received and accepted a contribution or made an expenditure, or has given his consent for any other person or committee to receive a contribution or make an expenditure with a view to influencing his nomination or election to office whether or not the specific public office for which he will be a candidate is known at the time the contribution is received or the expenditure is made, or

(ii) Taken the action necessary under the laws of the state of Louisiana to qualify himself for nomination or election to public office.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of R.S. 42:1101 et seq. and specifically notwithstanding any provision of R.S. 42:1115, for purposes of R.S. 42:1123(5) a "candidate" shall mean a "candidate" as defined in this Paragraph and shall also mean any public servant required to file reports under the provisions of this Chapter.

(4) "Chairman" means the principal executive officer of a political committee regardless of his title.

(5) "Closing date" means the date through which the report is complete.

(6)(a) "Contribution", except as otherwise provided in this Chapter, means a gift, conveyance, payment, or deposit of money or anything of value, or the forgiveness of a loan or of a debt, made for the purpose of supporting, opposing, or otherwise influencing the nomination or election of a person to public office, for the purpose of supporting or opposing a proposition or question submitted to the voters, or for the purpose of supporting or opposing the recall of a public officer, whether made before or after the election.

(b) "Contribution" shall also include, without limitation:

(i) Contributions in-kind made for any of the purposes stated in this Paragraph, having an attributable monetary value in excess of twenty-five dollars. Contributions in-kind shall include without limitation: the donation by any person, other than a candidate or a political committee, of the services of paid employees, the value of which services exceeds twenty-five dollars, such value to be the amount paid for such services; the donation of, or the donation of the right to use, any item of tangible property when the same is used or consumed and not exchanged or converted to cash or the equivalent of cash and when the accepting candidate, the chairman of the accepting political committee, or accepting person required to file reports under this Chapter and the campaign treasurer of such recipient, if any, determines that its value or the use value, when only the right of use is given, exceeds twenty-five dollars and such determination shall be prima facie evidence of the correctness of the valuation of the item or of the use value when applicable. In addition, successive donations made by the same person, which donations individually are valued below twenty-five dollars but which together exceed such amount, shall be deemed to be in-kind contributions and shall be aggregated for purposes of the requirements of this Chapter. Contributions shall also include expenditures made by any person in cooperation, consultation, or concert, with, or at the request or suggestion of, a candidate, his authorized political committees, or their agents and shall be considered to be a contribution to such candidate.

(ii) A promissory note or written contract to make a contribution as defined above.

(iii) A payment to purchase campaign paraphernalia, such as campaign pins, buttons, badges, flags, emblems, hats, shirts, banners, literature, and similar items, other than expenditures made by a candidate or political committee to purchase its own paraphernalia.

(iv) A payment for tickets to a testimonial or similar fund-raising event.

(c) "Contribution" shall not include:

(i) Personal services provided voluntarily by any person without compensation or by any person who is employed for purposes other than solely campaign purposes by the reporting candidate, by a partnership of which he is a member, or by a corporation of which he owns a majority of the stock.

(ii) Any dues or membership fees of any membership organization or corporation made by its members or stockholders, if such membership organization or corporation is not organized primarily for the purpose of supporting, opposing or otherwise influencing the nomination for election, or election, of any person to public office. However, any funds of such an organization or corporation used for the purpose of contributions to candidates or committees or to publicly advocate support or defeat of a candidate or for expenditures as defined in this Chapter shall be reportable and all contributions made by such membership organization or corporation which are otherwise reportable under the provisions of this Chapter shall be reported.

(iii) A transfer of funds between political committees.

(iv) A loan.

(d) A contribution of anything of value other than money or an in-kind contribution shall be considered for all purposes of this Chapter as a contribution of money in the amount of the fair market value thereof.

(7) "District office" means the following offices but shall not include any major office:

- (a) The office of a member of the Louisiana Legislature.
- (b) All public offices elected parishwide.
- (c) All public offices elected in more than one parish.

(d) All public offices elected in any election district containing a population in excess of thirty-five thousand as determined by the most recently published decennial federal census. All public offices elected in any city or parish election in a parish containing a municipality with a population of three hundred thousand or more as determined by the most recent decennial federal census. All elected public offices to a board or governing authority which has, within its jurisdiction, a municipality with a population of two hundred twenty-five thousand or more as determined by the most recent decennial federal census.

(e) The offices of district court judge, except in a judicial district comprised of a single parish with a population in excess of four hundred fifty thousand persons as determined by the most recently published decennial federal census where the election district is parishwide, family court judge, juvenile court judge, city court judge, city court marshal, and city court constable, as long as these offices are elective offices.

(8) "Election" means any primary, general, or special election held, pursuant to the laws of this state or a parish or municipal charter or ordinance or a court order, to choose a public officer or nominee. For purposes of this Chapter, a primary election and a general election for a particular office shall constitute one election. For purposes of the reporting requirements for the support or opposition of a proposition or question submitted to the voters, "election" shall also mean any primary, general, or special election, except local option elections held pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 3 of Title 26 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, at which a proposition or question is submitted to the voters in accordance with Chapters 6-A, 6-B, and 6-C of this Code.

(9)(a) "Expenditure" means a purchase, payment, advance, deposit, or gift, of money or anything of value made for the purpose of supporting, opposing, or otherwise influencing the nomination or election of a person to public office, for the purpose of supporting or opposing a proposition or question submitted to the voters, or for the purpose of supporting or opposing the recall of a public officer, whether made before or after the election.

(b) "Expenditure" shall also include:

(i) A promissory note or written contract to make an expenditure as defined above.

(ii) Expenditures in-kind which have an attributable monetary value in excess of twenty-five dollars, made for any of the purposes stated in this Paragraph. Expenditures in-kind shall include without limitation: the donation by any person, candidate, or political committee of the services of paid employees, the value of which services exceeds twenty-five dollars, such value to be the amount paid for such services; the donation of, or the donation of the right to use, any item of tangible property when the same is used or consumed and not exchanged or converted to cash or the equivalent of cash and when the donating candidate, the chairman of the donating committee, or the donating person required to file reports under this Chapter, and the campaign treasurer of such donor, if any, determines that its value or the use value, when only the right to use is given, exceeds twenty-five dollars and such determination shall be prima facie evidence of the correctness of the valuation of the item or the use value when applicable. In addition, successive donations made to the same person, which donations individually are valued below twenty-five dollars but which together exceed such amount, shall be deemed to be in-kind expenditures and shall be aggregated for purposes of the requirements of this Chapter.

(c) Expenditures made by a public relations firm, an advertising agency, or agent for a candidate, political committee, or other person required to file reports under this Chapter shall be considered expenditures of the candidate, political committee, or such other person, and must be specifically reported as required by this Chapter. Each such firm, agency, or agent, which makes any expenditure for any candidate, political committee, or other person required to file reports under this Chapter, shall timely furnish to such candidate, political committee, or person such information relative thereto as may be required for compliance with this Chapter.

(d) "Expenditure" shall not include:

(i) Personal services provided voluntarily by any person without compensation or by any person who is employed for purposes other than solely campaign purposes by the reporting candidate, by a partnership of which he is a member, or by a corporation of which he owns a majority of the stock.

(ii) Any communication by any membership organization or business entity to its employees, members, or stockholders, if such membership organization or business entity is not organized primarily for the purpose of supporting, opposing, or otherwise influencing the nomination for election, or election, of any person to public office or for the purpose of supporting or opposing a proposition or question to be submitted to the voters. All other expenditures made by such membership organization or business entity which are otherwise reportable under the provisions of this Chapter shall be reported. For purposes of this definition, business entity means any proprietorship, partnership, corporation, or other legal entity, including their subsidiaries.

(iii) A transfer of funds between political committees.

(iv) A loan.

(e) An expenditure of anything of value other than money or an in-kind expenditure shall be considered for all purposes of this Chapter as an expenditure of money in the amount of the fair market value thereof.

(9.1) "Intentional criminal violation" means conduct which establishes that a violator was in the state of mind which exists when the circumstances indicated that the offender actively desired the prescribed criminal consequences to follow his act or failure to act.

(10) "Loan" means a transfer of money, property, or anything of value in exchange for an obligation to repay in whole or in part, made for the purpose of supporting, opposing, or otherwise influencing the nomination for election, or election, of any person to public office, for the purpose of supporting or opposing a proposition or question submitted to the voters, or for the purpose of supporting or opposing the recall of a public officer, whether made before or after the election.

(11) "Major office" means the following offices: governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, attorney general, state treasurer, commissioner of agriculture, commissioner of insurance, the superintendent of education, public service commissioner, justice of the supreme court, court of appeal judge, district court judge in a judicial district comprised of a single parish with a population in excess of four hundred fifty thousand persons as determined by the most recently published decennial federal census where the election district is parishwide, as long as these offices are elective offices, and any candidate for office with an election district containing a population in excess of two hundred fifty thousand persons as determined by the most recently published decennial federal census.

(12) "Participation" or "participating" in an election means the following:

(a) With regard to a candidate, that the candidate was opposed by another candidate in the election; however, any person who is a candidate as defined in this Chapter shall be deemed to participate in the primary election whether or not the candidate has failed to qualify for office after becoming a candidate, has withdrawn from the election, or is unopposed therefor. Additionally, any candidate who withdraws from a general election subsequent to the primary election and prior to the general election who would have been

qualified to appear on the general election ballot shall be deemed to participate in the general election, as shall the person who would have been opposed by the one withdrawing.

(b) With regard to a political committee, that the committee:

(i) With regard to the primary election, gave or received a contribution prior to the primary election from, to, or for a candidate participating in that primary election, made an expenditure in support of or in opposition to a candidate participating in that primary election, made a loan to or received a loan from a candidate or committee participating in that primary election, or made a transfer of funds to or from another committee participating in that primary election.

(ii) With regard to the general election, that the committee gave or received a contribution subsequent to the primary election from, to, or for a candidate participating in the general election, made an expenditure in support of or in opposition to a candidate participating in the general election, made a loan to or received a loan from a candidate or committee participating in that general election, or made a transfer of funds to or from another committee participating in the general election.

(c) A candidate or committee which participates in a primary election or the general election shall be deemed to participate in the election.

(d) With regard to a person who solicits or receives any contribution or makes any expenditure in support of or in opposition to a proposition or question submitted to the voters, that said person solicited or received a contribution or made an expenditure of two hundred fifty dollars or more.

(13) "Person" means any individual, partnership, limited liability company or corporation, association, labor union, political committee, corporation, or other legal entity, including their subsidiaries.

(14)(a)(i) "Political committee" or "committee" means two or more persons, other than a husband and wife, and any corporation organized for the primary purpose of supporting or opposing one or more candidates, propositions, recalls of a public officer, or political parties, which accepts contributions in the name of the committee, or makes expenditures from committee funds or in the name of the committee, or makes a transfer of funds to or receives a transfer of funds from another committee, or receives or makes loans in an aggregate amount in excess of five hundred dollars within any calendar year.

(ii) "Political committee" or "committee" shall also include two or more persons, other than a husband or wife, and any corporation which supports or opposes one or more candidates, propositions, recalls of a public officer, or political parties, and which accepts direct payments for personal services related to an election or a campaign in the name of the committee in an aggregate amount in excess of five hundred dollars within any calendar year. Except that an entity that (aa) holds a license or permit duly issued by the appropriate governmental entity to provide the personal services provided, regularly does business in the area, and regularly has done business in the area for at least ninety days prior to the date the personal services are provided and (bb) the personal services provided are the same as the personal services regularly provided by the business in the normal and usual scope of its usual business activities shall not constitute a "political committee" for purposes of the requirements of R.S. 18:1491.1 through 1491.8 which would require such an entity to keep records and submit reports.

(iii) Any state central committee, parish executive committee, and any other committee of any political party which receives contributions or makes expenditures in such amount during such period shall be considered a "political committee" for the purposes of this Chapter.

(b) An entity that during the reporting period has supported candidates in states other than Louisiana; has received less than fifty percent of its total receipts for the applicable reporting period from Louisiana candidates or committees formed to support Louisiana candidates; and has expended less than fifty percent, but not more than twenty thousand dollars, of its total disbursements for the applicable reporting period in support of or in opposition to Louisiana candidates shall not constitute a "political committee" for purposes

of requirements of R.S. 18:1491.1 through 1491.8 which would require such an entity to keep records and submit reports.

(c) *Repealed by Acts 2008, No. 821, §2, eff. July 8, 2008.*

(15) "Principal campaign committee" means a political committee designated by a candidate pursuant to R.S. 18:1491.3(A) or a political committee which has designated subsidiary committee(s).

(16) "Public office" means any state, parish, municipal, ward, district, or other office or position that is filled by election of the voters, except those specifically excepted in Paragraph (3) of this Section.

(17) "Reporting period" shall mean those periods established by R.S. 18:1491.6(G) and R.S. 18:1495.4(G).

(18) "Subsidiary committee" means a political committee other than a principal campaign committee, designated by a candidate or by a principal campaign committee pursuant to R.S. 18:1491.3(B) or R.S. 18:1491.3(C) to receive contributions or make expenditures on behalf of the candidate or the committee.

(19) "Supervisory committee" means the Board of Ethics established in R.S. 42:1132 when functioning as the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure, as provided in R.S. 18:1511.1, to enforce the provisions of this Chapter.

(20) "Transfer of funds" means any money, regardless of amount, received by a committee from another committee or money given by a committee to another committee.

(21) *Repealed by Acts 1988, No. 994, §3, eff. Jan. 1, 1989.*

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981. Amended by Acts 1981, No. 59, §1, eff. June 17, 1981; Acts 1982, No. 266, §1, eff. July 18, 1982; Acts 1984, No. 492, §1; Acts 1986, No. 669, §1; Acts 1987, No. 722, §1, eff. July 16, 1987; Acts 1987, No. 831, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1988; Acts 1988, No. 994, §§1, 3, eff. Jan. 1, 1989; Acts 1989, No. 179, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1990; Acts 1990, No. 180, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1991; Acts 1991, No. 252, §1, eff. July 2, 1991; Acts 1995, No. 1046, §1, eff. June 29, 1995; Acts 1997, No. 644, §1; Acts 1999, No. 1077, §1; Acts 2000, 1st Ex. Sess., No. 98, §1; Acts 2001, No. 292, §1; Acts 2001, No. 297, §1; Acts 2001, No. 451, §6, eff. Jan. 12, 2004; Acts 2003, No. 1045, §1; Acts 2004, No. 515, §1, eff. June 25, 2004; Acts 2004, No. 528, §1, eff. June 25, 2004; Acts 2004, No. 862, §1, eff. July 12, 2004; Acts 2008, 1st Ex. Sess., No. 26, §1, eff. April 26, 2008; Acts 2008, 1st Ex. Sess., No. 27, §1, eff. March 30, 2008; Acts 2008, No. 821, §§1, 2, eff. July 8, 2008; H.C.R. No. 14, 2008 R.S.; Acts 2011, 1st Ex. Sess., No. 32, §1.*

#### **§1484. Disclosure reports; persons required to file**

Except as otherwise specifically provided, the following persons or their campaign treasurers, if any, shall file reports of contributions and expenditures as more specifically provided in this Chapter:

(1) Each candidate for major office or district office.

(2) Each candidate for any other public office who does either of the following:

(a) Makes expenditures in excess of two thousand five hundred dollars.

(b) Receives a contribution in excess of two hundred dollars in the aggregate during the aggregating period. For purposes of this Paragraph only, a contribution by a candidate for his own campaign for a public office other than a major office or district office shall not be considered in determining whether the candidate has received a contribution in excess of two hundred dollars in the aggregate.

(3) Each political committee.

(4) Any person other than a candidate or political committee required to file reports under the provisions of Part IV of this Chapter.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981. Acts 1988, No. 994, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1989; Acts 2007, No. 144, §1, eff. June 25, 2007; Acts 2012, No. 411, §1.*



**§1485. Filing; receipt by supervisory committee; special penalties**

A. For purposes of this Chapter, a report, statement, or any other paper or document required to be filed with the supervisory committee shall be deemed to be filed when it is received either physically or electronically, by facsimile or e-mail, in the office of the supervisory committee in Baton Rouge, at the time it is hand-delivered, at the time it is postmarked or is receipted on a return receipt requested form by the United States Postal Service, if it is subsequently received in the office of the supervisory committee in Baton Rouge, or at the time it is deposited for delivery with a commercial delivery service as indicated on the receipt or invoice provided by the commercial delivery service, if it is subsequently received in the office of the supervisory committee in Baton Rouge.

B. If the date on which a report is required to be filed occurs on a weekend or a federal or state holiday, the report shall be filed no later than the first working day after the date it would otherwise be due that is not a federal or state holiday.

C. Each candidate for a major or district office and each principal campaign committee of a candidate for a major or district office shall electronically file reports of contributions and expenditures with the supervisory committee through the Board of Ethics Computerized Data Management System as provided in R.S. 42:1158.

D. If a report that is required to be filed pursuant to this Chapter is determined by the supervisory committee to be illegible, the supervisory committee may require the person who has filed such report to resubmit a legible report; however, the report shall be deemed to be received by the supervisory committee on the date that the original, illegible report was received.

E.(1) Each person and political committee required to file reports pursuant to this Chapter that receives contributions or loans in excess of fifty thousand dollars in a calendar year or which makes expenditures in excess of fifty thousand dollars in a calendar year, other than a candidate or an authorized political committee of a candidate or a political committee of a recognized political party, shall file all reports required by this Chapter electronically with the supervisory committee through the Board of Ethics Computerized Data Management System as provided in R.S. 42:1158.

(2) In addition to any other applicable penalties, the failure of a person or political committee required by Paragraph (1) of this Subsection to file a report electronically shall subject such person or political committee to penalties of five hundred dollars per day until the report is filed as required by this Subsection.

F.(1) If a person or committee required by this Section to electronically file a report through the Board of Ethics Computerized Data Management System is unable to do so because of a technical problem beyond the person's or committee's control, the person or committee shall file the report by the date the report is due via other means specified in Subsection A of this Section.

(2) The person or committee shall file with such report a certification detailing the technical problem that prevented the person or committee from electronically filing the report through the Board of Ethics Computerized Data Management System.

(3) The person or committee shall electronically file the report through the Board of Ethics Computerized Data Management System no later than five days after the date the report was originally due.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981; Acts 1984, No. 466, §1, §2; Acts 1998, 1st Ex. Sess., No. 123, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1999; Acts 1999, No. 164, §1; Acts 1999, No. 254, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2000; Acts 2005, No. 431, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2006; Acts 2008, 1<sup>st</sup> Ex. Sess., No. 17, §1, eff. July 1, 2009; Acts 2008, 1<sup>st</sup> Ex. Sess., No. 25, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2010; Acts 2008, 1<sup>st</sup> Ex. Sess., No. 25, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 2012; Acts 2010, No. 766, §1, eff. June 30, 2010.*

**§1486. Proposition elections; required reports; recall elections**

A.(1) Any person, including a political committee, who receives and accepts any contribution, loan, or transfer of funds, or makes any expenditure in support of or in opposition to a proposition or question submitted to the voters shall be required to file reports of such contributions and expenditures.

(2) Any person, including a political committee, who receives and accepts any contribution, loan, or transfer of funds, or makes any expenditure in support of or in opposition to the recall of a public officer shall be required to file reports of such contributions and expenditures.

(3) Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Section and in R.S. 18:1505.4 and 1505.5, the provisions for reporting and filing requirements, prohibited practices, recordkeeping, and penalties applicable to political committees shall apply to persons subject to the provisions of Paragraphs (1) and (2) of this Subsection.

B. These requirements shall be applicable only if the aggregate amount of contributions, loans, and transfers of funds received and accepted or expenditures made equals or exceeds two hundred dollars at any time during the aggregating period; except that, with regard to expenditures made in support of or in opposition to a proposition or question submitted to the voters by a person who is not a candidate or a member of the principal campaign committee of a candidate or of a political committee, these requirements shall be applicable only if the aggregate amount of expenditures made equals or exceeds one thousand dollars. "Aggregating period" for purposes of this Section shall mean the period from the date on which the first contribution is received or the first expenditure is made by the person or political committee, whichever is earlier, through the closing date for the last report required to be filed in accordance with this Chapter.

C.(1) The reports required as provided in Paragraph A(1) of this Section shall be filed not later than the thirtieth day prior to the election, which shall be complete through the fortieth day prior to the election, not later than the tenth day prior to the election, which shall be complete through the twentieth day prior to the election, and not later than the fortieth day after the election, which shall be complete through the thirtieth day after the election. During the period from midnight of the twentieth day prior to the election and extending through midnight of election day a report shall be filed within forty-eight hours after the time any contribution, loan, or transfer of funds is received and accepted or expenditure in excess of two hundred dollars is made; if such time falls other than during regular working hours, this report shall be filed with the supervisory committee on the next working day after the report is otherwise due. Such report shall provide information relative to such contributions, loans, and transfers of funds and expenditures in excess of two hundred dollars as provided in R.S. 18:1491.6(C). If the report filed on the fortieth day after the election shows a deficit, the person or political committee reporting shall be required to file supplemental reports as required by R.S. 18:1491.6(D).

(2) Any person or political committee who is required to file reports as provided in Paragraph A(2) of this Section shall file reports as provided in this Chapter according to the following schedule:

(a) Not later than the forty-fifth day after the initial filing of the copy of the recall petition with the secretary of state as provided in R.S. 18:1300.2(C), which report shall be complete through the thirty-fifth day after the filing of the copy of the recall petition with the secretary of state.

(b) Not later than the one hundred thirty-fifth day after the filing of the copy of the recall petition with the secretary of state, which report shall be complete through the one hundred twenty-fifth day after the filing of the copy of the recall petition with the secretary of state.

(c) Not later than the two hundredth day after the filing of the copy of the recall petition with the secretary of state, which report shall be complete through the one hundred ninetieth day after the filing of

the copy of the recall petition with the secretary of state, which report shall be the final report, unless the report shows a deficit, in which case supplemental reports shall be filed as required in R.S. 18:1491.6(D), or unless the person or committee is required to file reports as provided in Subparagraph (d) of this Paragraph.

(d) If the recall effort is successful in having the recall question submitted to the voters, the person or political committee shall be required to file reports as provided in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection.

*Acts 1987, No. 722, §1, eff. July 16, 1987; Acts 1988, No. 994, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1989; Acts 1990, No. 180, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1991; Acts 1995, No. 1046, §1, eff. June 29, 1995; Acts 2010, No. 778, §1, eff. June 30, 2010.*

#### **§1487. Reports, name and address**

Whenever the full name and address of a person is required to be in a report in this Chapter, the party responsible for filing the report shall list the full name and address of the person or the best information he can obtain regarding that person if the full name and/or address is not available.

*Added by Acts 1988, No. 994, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1989.*

## **PART II. POLITICAL COMMITTEES**

### **§1491.1. Registration of political committees**

A. Each political committee, including a subsidiary committee, which knows or anticipates that it will receive contributions or loans, make expenditures or loans, or make a transfer of funds to or receive a transfer of funds from another committee during a calendar year in the aggregate amount exceeding five hundred dollars shall file a statement of organization with the supervisory committee annually after January 1 and no later than January 31 of each calendar year. Any such committee organized after January 31 shall file the required statement of organization no later than the tenth day after its organization. Any committee which, after January 31, knows or anticipates that it will receive contributions, loans, or transfers of funds or make expenditures, loans, or transfers of funds in the aggregate in excess of five hundred dollars during the calendar year shall file the required statement of organization within ten days after the date on which it has information which causes it to know or anticipate that it will receive such contributions, loans, or transfers of funds or make such expenditures, loans, or transfers of funds. If a political committee which knows or anticipates that it will receive contributions, loans, or transfers of funds or make expenditures, loans, or transfers of funds in the aggregate in excess of five hundred dollars during a calendar year, is organized within ten days prior to any election, it shall file the statement of organization required by this Section no later than the third day after such organizing. Any committee required to file supplemental reports under the provisions of R.S. 18:1491.6 shall file the annual statement of organization. The supervisory committee shall issue a certificate of registration to each committee which submits the statement required by this Subsection.

B. The statement of organization shall include:

(1) The name of the committee, and the address of the committee, or of its chairman if the committee has no address.

(2) The names, addresses, and relationships of affiliated organizations.

(3) The name and address of the campaign treasurer of the committee, if any, and of any deputy campaign treasurers of the committee.

(4) The name and address of the committee chairman and the name, address, and position of other principal officers and directors of the committee, if any.

(5) A statement, if applicable, that the committee is a principal campaign committee and the candidate by whom it is designated as a principal campaign committee, if any, or a statement if applicable, that the committee is a subsidiary committee and the committee or candidate by whom it is designated as a subsidiary committee.

(6) A listing of all banks, safety deposit boxes, or other depositories used for committee funds.

(7) The estimated number of members of the committee.

(8) Certification of membership as required by R.S. 18:1505.2(H)(2)(b), if applicable.

(9) A statement, if applicable, that the committee has elected to file monthly reports pursuant to R.S. 18:1491.6(I).

C. Any change in information previously submitted in the annual statement of organization shall be reported to the supervisory committee within ten days following the change.

D. No committee shall receive contributions or loans, make expenditures or loans or make a transfer of funds to or receive a transfer of funds from another committee in the aggregate in excess of five hundred dollars in any calendar year until it has filed the annual statement of organization required by this Section. Any committee which violates the provisions of this Subsection shall be subject to the penalties provided in R.S. 18:1505.5 and R.S. 18:1505.6.

E. The supervisory committee is hereby authorized to impose a fee not to exceed the amount of one hundred dollars for each statement required to be filed under this Section to be remitted to the supervisory committee together with the statement on or before the time the statement is required to be filed. Any statement submitted without the proper fee shall be deemed as not being properly submitted to the supervisory committee. All fees collected hereunder shall be used solely by the supervisory committee for the enforcement of the provisions of this Chapter, as appropriated by the legislature.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981. Acts 1988, No. 994, §2, eff. July 27, 1988; Acts 2003, No. 935, §1, eff. July 1, 2003.*

### **§1491.2. Statement of dissolution**

A. Each political committee, including any subsidiary committee, which after having filed an annual statement of organization wishes to dissolve or disband and (1) determines that it no longer meets the criteria in R.S. 18:1491.1(A), or (2) determines that it will no longer receive any contributions, loans, or transfers of funds and will no longer make any expenditures, loans, or transfers of funds, shall file a statement of dissolution with the supervisory committee prior to dissolving. No committee which has unpaid debts or obligations or which has any funds on hand shall file a statement of dissolution, until any debts or obligations have been paid or otherwise extinguished and any funds have been expended or otherwise distributed. A statement of dissolution shall include (1) a certified statement by the committee chairman and campaign treasurer, if any, that the committee has not received contributions, transfers of funds, or loans, or made expenditures, transfers of funds, or loans in the aggregate during the calendar year in excess of five hundred dollars and does not anticipate doing so, or (2) a certified statement by the committee chairman and campaign treasurer, if any, that the committee will receive no contributions, transfers of funds, or loans and will make no expenditures, transfers of funds, or loans, during the remainder of the calendar year. The committee shall file a report of contributions and expenditures containing the information required in R.S. 18:1491.7 with the statement of dissolution.

B. No political committee shall dissolve or file a statement of dissolution as provided in Subsection A above and reorganize under a modified name, charter, or organizational structure merely as a subterfuge to avoid the reporting and other requirements of this Part. Any committee which dissolves or files a statement of dissolution as provided in Subsection A above and is thereafter recreated with substantially the same membership and purposes with the intent to avoid the requirements of this Part, for purposes of this Part, shall be deemed not to have been dissolved and shall be subject to the provisions of this Part as if no dissolution had taken place and no statement of dissolution filed. In addition, any committee which violates the provisions of this Subsection shall be subject to the penalties provided in R.S. 18:1505.4, R.S. 18:1505.5, and R.S. 18:1505.6.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981.*

### **§1491.3. Principal campaign committees; subsidiary committees; consolidation of reports**

A. Each candidate may designate one political committee as his principal campaign committee. Such designation shall be in writing and a copy thereof shall be filed with the supervisory committee no later than ten days after such designation is made. Any committee which designates subsidiary committees shall be a principal campaign committee and shall file a self-designation as a principal campaign committee with the supervisory committee at the time it first files a designation of a subsidiary committee. A principal campaign committee of a candidate shall report, in lieu of the candidate, all information required to be reported by the candidate pursuant to R.S. 18:1495.4 and R.S. 18:1495.5.

B. A candidate or a committee which supports or has supported only one candidate may designate additional political committees as subsidiary committees of such candidate or committee.

C. Any committee, except a principal campaign committee, which is organized to support a single candidate shall be a subsidiary committee of the candidate or of the candidate's principal campaign committee unless the candidate files a statement in writing with the supervisory committee that the committee is not his subsidiary committee or a subsidiary of his principal campaign committee and unless he files such a statement the candidate or his principal campaign committee shall designate any such committee as a subsidiary committee within ten days after such committee is organized. No candidate shall file a statement that a committee is not his subsidiary committee or a subsidiary committee of his principal campaign committee if the candidate, his principal campaign committee, or a subsidiary committee of the candidate or of his principal campaign committee makes an expenditure, a loan, or a transfer of funds to or receives a contribution, a loan, or a transfer of funds, from the committee.

D. No committee organized primarily for the purpose of supporting a single candidate shall nominally support an additional candidate or candidates for the purpose of avoiding designation as a subsidiary committee and the requirements of this Part relating to the records and reports of subsidiary committees. Any committee which violates the provisions of this Subsection shall be subject to the penalties provided in R.S. 18:1505.4, R.S. 18:1505.5, and R.S. 18:1505.6.

E. A designation of a subsidiary committee shall be in writing and a copy thereof shall be filed with the supervisory committee no later than ten days after the designation is made. Any candidate who has designated a principal campaign committee shall also file a copy of the designation of each subsidiary committee with his principal campaign committee no later than ten days after the designation is made.

F. A political committee may not be designated as the principal campaign committee of more than one candidate. No political committee which supports or has supported more than one candidate may be designated as a principal campaign committee and no such committee shall be a subsidiary committee.

G.(1) Each subsidiary committee shall maintain all records required by this Part. Each subsidiary committee designated by a candidate shall furnish such records on a timely basis to the principal campaign committee of the candidate, if any, or if none, to the candidate by whom it was designated as a subsidiary

committee. Each subsidiary committee designated by a principal campaign committee shall furnish such records on a timely basis to such principal campaign committee.

(2) Each principal campaign committee of a candidate shall receive records furnished to it by subsidiary committees of the candidate for which it is the principal campaign committee and shall consolidate them with its own records and records of the candidate and shall file with the supervisory committee a consolidated report for each report required by this Chapter for committees or candidates. Each principal campaign committee, other than a principal campaign committee of a candidate, shall receive all records furnished to it by its subsidiary committees and shall consolidate them with its own records and shall file with the supervisory committee a consolidated report for each report required by this Part for committees.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981.*

**§1491.4. Campaign treasurers; campaign depositories; expenditures; petty cash fund**

A. The chairman of each political committee shall be the campaign treasurer of the political committee, unless the political committee appoints a campaign treasurer. Political committees also may appoint one or more deputy campaign treasurers. The names and addresses of any campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer so appointed shall be filed with the supervisory committee in the statement of organization required by R.S. 18:1491.1, or if appointed after the statement of organization is filed, the names and addresses of any campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer shall be reported to the supervisory committee within ten days following appointment.

B.(1) Any person may solicit contributions for or on behalf of the political committee, or sell political paraphernalia, including such items as buttons, flags and literature, or tickets to a testimonial or other fund-raising event, provided that all contribution(s) or proceeds are transmitted directly to the chairman of the political committee or its designated treasurer or a designated deputy treasurer of the committee together with such information as may be required by this Chapter. No chairman of a political committee or designated treasurer or deputy treasurer shall accept such funds without such information and they shall be responsible under the provisions of this Chapter for any errors and omissions in records or reports of such funds. Any contributions or transfer of funds received by a political committee which has appointed a campaign treasurer shall be transferred to the campaign treasurer.

(2) When any person who is not the campaign treasurer or a deputy treasurer of a political committee makes any expenditure for the committee, he shall transmit directly to the campaign treasurer or a deputy treasurer all information concerning the expenditure required by this Chapter. The campaign treasurer of the committee shall be responsible under the provisions of this Chapter for any errors or omissions in the records or reports of such expenditures.

(3) For purposes of all reports required by this Chapter, all contributions received by or transferred to a campaign treasurer or a deputy treasurer of a political committee, and all expenditures made by a campaign treasurer or a deputy treasurer of a political committee or by any other person on behalf of the committee, shall be considered contributions or expenditures of the political committee.

C. Deputy campaign treasurers of a committee may exercise any of the powers and duties of a campaign treasurer as set forth in this Chapter when specifically authorized to do so by the campaign treasurer and the chairman of the political committee.

D.(1) The chairman of each political committee shall designate one or more national or state banks or state or federally chartered savings and loan associations or savings banks, or state or federally chartered credit unions, as the campaign depositories of the committee and may invest in a money market mutual fund and designate such fund as a campaign depository. The committee chairman, the committee campaign treasurer, and any deputy treasurers shall deposit any contributions received by them into an account or accounts maintained at such depository or depositories. No expenditure shall be made by any committee chairman, committee campaign treasurer, deputy treasurer, or any other person on behalf of the committee, except by check drawn on such account or accounts, except as specifically provided in Paragraph (2) of this

Subsection and Subsection E of this Section. Each check drawn on any such account shall be made payable to a specific person, except a check made payable to petty cash. Each check drawn on such an account shall indicate the objects or services for which such check is drawn and such check shall be maintained as part of the records required by R.S. 18:1491.5. The name and address of such campaign depository so designated shall be filed with the supervisory committee in the statement of organization required by R.S. 18:1491.1. If any additional depositories are designated, they shall be reported within ten days following such designation as required by R.S. 18:1491.1.

(2) An expenditure may be made by a committee chairman, committee campaign treasurer, deputy treasurer, or other authorized person on behalf of the committee by electronic funds transfer provided that the transfer of funds is to a specific person and that records are maintained as to the objects or services for which such transfer of funds was made. Detailed records of each electronic fund transfer shall be maintained as part of the records required by R.S. 18:1491.5.

(3) A political committee, which is not the principal campaign committee or designated subsidiary committee of a candidate, that makes a contribution to a candidate or to the principal campaign committee or designated subsidiary committee of a candidate shall clearly indicate to the candidate or the principal campaign committee or designated subsidiary committee of the candidate that the contribution is from a political committee either by a designation on the check or by a separate notification attached to the contribution.

E. A political committee may maintain a petty cash fund or funds. A petty cash fund shall be maintained on an imprest system, that is, expenditures may be made in cash from the fund and the fund shall from time to time be restored to its original amount by a transfer of funds from other committee funds of a sum equal to the aggregate of the sums expended from the fund. No expenditure in excess of one hundred dollars shall be made from the petty cash fund and no expenditure shall be made from the petty cash fund for any personal services, except for gratuities paid for the serving of food or drink. No expenditure shall be made from the petty cash fund in violation of R.S. 18:1531. A complete record of petty cash expenditures shall be maintained in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 18:1491.5(D).

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981; Acts 1985, No. 550, §1, eff. July 12, 1985; Acts 1993, No. 199, §1, eff. June 1, 1993; Acts 1997, No. 863, §1; Acts 2010, No. 577, §1, eff. June 25, 2010; Acts 2014, No. 244, §1.*

#### **§1491.5. Maintenance of records; valuation of in-kind contributions and expenditures**

A. The chairman of each political committee and the campaign treasurer, if the chairman does not act as campaign treasurer, shall be responsible for providing and maintaining such records of campaign finances as are necessary to comply with the provisions of this Part, including but not limited to the records specifically required by this Section.

B.(1) Except as otherwise provided in this Section, the campaign treasurer of each political committee shall keep such records of campaign contributions received and accepted by him or a deputy treasurer as shall be necessary to comply with the provisions of this Part, including the names and addresses of all contributors, and the date of each contribution, the amount or value of the contribution of whatever value, and a description and valuation of all in-kind contributions.

(2) Payments made to purchase campaign paraphernalia, such as campaign pins, buttons, badges, flags, emblems, hats, shirts, banners, literature, and similar items, other than expenditures made by a political committee for its own paraphernalia, and payments for tickets to testimonials and similar fundraising events are contributions, and records thereof shall be maintained, provided that:

(a) In the case of any single transaction involving the sale of items such as campaign pins, buttons, badges, flags, emblems, hats, banners, literature, and similar material which is for an amount not in excess of twenty-five dollars and the proceeds of which are received and deposited by a political committee, no

record need be kept by the campaign treasurer for such recipient committee, except the total amount received and deposited from such sale and the fact that such amount was received from such sale.

(b) No person shall sell or buy campaign paraphernalia in successive single transactions for amounts below those for which specific records are required by this Paragraph as a subterfuge to avoid requirements of this Part that names and addresses of contributors and dates and amounts of contributions be recorded, aggregated, and reported. Such transactions shall be considered single transactions and shall be recorded and reported as provided in this Part. Any person who violates the provisions of this Section shall be subject to the penalties provided in R.S. 18:1505.4, R.S. 18:1505.5, and R.S. 18:1505.6.

(3) The campaign treasurer of each political committee shall also keep such records of campaign expenditures made or contracted as shall be necessary to comply with the provisions of this Part, including the name and address of the person or firm from whom goods or services were purchased or contracted, the date, the amount or value and the purpose of the expenditure, a description of the goods or services purchased or contracted, and a description and valuation of all in-kind expenditures.

(4) All transactions involving the sale of tickets to a testimonial or similar fundraising event shall be evidenced by a record of the names and addresses of the purchasers, the amount of tickets purchased, and the value of the tickets purchased.

C. The valuation of in-kind contributions or expenditures shall be the estimated fair market value thereof at the time received and expended.

D. A record shall be kept of all expenditures made from the petty cash fund for which provision is made in R.S. 18:1491.4, including the name and address of the person or firm from whom goods or services were purchased or contracted, the amount and the purpose of the expenditure, and a description of the goods or services purchased or contracted. In addition, a receipt shall be kept for each such expenditure in any case in which a receipt would normally be provided in the usual course of business.

E. A record shall be kept of each loan made by the committee to or from any person or political committee, together with the full name and address of the lender, of the recipient of the proceeds of the loan, and of any person who makes any type of security agreement binding himself or his property, directly or indirectly, for the repayment of all or any part of the loan. In addition, a record shall be kept of the repayment of each such loan and of the source of funds expended for repayment.

F. *Repealed by Acts 1993, No. 199, §2, eff. June 1, 1993.*

G. A record shall also be kept of:

(1) Cash investments and income received therefrom.

(2) All transfers of funds to or from another committee, the name and address of the committee to or from which the transfer is made and the date and amount thereof.

(3) All debts and obligations.

(4) The amount and date of each anonymous contribution and the date each is transmitted to the state as required by this Chapter.

(5) All other receipts, the name and address of the source, and the date and amount thereof.

(6) All other disbursements, the name and address of the person to whom made and the date and amount thereof.

H. Expenditures made by a public relations firm, an advertising agency, or agent for a political committee shall be considered expenditures of the political committee and must be specifically reported as required by this Part. Each such firm, agency, or agent shall timely furnish to such political committee such information relative thereto as may be required for compliance with this Part. Failure by any such firm,



agency or agent to timely furnish a political committee such information required for compliance with this Part shall be grounds for a civil action for damages.

I. A campaign treasurer shall preserve records required by this Part for six years; except a campaign treasurer for a committee which supports only one candidate shall preserve such records for two years after the final report which he is required by this Part to file for the election has been filed, including any supplemental reports required.

J. The accounts and records kept by a campaign treasurer under the provisions of this Part shall be available for inspection or use by the supervisory committee in connection with any investigation pursuant to this Chapter, or by any grand jury or court in connection with any proceeding instituted under the provisions of this Chapter; however, such accounts and records shall be kept strictly confidential by the supervisory committee and any court, except to the extent any contents thereof may become a public record in any judicial proceeding to enforce the provisions of this Chapter.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981. Acts 1988, No. 994, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1989; Acts 1993, No. 199, §2, eff. June 1, 1993.*

### **§1491.6. Reports required; reporting times and periods**

A. The chairman of a political committee and the campaign treasurer of the committee, if any, shall be responsible for filing a report of all information required in this Section and R.S. 18:1491.7 with the supervisory committee at the times required in this Section. The political committee chairman and campaign treasurer of the committee, if any, shall certify, in each report, that the information contained in the report is true and correct to the best of their knowledge, information and belief, that no expenditures have been made and no contributions have been received that are not reported therein, and that no information required by this Part has been deliberately omitted.

B. A report shall be filed for a political committee for each regularly scheduled election in which the committee participates according to the following schedule:

(1) Each committee which is participating in the election of a candidate for major office shall file a report no later than the one hundred eightieth day prior to the primary election, which shall be complete through the one hundred ninetieth day prior to the primary election.

(2) Each committee which is participating in the election of a candidate for major office shall file a report no later than the ninetieth day prior to the primary election, which shall be complete through the one hundredth day prior to the primary election.

(3) Each committee shall file a report no later than the thirtieth day prior to the primary election, which shall be complete through the fortieth day prior to the primary election.

(4) Each committee shall file a report no later than the tenth day prior to the primary election which shall be complete through the twentieth day prior to the primary election.

(5) Each committee shall file a report no later than the tenth day prior to the general election which shall be complete through the twentieth day prior to the general election. This shall be the final report for the election for any committee which does not participate in the general election, unless supplemental reports are required as provided in Subsection D of this Section.

(6) Each committee shall file a report no later than the fortieth day after the general election which shall be complete through the thirtieth day after the general election. This report shall be the final report for the election for any committee which participated in the general election, unless supplemental reports are required as provided in Subsection D of this Section.

(7) The final report of a committee that supports or opposes only one candidate who either withdraws as a candidate or is unopposed for election to the office he seeks shall be the next report due as required in this Subsection as of the date that the candidate withdraws or ascertains that he is unopposed, unless supplemental reports are required as provided in Subsection (D) of this Section. The report shall contain a statement that it is the final report and the reasons therefor.

C. During the period beginning at midnight of the twentieth day prior to a primary election and extending through midnight of primary election day, and during the period beginning at midnight of the twentieth day prior to a general election and extending through midnight of general election day, each committee shall file a report with the supervisory committee of:

(1)(a) The full name and address of each person from whom the committee has received and accepted a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds during such period in excess of the following amounts: a committee participating in the election of a candidate for any major office, one thousand dollars; a committee participating in the election of a candidate for district office, five hundred dollars; a committee participating in the election of a candidate for any other office, two hundred fifty dollars. If the committee is participating in the election of candidates for offices with different reporting amounts, the amount shall be the lowest for any candidate in whose election the committee is participating or in which any committee is participating to which it makes or from which it receives a transfer of funds.

(b) Such report shall include the amount and date of each such contribution or loan reported, and a brief description and valuation of each in-kind contribution. If a loan is reported, the report shall contain the name and address of the lender, of the recipient of the proceeds of the loan, and of any person who makes any type of security agreement binding himself or his property, directly or indirectly, for the repayment of all or any part of the loan.

(2) Any expenditure in excess of two hundred dollars made to a candidate, committee, or person required to file reports by this Chapter, who makes endorsements, including the full name and address of each person to whom such expenditure is made, the amount, date and purpose of each such expenditure, and a brief description and valuation of an in-kind expenditure.

(3) Each report required by this Subsection shall be filed within forty-eight hours after the time the contribution or loan is received or expenditure made. If such time falls other than during regular working hours, the report shall be filed as soon as possible after the opening of the office of the supervisory committee on the next working day after the time at which the report is otherwise due.

D.(1) If the final report of a political committee for an election, as required by Paragraph (5), (6), or (7) of Subsection B of this Section, or the most recent monthly report of a committee pursuant to Subsection I of this Section shows a deficit or a surplus, the chairman and treasurer of the committee, if any, shall file supplemental reports with the supervisory committee of all information required in R.S. 18:1491.7. Such reports shall be filed annually no later than February fifteenth and shall be complete through the preceding December thirty-first. Such a supplemental report shall be filed each year until a report has been filed which shows no deficit and until any surplus campaign funds have been disposed of in accordance with R.S. 18:1505.2(I). The report on surplus funds shall disclose the disbursement of such funds in the same manner as expenditures are reported.

(2) A "deficit", for purposes of this Subsection, means debts or obligations owed by the political committee which are required to be reported by R.S. 18:1491.7(B)(14).

(3)(a) A report need not be filed under this Subsection if the committee is dissolved or disbanded and shows a deficit of less than two thousand five hundred dollars. However, if the political committee is dissolved or disbanded and its deficit is equal to or greater than two thousand five hundred dollars, the political committee shall file supplemental reports with the supervisory committee of all information required in R.S. 18:1491.7. Such report shall be filed annually no later than February fifteenth and shall be complete

through the preceding December thirty-first. Such report shall be filed each year for five years or until a report has been filed which shows no deficit or surplus.

(b) However, if after five years the political committee with a deficit receives any contribution or if any repayment occurs on an outstanding debt or loan, such political committee shall file a supplemental report by the following February fifteenth which shall be complete through the preceding December thirty-first.

(c) If the political committee has surplus campaign funds, a report need not be filed under this Subsection if such political committee files an annual report in accordance with Subsection E of this Section which includes such surplus campaign funds.

E. A report shall be filed for each committee of all information required in R.S. 18:1491.7 no later than February fifteenth of each year which shall be complete as of the preceding December thirty-first. The annual report required by this Subsection shall not be required:

(1) If under another provision of this Section, the committee has filed another report of the information required by R.S. 18:1491.7 at any time after the preceding December tenth and prior to the February fifteenth due date, or

(2) If during the preceding year the committee has filed a supplemental report required by Subsection D of this Section and has not otherwise, during the reporting period, supported or opposed a candidate, as such term is defined in R.S. 18:1483(3), or

(3) If the committee has received no contributions, made no expenditures, received or made no loans, and received or made no transfers of funds during the reporting period for such report.

F. The reports required for any regularly scheduled election shall also be filed for any special election to the extent the dates for filing reports occur after the call for the election. The supervisory committee may promulgate rules to effect the provisions of this Subsection. Such rules may waive any report required to be filed within ten days after the call for a special election.

G. The reporting period for all reports of political committees, except the first report of a committee, shall be the period from the time through which the preceding report was complete through the closing date for the particular report. The reporting period for the first report of a committee shall be the period from the time when the committee was organized through the closing date for the particular report.

H. Principal campaign committees shall file consolidated reports for subsidiary committees as more specifically provided in R.S. 18:1491.3.

I.(1) A political committee other than a principal or subsidiary campaign committee of a candidate may file monthly reports due no later than the tenth day of the month following a month in which the committee accepts a contribution or some other receipt or makes an expenditure or some other disbursement rather than file the reports otherwise required by Subsections B, (C)(1), and F of this Section.

(2) Such monthly reports shall include all of the information required to be included in a report pursuant to R.S. 18:1491.7.

(3) A political committee wishing to file monthly reports may do so upon written notification to the supervisory committee of its intention to do so delivered to the supervisory committee no less than forty-five days prior to the due date for the next report the committee would otherwise be required to file. The committee shall file its first monthly report no later than the month following the month in which such notification is so delivered. Such report shall include all information required for reports pursuant to R.S. 18:1491.7 for the period since the committee's last report.

(4) Nothing in this Subsection shall exempt a political committee from filing the reports required by Paragraphs (2) and (3) of Subsection C of this Section.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981. Amended by Acts 1982, No. 266, §1, eff. July 18, 1982; Acts 1984, No. 492, §1; Acts 1987, No. 757, §1; Acts 1988, No. 994, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1989; Acts 1990, No. 180, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1991; Acts 1999, No. 862, §1, eff. July 2, 1999; Acts 2001, No. 651, §1; Acts 2004, No. 506, §1, eff. June 25, 2004.*

**§1491.7. Reports; contents**

A. Unless otherwise specifically provided, each report required by this Part shall contain the following information: (1) the name and address of the political committee for whom the report is filed; (2) the name and address of the treasurer completing the report; (3) the names and addresses of the committee chairman and of the other principal officers; (4) the name, address, office sought, and party affiliation of each candidate whom the committee is supporting or opposing, and a designation as to whether such committee is supporting or opposing such candidate; (5) whether the committee is supporting or opposing the entire ticket of any party, and, if so, the name of the party; (6) if the report is for a principal campaign committee, a statement that the committee is a principal campaign committee and the name of the candidate, if any, and of all subsidiary committees for whom the principal campaign committee is reporting and the address of such committees, or if a committee has no address, the address of the committee chairman.

B. Each report required to be in conformity with this Section shall contain the following information:

- (1) The amount of cash and cash investments on hand at the end of the prior reporting period.
- (2) The total of all contributions received and accepted by the committee during the reporting period.
- (3) Cash income from investments received during the reporting period.

(4) Contributions received during the reporting period for which the report is being completed shall be reported, and the same shall be reported irrespective of the amount thereof except as otherwise provided, as follows:

(a) The full name and address of each person who has made one or more contributions, except contributions in the form of a payroll deduction or dues check-off system, to and which have been received and accepted by the political committee during the reporting period; the aggregate amount of such contributions, except in-kind contributions, from each person, and the date and amount of each such contribution; and a brief description of each in-kind contribution from each person, the valuation thereof made by the chairman and the campaign treasurer, and the date of the in-kind contribution.

(b) The full name and address of each person who has made one or more contributions in the form of a payroll deduction or dues check-off system in excess of five dollars in the aggregate in a calendar year to and which have been received and accepted by the political committee during the reporting period, and the date and amount of each contribution. In the case of a political committee that supports multiple candidates or issues and receives over ten thousand contributions in the form of a payroll deduction or dues check-off system when no single contributor contributes in excess of twenty-four dollars in the aggregate in a calendar year, such committee may elect to report the names and addresses of its contributors on an annual basis. Political committees making this election shall list the names and addresses of its contributors, the total amount of the contributions received per contributor, and the schedule of the receipt of such contributions on the annual report due by February fifteenth complete through the preceding December thirty-first.

(c) The aggregate amount of all contributions, other than in-kind contributions, received and accepted during the reporting period.

(d) The aggregate valuation of in-kind contributions received during the reporting period.

(5) The gross proceeds received and accepted by the political committee during the reporting period from the sale of items such as political campaign pins, buttons, badges, flags, emblems, hats, banners, literature, and similar materials. Purchases of such campaign items and materials from the committee which

are made by the same person and are of such amount as to be reportable, either singly or in the aggregate, under Paragraph (4) hereof, shall be so reported; however, single transactions to purchase such items or materials which are for not in excess of twenty-five dollars must be reported only in the report of gross proceeds and shall not be required in Paragraph (4).

(6) The gross proceeds received and accepted by the political committee during the reporting period from the sale of tickets to testimonials or similar fundraising events. The proceeds of any such sale shall be considered a contribution, and such contributions shall also be reported as provided in Paragraph (4).

(7) The name and address of each political committee from which the reporting political committee received and accepted any transfer of funds during the reporting period, and the amount of each such transfer.

(8) Any other cash receipts, not contributions, received from any other source not included above during the reporting period, for example, refunds of overpayments and the nature, source, and an explanation thereof.

(9) Total of all receipts for the reporting period.

(10) The date and amount of each loan for campaign purposes made or received by the political committee to or from any person or political committee during the reporting period, together with the full name and address of the lender, of the recipient of the proceeds of the loan, and of any person who makes any type of security agreement binding himself or his property, directly or indirectly, for the repayment of all or any part of the loan.

(11) The total of all loans made and the total of all loans received during the reporting period.

(12) The total of all expenditures made by the committee during the reporting period.

(13) The full name and address of each person to whom an expenditure has been made by the committee during the reporting period. The amount, a description of the purpose as it relates to the expenditure, the date of each expenditure, and the name and address of and office sought by candidates on whose behalf each such expenditure was made shall be reported. A brief description of an in-kind expenditure shall be given, as well as the valuation made by the chairman and the campaign treasurer and the date(s) of the expenditure. When multiple expenditures have been made to the same person during the reporting period, the aggregate amount of such expenditures, other than in-kind expenditures, and the aggregate valuation of in-kind expenditures shall be reported for each such person. The aggregate of all expenditures made during the reporting period, other than in-kind expenditures, and the aggregate valuation of all in-kind expenditures shall also be reported. The aggregate amount expended for each candidate shall also be reported.

(14) The amount and nature of debts and obligations owed by or to the political committee during the reporting period which relate to the conduct of any political campaign, including but not limited to loans required to be reported under Paragraph (10) of this Subsection.

(15) All payments made during the reporting period to repay loans, the amount, date, and source thereof.

(16) *Repealed by Acts 1993, No. 199, §2, Eff. June 1, 1993.*

(17) The total amount of expenditures during the reporting period from the petty cash fund.

(18) The name and address of each political committee to which the reporting political committee made a transfer of funds, during the reporting period, and the date and amount of each such transfer.

(19) The date and amount of each anonymous contribution received and the day each was transmitted to the state as required by R.S. 18:1505.2(B) during the reporting period and the total amount of such anonymous contributions received and transmitted during the reporting period.

(20) The amount of cash and cash investments of the committee on hand at the end of the reporting period.

(21) All other disbursements, not expenditures, during the reporting period, and the nature, recipient, and an explanation thereof.

(22) The total amount of expenditures during the reporting period made in relation to the publication, distribution, transportation, or transmission of statements relative to candidates or propositions which do not fully disclose the name of the individual or the name of the association, organization, committee, or corporation and the full and correct name and address of its chairman or other chief administrative officer and whether or not such individual, association, organization, committee, or corporation supports or opposes such candidate or proposition.

C. Expenditures made by a public relations firm, an advertising agency, or agent for a political committee shall be considered expenditures of the political committee and must be reported as required by this Section. Each such firm, agency, or agent, which makes any expenditure for any political committee shall timely furnish to such political committee such information relative thereto as may be required for compliance with this Part.

D. The supervisory committee may require the reporting of totals of any information otherwise required to be reported, including totals of amounts reported in the current report, or in the current report and other previous reports.

E. The reports required in this Part shall be filed on forms provided by the supervisory committee as more specifically provided in R.S. 18:1511.3.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981. Acts 1988, No. 994, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1989; Acts 1990, No. 180, § 2, eff. Jan. 1, 1991; Acts 1990, No. 1088, §§1 and 2, eff. Jan. 1, 1991; Acts 1992, No. 751, §1, eff. July 7, 1992; Acts 1993, No. 199, §2, eff. June 1, 1993; Acts 1995, No. 300, §1, eff. June 15, 1995; Acts 1995, No. 957, §1; Acts 2010, No. 778, §1, eff. June 30, 2010; Acts 2014, No. 838, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2015; Acts 2014, No. 857, §1.*

#### **§1491.8. Small campaigns; affidavit in lieu of reports**

Any political committee which did not receive a contribution in excess of two hundred dollars and which did not make expenditures totaling in excess of five thousand dollars in the aggregate during the aggregating period, may file an affidavit setting out such facts, in lieu of any report required by R.S. 18:1491.6; but a separate affidavit shall be required in lieu of any such report.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981. Acts 1988, No. 994, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1989.*

**§1491.9.** *Repealed by Acts 2001, No. 297, §2.*

### **PART III. CANDIDATES**

#### **§1495.1. Report through committee**

A. Each candidate may designate a principal campaign committee as provided in R.S. 18:1491.3. If a candidate designates a principal campaign committee, the candidate shall maintain all records required by this Part and furnish them on a timely basis to his principal campaign committee. Each principal campaign committee shall receive all records furnished to it by the candidate, shall consolidate them with its own reports and shall file a consolidated report for reports required by this Chapter for candidates and committees as otherwise provided in this Chapter. In such case, the candidate shall not be required to file separate reports.

B. Each candidate may designate subsidiary committees as provided in R.S. 18:1491.3, and shall designate such subsidiary committees as required in said Section. Any candidate who designates subsidiary committees and who does not designate a principal campaign committee shall receive all records of the subsidiary committees, consolidate them with his own records, and file a consolidated report for reports required by this Chapter for candidates and committees.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981.*

**§1495.2. Campaign treasurers; campaign depositories; expenditures; petty cash fund**

A. The candidate shall be his own campaign treasurer, unless he appoints a campaign treasurer. Candidates also may appoint one or more deputy campaign treasurers. The names and addresses of any campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer so appointed shall be filed with the supervisory committee at the time of the first report following appointment. Changes in appointment shall be reported in the first report after such change.

B.(1) Any person may solicit contributions for or on behalf of a candidate, or sell political paraphernalia, including such items as buttons, flags and literature, or tickets to a testimonial or other fund-raising event, provided that all contribution(s) or proceeds are transmitted directly to the candidate or his designated treasurer or a designated deputy treasurer together with such information as may be required by this Chapter. No candidate or designated treasurer or deputy treasurer shall accept such funds without such information and they shall be responsible under the provisions of this Chapter for any errors and omissions in records or reports for such funds. Any contribution received by a candidate who has appointed a campaign treasurer shall be transferred to the campaign treasurer.

(2) When any person who is not the campaign treasurer or a deputy treasurer of a candidate makes any expenditure for the candidate, he shall transmit directly to the campaign treasurer or a deputy treasurer all information concerning the expenditure required by this Chapter. The candidate and his campaign treasurer, if any, shall be responsible under the provisions of this Chapter for any errors or omissions in the records or reports of such expenditures.

(3) For purposes of all reports required by this Chapter, all contributions received by or transferred to a campaign treasurer or a deputy treasurer of a candidate and all expenditures made by a campaign treasurer or a deputy treasurer of a candidate or by any other person on behalf of the candidate, shall be considered contributions or expenditures of the candidate.

C. Deputy campaign treasurers of a candidate may exercise any of the powers and duties of a campaign treasurer as set forth in this Chapter when specifically authorized to do so by the campaign treasurer and the candidate.

D.(1) The candidate shall designate one or more national or state banks or state or federally chartered savings and loan associations or savings banks, or state or federally chartered credit unions, as his campaign depositories and may invest in a money market mutual fund and designate such fund as a campaign depository. The candidate, his campaign treasurer, and any deputy treasurers shall deposit any contributions received by them into an account or accounts maintained at such depository or depositories. No expenditure shall be made by any candidate, campaign treasurer, deputy treasurer, or any other person on behalf of the candidate, except by check drawn on such account or accounts, except as specifically provided in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection and Subsection E of this Section. Each check drawn on any such account shall be made payable to a specific person, except a check made payable to petty cash. Each check drawn on such an account shall indicate the objects or services for which such check is drawn and such check shall be maintained as part of the records required by R.S. 18:1495.3. The name and address of each campaign depository so designated shall be filed with the supervisory committee in the first report after such designation. If any additional depositories are designated, they shall be reported in the first report following such designation.

(2) An expenditure may be made by the candidate, campaign treasurer, deputy treasurer, or other authorized person on behalf of the candidate by electronic funds transfer provided that the transfer of funds is to a specific person and that records are maintained as to the objects or services for which such transfer of funds was made. Detailed records of each electronic fund transfer shall be maintained as part of the records required by R.S. 18:1495.3.

E. A candidate may maintain a petty cash fund or funds. A petty cash fund shall be maintained on an imprest system, that is, expenditures may be made in cash from the fund and the fund shall from time to time be restored to its original amount by a transfer of funds from other funds of the candidate of a sum equal to the aggregate of the sums expended from the fund. No expenditure in excess of one hundred dollars shall be made from the petty cash fund and no expenditure shall be made from the petty cash fund for any personal services, except for gratuities paid for the serving of food or drink. No expenditure shall be made from the petty cash fund in violation of R.S. 18:1531. A complete record of petty cash expenditures shall be maintained in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 18:1495.3(D).

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981; Acts 1985, No. 550, §1, eff. July 12, 1985; Acts 1993, No. 199, §1, eff. June 1, 1993; Acts 1997, No. 863, §1; Acts 2010, No. 577, §1, eff. June 25, 2010.*

**§1495.3. Maintenance of records; valuation of in-kind contributions and expenditures**

A. The candidate and the campaign treasurer, if the candidate does not act as campaign treasurer, shall be responsible for providing and maintaining such records of campaign finances as are necessary to comply with the provisions of this Part, including but not limited to the records specifically required by this Section.

B.(1) Except as otherwise provided in this Section, the campaign treasurer for each candidate shall keep such records of campaign contributions received and accepted by him or a deputy treasurer as shall be necessary to comply with the provisions of this Part, including the names and addresses of all contributors, the date of each contribution, the amount or value of the contribution of whatever value, and a description and valuation of all in-kind contributions.

(2) Payments made to purchase campaign paraphernalia, such as campaign pins, buttons, badges, flags, emblems, hats, shirts, banners, literature, and similar items, other than expenditures made by a candidate for his own paraphernalia, and payments for tickets to testimonials and similar fundraising events are contributions, and records thereof shall be maintained, provided that:

(a) In the case of any single transaction involving the sale of items such as campaign pins, buttons, badges, flags, emblems, hats, banners, literature, and similar material which is for an amount not in excess of twenty-five dollars and the proceeds of which are received and deposited by a candidate, no record need be kept by the campaign treasurer for such recipient candidate, except the total amount received and deposited from such sale and the fact that such amount was received from such sale.

(b) No person shall sell or buy campaign paraphernalia in successive single transactions for amounts below those for which specific records are required by this Paragraph as a subterfuge to avoid requirements of this Part that names and addresses of contributors and dates and amounts of contributions be recorded, aggregated, and reported. Such transactions shall be considered single transactions and shall be recorded and reported as provided in this Part. Any person who violates

the provisions of this Section shall be subject to the penalties provided in R.S. 18:1505.4, R.S. 18:1505.5, and R.S. 18:1505.6.

(3)(a) Each campaign treasurer for a candidate shall also keep records of the amounts of all expenditures made by the candidate from his own funds.

(b) The campaign treasurer of each candidate shall also keep such records of campaign expenditures made or contracted as shall be necessary to comply with the provisions of this Part, including the name and address of the person or firm from whom goods or services were purchased or contracted, the date, the amount or value and the purpose of the expenditure, a description of the goods or services purchased or contracted, and a description and valuation of all in-kind expenditures.



(4) All transactions involving the sale of tickets to a testimonial or similar fundraising event shall be evidenced by a record of the names and addresses of the purchasers, the amount of tickets purchased, and the value of the tickets purchased.

C. The valuation of in-kind contributions or expenditures shall be the estimated fair market value thereof at the time received or expended.

D. A record shall be kept of all expenditures made from the petty cash fund for which provision is made in R.S. 18:1495.2, including the name and address of the person or firm from whom goods or services were purchased or contracted, the amount and the purpose of the expenditure, and a description of the goods or services purchased or contracted. In addition, a receipt shall be kept for each such expenditure in any case in which a receipt would normally be provided in the usual course of business.

E. A record shall be kept of each loan made by the candidate to or from any person or political committee, together with the full name and address of the lender, of the recipient of the proceeds of the loan, and of any person who makes any type of security agreement binding himself or his property, directly or indirectly, for the repayment of all or any part of the loan. In addition, a record shall be kept of the repayment of each such loan and of the source of funds expended for repayment.

F. *Repealed by Acts 1993, No. 199, §2, eff. June 1, 1993.*

G. A record shall also be kept of:

- (1) Cash investments and income received therefrom.
- (2) All debts and obligations.
- (3) The amount and date of each anonymous contribution and the date each is transmitted to the state as required by this Chapter.
- (4) All other receipts, the name and address of the source, and the date and amount thereof.
- (5) All other disbursements, the name and address of the person to whom made and the date and amount thereof.

H. Expenditures made by a public relations firm, an advertising agency, or agent for a candidate, shall be considered expenditures of the candidate, and must be specifically reported as required by this Part. Each such firm, agency, or agent shall timely furnish to such candidate such information relative thereto as may be required for compliance with this Part. Failure by any such firm, agency or agent to timely furnish a candidate such information required for compliance with this Part shall be grounds for a civil action for damages.

I. A campaign treasurer shall preserve records required by this Part for two years after the final report which he is required by this Part to file for the election has been filed, including any supplemental reports required.

J. The accounts and records kept by a campaign treasurer under the provisions of this Part shall be available for inspection or use by the supervisory committee in connection with any investigation pursuant to this Chapter, or by any grand jury or court in connection with any proceeding instituted under the provisions of this Chapter; however, such accounts and records shall be kept strictly confidential by the supervisory committee and any court, except to the extent any contents thereof may become a public record in any judicial proceeding to enforce the provisions of this Chapter.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981. Acts 1988, No. 994, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1989; Acts 1993, No. 199, §2, eff. June 1, 1993.*

**§1495.4. Reports required; reporting times and periods; extension**

A. The candidate and his campaign treasurer, if any, shall be responsible for filing a report of all information required in this Section and R.S. 18:1495.5 with the supervisory committee at the times required in this Section. The candidate and his campaign treasurer, if any, shall certify, in each report, that the information contained in the report is true and correct to the best of their knowledge, information and belief, that no expenditures have been made and no contributions have been received that are not reported therein, and that no information required by this Part has been deliberately omitted.

B. A report shall be filed for a candidate for each regularly scheduled election in which the candidate participates according to the following schedule:

(1) Each candidate for major office shall file a report no later than the one hundred eightieth day prior to the primary election, which shall be complete through the one hundred ninetieth day prior to the primary election.

(2) Each candidate for major office shall file a report no later than the ninetieth day prior to the primary election, which shall be complete through the one hundredth day prior to the primary election.

(3) Each candidate shall file a report no later than the thirtieth day prior to the primary election, which shall be complete through the fortieth day prior to the primary election.

(4) Each candidate shall file a report no later than the tenth day prior to the primary election which shall be complete through the twentieth day prior to the primary election.

(5) Each candidate shall file a report no later than the tenth day prior to the general election which shall be complete through the twentieth day prior to the general election. This shall be the final report for the election for any candidate who does not participate in the general election, unless supplemental reports are required as provided in Subsection D of this Section.

(6) Each candidate shall file a report no later than the fortieth day after the general election which shall be complete through the thirtieth day after the general election. This report shall be the final report for the election for any candidate who participated in the general election, unless supplemental reports are required as provided in Subsection D of this Section.

(7) The final report of a candidate who either withdraws as a candidate or is unopposed for election to the office he seeks shall be the next report due as required in this Subsection as of the date that the candidate withdraws or ascertains that he is unopposed, unless supplemental reports are required as provided in Subsection D of this Section. The report shall contain a statement that it is the final report and the reasons therefor.

C. During the period beginning at midnight of the twentieth day prior to a primary election and extending through midnight of primary election day, and during the period beginning at midnight of the twentieth day prior to a general election and extending through midnight of general election day, each candidate shall file a report with the supervisory committee of:

(1)(a) The full name and address of each person from whom the candidate has received and accepted a contribution or loan during such period in excess of the following amounts: a candidate for any major office, one thousand dollars; a candidate for district office, five hundred dollars; a candidate for any other office, two hundred fifty dollars.

(b) Such report shall include the amount and date of each such contribution or loan reported, and a brief description and valuation of each in-kind contribution. If a loan is reported, the report shall contain the name and address of the lender, of the recipient of the proceeds of the loan, and of any person who makes any type of security agreement binding himself or his property, directly or indirectly, for the repayment of all or any part of the loan.

(2) Any expenditure in excess of two hundred dollars made to a candidate, committee, or person required to file reports by this Chapter, who makes endorsements, including the full name and address of each person to whom such expenditure is made, the amount, date, and purpose of each such expenditure, and a brief description and valuation of an in-kind expenditure.

(3) Each report required by this Subsection shall be filed within forty-eight hours after the time the contribution or loan is received or expenditure made. If such time falls other than during regular working hours, the report shall be filed as soon as possible after the opening of the office of the supervisory committee on the next working day after the time at which the report is otherwise due.

D.(1) If the final report of a candidate for an election, as required by Paragraph (5), (6), or (7) of Subsection B of this Section, shows a deficit or a surplus, the candidate and his treasurer, if any, shall file supplemental reports with the supervisory committee of all information required in R.S. 18:1495.5. Such reports shall be filed annually no later than February fifteenth and shall be complete through the preceding December thirty-first. Such a supplemental report shall be filed each year until a report has been filed which shows no deficit and until any surplus campaign funds have been disposed of in accordance with R.S. 18:1505.2(I). The report on surplus funds shall disclose the disbursement of such funds in the same manner as expenditures are reported.

(2) "Deficit", for purposes of this Subsection, means debts or obligations owed by the candidate which are required to be reported by R.S. 18:1495.5(B)(14).

(3)(a) A report need not be filed under this Subsection if the candidate is not an elected public official and shows either a deficit or a surplus of less than two thousand five hundred dollars. However, if the candidate is not an elected public official and his deficit or surplus is equal to or greater than two thousand five hundred dollars, the candidate shall file supplemental reports with the supervisory committee of all information required in R.S. 18:1495.5. Such report shall be filed annually no later than February fifteenth and shall be complete through the preceding December thirty-first. Such report shall be filed each year for five years or until a report has been filed which shows no deficit or surplus.

(b) However, if after five years a candidate with a deficit receives any contribution or if any repayment occurs on an outstanding debt or loan, such candidate shall file a supplemental report by the following February fifteenth which shall be complete through the preceding December thirty-first.

(c) Any individual who was a candidate and who is elected to or is serving in any elected public office during the reporting period for any supplemental report required by this Paragraph shall be considered to be an elected public official for the purposes of this Paragraph whether or not the office to which he is elected is the office for which his candidacy resulted in the deficit or surplus for which a report is required.

(d) If the candidate or former candidate has surplus campaign funds, a report need not be filed under this Subsection if such candidate or former candidate files an annual report in accordance with Subsection E of this Section which includes such surplus campaign funds.

E. A report shall be filed for each candidate, as defined by R.S. 18:1483(3), of all information required in R.S. 18:1495.5 no later than February fifteenth of each year which shall be complete as of the preceding December thirty-first. The annual report required by this Subsection shall not be required:

(1) If under another provision of this Section the candidate has filed another report of the information required by R.S. 18:1495.5 at any time after the preceding December tenth and prior to February fifteenth due date, or

(2) If the candidate files a supplemental report as required by R.S. 18:1495.4(D) and has not otherwise, during the reporting period, become a candidate, as defined in R.S. 18:1483(3), or

(3) If the candidate has received no contributions, made no expenditures, and received or made no loans during the reporting period for such report.

F. The reports required for any regularly scheduled election shall also be filed for any special election to the extent the dates for filing reports occur after the call for the election. The supervisory committee may promulgate rules to effect the provisions of this Subsection. Such rules may waive any report required to be filed within ten days after the call for a special election.

G. The reporting period for all reports of candidates, except the first report for any election, shall be the period from the time through which the preceding report was complete through the closing date for the particular report. The reporting period for the first report of candidate for any election shall be the period from the time when the candidate becomes a candidate through the closing date for the report. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a candidate is required to file reports in connection with a previous candidacy, the reporting period for the first report for the election shall be the period from the time through which the latest report is complete through the closing date for the particular report.

H. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section to the contrary, the supervisory committee shall grant any candidate in service in the uniformed services at the time a report is due an automatic extension of thirty days past the deadlines otherwise required by law to file such report if the candidate gives written notice of such service to the supervisory committee prior to the due date of the report. The failure of such a candidate to give such prior notice shall not impair the ability of the candidate to obtain a waiver for good cause pursuant to R.S. 42:1157.2. For purposes of this Subsection, the terms "service in the uniformed services" and "uniformed services" shall have the same meaning as provided in R.S. 29:403.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981. Amended by Acts 1982, No. 266, §1, eff. July 18, 1982; Acts 1984, No. 492, §1; Acts 1987, No. 757, §1; Acts 1988, No. 994, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1989; Acts 1990, No. 180, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1991; Acts 1999, No. 862, §1, eff. July 2, 1999; Acts 2004, No. 506, §1, eff. June 25, 2004; Acts 2006, No. 782, §1.*

#### **§1495.5. Reports; contents**

A. Unless otherwise specifically provided, each report required by this Part shall contain the following information:

- (1) The name and address of the candidate for whom the report is filed.
- (2) The name and address of the treasurer completing the report.
- (3) The office sought.

(4) If the candidate has designated any subsidiary committees, the name of all subsidiary committees for whom the candidate is reporting and the address of such committees, or if a committee has no address, the address of the committee chairman.

B. Each report required to be in conformity with this Section shall contain the following information:

- (1) The amount of cash and cash investments on hand at the end of the prior reporting period.
- (2) The total of all contributions received and accepted by the candidate during the reporting period.
- (3) Cash income from investments received during the reporting period.
- (4) Contribution(s) received during the reporting period for which the report is being completed shall be reported, and the same shall be reported irrespective of the amount thereof as follows:

(a) The full name and address of each person who has made one or more contributions to and which have been received and accepted by the candidate during the reporting period; the aggregate amount of such contributions, except in-kind contributions, from each person, and the date and amount of each such

contribution; and a brief description of each in-kind contribution from each person, the valuation thereof made by the candidate and the campaign treasurer, and the date(s) of the in-kind contribution.

(b) The aggregate amount of all contributions, other than in-kind contributions, received and accepted during the reporting period.

(c) The aggregate valuation of in-kind contributions received during the reporting period.

(5) The gross proceeds received and accepted by the candidate during the reporting period from the sale of items such as political campaign pins, buttons, badges, flags, emblems, hats, banners, literature, and similar materials. Purchases of such campaign items and materials which are made by the same person and which are of such amount as to be reportable, either singly or in the aggregate, under Paragraph (4) hereof, shall be so reported; however, single transactions to purchase such items or materials which are for not in excess of twenty-five dollars must be reported only in the report of gross proceeds and shall not be required to be reported as required in Paragraph (4).

(6) The gross proceeds received and accepted by the candidate during the reporting period from the sale of tickets to testimonials or similar fundraising events. The proceeds of any such sales shall be considered a contribution, and such contributions shall also be reported as provided in Paragraph (4).

(7) Any other cash receipts, not contributions, from any other source not included above during the reporting period, for example, refunds of overpayments and the nature, source, and an explanation thereof.

(8) Total of all receipts for the reporting period.

(9) The date and amount of each loan for campaign purposes made or received by the candidate to or from any person or political committee during the reporting period, together with the full name and address of the lender, of the recipient of the proceeds of the loan, and of any person who makes any type of security agreement binding himself or his property, directly or indirectly, for the repayment of all or any part of the loan.

(10) The total of all loans made and the total of all loans received during the reporting period.

(11) The total of all expenditures made by the candidate during the reporting period.

(12) The full name and address of each person to whom an expenditure has been made by the candidate during the reporting period. The amount, a description of the purpose as it relates to the expenditure, and the date of each expenditure shall be reported. A brief description of an in-kind expenditure shall be given, as well as the valuation made by the candidate and the campaign treasurer and the date(s) of the expenditure. When multiple expenditures have been made to the same person, during the reporting period, the aggregate amount of such expenditures, other than in-kind expenditures, and the aggregate valuation of in-kind expenditures shall be reported for each such person. The aggregate of all expenditures made during the reporting period, other than in-kind expenditures, and the aggregate valuation of all in-kind expenditures shall also be reported. The aggregate amount expended for each candidate shall also be reported.

(13) The total amount of monetary expenditures made by the candidate from his own funds during each reporting period.

(14) The amount and nature of debts and obligations owed by or to the candidate, during the reporting period, which relate to the conduct of any political campaign, including but not limited to loans required to be reported under Paragraph (9) of this Subsection.

(15) All payments made during the reporting period to repay loans, the amount, date, and source thereof.

(16) *Repealed by Acts 1993, No. 199, §2, eff. June 1, 1993.*

(17) The total amount of expenditures during the reporting period from the petty cash fund.

(18) The date and amount of each anonymous contribution received and the date each was transmitted to the state as required by R.S. 18:1505.2(B) during the reporting period and the total amount of such anonymous contributions received and transmitted during the reporting period.

(19) The amount of cash and cash investments of the candidate on hand at the end of the reporting period.

(20) All other disbursements, not expenditures, made during the reporting period, and the nature, recipient, and an explanation thereof.

(21) The total amount of expenditures during the reporting period made in relation to the publication, distribution, transportation, or transmission of statements relative to candidates or propositions which do not fully disclose the name of the individual or the name of the association, organization, committee, or corporation and the full and correct name and address of its chairman or other chief administrative officer and whether or not such individual, association, organization, committee, or corporation supports or opposes such candidate or proposition.

C. Expenditures made by a public relations firm, an advertising agency, or agent for a candidate shall be considered expenditures of the candidate and must be reported as required by this Section. Each such firm, agency, or agent which makes any expenditure for any candidate shall timely furnish to such candidate such information relative thereto as may be required for compliance with this Part.

D. The supervisory committee may require the reporting of totals of any information otherwise required to be reported, including totals of amounts reported in the current report, or in the current report and other previous reports.

E. The reports required in this Part shall be filed on forms provided by the supervisory committee as more specifically provided in R.S. 18:1511.3.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981. Acts 1988, No. 994, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1989; Acts 1990, No. 180, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 1991; Acts 1990, No. 1088, §§1 and 2, eff. Jan. 1, 1991; Acts 1992, No. 751, §1, eff. July 7, 1992; Acts 1993, No. 199, §2, eff. June 1, 1993; Acts 1995, No. 300, §1, eff. June 15, 1995; Acts 1997, No. 1420, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1998; Acts 2014, No. 838, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2015; Acts 2014, No. 857, §1.*

#### **§1495.6. Small campaigns; affidavit in lieu of reports**

Any candidate, for a major or district office required by this Chapter to file reports of information as provided in R.S. 18:1495.5, who did not receive a contribution in excess of two hundred dollars and who did not make expenditures totaling in excess of five thousand dollars in the aggregate during the aggregating period, may file an affidavit setting out such facts in lieu of each report required by R.S. 18:1495.4, but a separate affidavit shall be required in lieu of each such report.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981. Amended by Acts 1982, No. 266, §1, eff. July 18, 1982; Acts 1988, No. 994, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1989.*

#### **§1495.7. Financial disclosure statements**

A.(1) Any person who becomes a candidate for an office for which the holder of the office is required to file financial disclosure statements pursuant to R.S. 42:1124, 1124.2, or 1124.3 shall file a financial disclosure statement as required by R.S. 42:1124, 1124.2, or 1124.3 for the office for which he is a candidate. The statement required by this Section shall be filed within three business days after the close of the qualifying period during which the candidate files his notice of candidacy for the office. If the person is required by R.S. 42:1124, 1124.2, or 1124.3 to file a statement for the office for which he is a candidate, such filing shall satisfy the requirements of this Section.

(2) Any person who becomes a candidate for an office prior to April fifteenth of any calendar year shall not be required to certify on his personal financial disclosure report that he has filed his federal and state income tax returns or filed for an extension thereof for the prior year.

B. Any person who fails to file or fails to timely file the financial statement required by Subsection A of this Section, or who fails to disclose or fails to accurately disclose information required to be included in the financial statement required by Subsection A of this Section, shall be subject to penalties as provided in R.S. 42:1124.4.

*Acts 2008, 1<sup>st</sup> Ex. Sess., No. 1, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2009; Acts 2008, No. 162, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2009; Acts 2012, No. 574, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2013; Acts 2014, No. 744, §1.*

**NOTE:** *See Acts 2008, No. 162, §4 regarding applicability to R.S. 42:1124.3.*

## **PART IV. OTHER PERSONS REQUIRED TO REPORT**

### **§1501.1. Reports by persons not candidates or committees**

A.(1) Any person, other than a candidate or a political committee, who makes any expenditure or who accepts a contribution, other than to or from a candidate or to or from a political committee, shall file reports if either said expenditures or said contributions exceed five hundred dollars in the aggregate during the aggregating period as defined for committees.

(2) Each person, other than a candidate or political committee, who makes an expenditure for purposes of canvassing, irrespective of the amount expended, shall submit in writing to the candidate or political committee on whose behalf such expenditure was made the name, address and the last four digits of the social security number of each individual to whom such an expenditure was made.

B. Such reports shall be filed at the same time, shall contain the same information, and shall be certified correct in the same manner as reports required of political committees by this Chapter.

C. In addition to the reports filed in Subsection B of this Section, during the period beginning at midnight of the twentieth day prior to a primary election and extending through midnight of primary election day, and during the period beginning at midnight of the twentieth day prior to a general election and extending through midnight of general election day, any person, other than a candidate or a political committee, who makes any expenditure or who accepts a contribution, other than to or from a candidate or to or from a political committee, shall file a report with the supervisory committee of:

(1) The full name and address of each person from whom such person has received and accepted a contribution, or to whom such person has made an expenditure during such period in excess of the following amounts:

- (a) In support or opposition to a candidate for any major office, one thousand dollars.
- (b) In support or opposition to a candidate for district office, five hundred dollars.
- (c) In support or opposition to a candidate for any other office, five hundred dollars.

(2) Each report required by this Subsection shall be filed within forty-eight hours after the time the contribution is received or expenditure made. If such time falls other than during regular working hours, the report shall be filed as soon as possible after the opening of the office of the supervisory committee on the next working day after the time at which the report is otherwise due.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981; Acts 2004, No. 862, §1, eff. July 12, 2004; Acts 2008, 1<sup>st</sup> Ex. Sess., No. 27, §1, eff. March 20, 2008.*

**§1501.2.** *Repealed by Acts 2008, No. 821, §2, eff. July 8, 2008.*

## **PART V. PROHIBITED PRACTICES AND LIMITATIONS; PENALTIES**

### **§1505.1. Failure to submit report; failure to file report timely or properly**

A. Failure to submit the reports required by this Chapter shall constitute a violation of this Chapter. Failure to submit any such report within three days after the final date for filing shall be presumptive evidence of intent not to file the report.

B. Failure to submit the reports required by this Chapter at the time required shall constitute a violation of this Chapter.

C. Failure to disclose or failure to disclose accurately any information required to be reported by this Chapter shall constitute a violation of this Chapter.

D. Failure to properly submit statements in accordance with R.S. 18:1491.1(E) shall constitute a violation of this Chapter.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981; Acts 1988, No. 994, §2, eff. July 27, 1988.*

### **§1505.2. Contributions; expenditures; certain prohibitions and limitations**

A.(1) No person shall give, furnish, or contribute monies, materials, supplies, or make loans to or in support of a candidate or to any political committee, through or in the name of another, directly or indirectly. This prohibition shall not apply to dues or membership fees of any membership organization or corporation made by its members or stockholders, if such membership organization or corporation is not organized primarily for the purpose of supporting, opposing, or otherwise influencing the nomination for election, or election of any person to public office.

(2)(a) Any person who violates the provisions of this Subsection unknowingly shall be assessed a penalty equal to the amount of the contribution plus ten percent.

(b)(i) Any person who violates the provisions of this Subsection knowingly and willfully shall be assessed a penalty equal to twice the amount of the contribution.

(ii) "Knowing and willful" for the purposes of this Subsection means conduct which could have been avoided through the exercise of due diligence.

B.(1) No candidate, political committee, or other person required to file reports under this Chapter shall make any expenditure from funds the source of which is anonymous, and any contribution received by a candidate, political committee, or other person required to file reports under this Chapter from an anonymous source and deposited shall be reported as provided in R.S. 18:1491.7(B)(19) and R.S. 18:1495.5(B)(18) and shall escheat to the state and shall be paid over to the state by such candidate, political committee, or other such person.

(2) Any single transaction involving the sale of items such as political campaign pins, buttons, badges, flags, emblems, hats, banners, literature, and similar materials, which transaction is for not in excess of twenty-five dollars and in which transaction the purchaser is not known, shall not be deemed to constitute an anonymous contribution under the provisions of this Subsection.

C.(1) No person shall make a cash contribution to a candidate or a committee and no candidate or committee shall receive cash contributions in excess of one hundred dollars during any calendar year. Any



contribution in excess of such one hundred dollar aggregate amount, other than an in-kind contribution, shall be made by an instrument containing the name of the donor and the name of the payee.

(2) Upon receipt of a cash contribution of one hundred dollars or less, the candidate or committee receiving the contribution shall provide to the contributor a receipt for the exact amount of the contribution; such receipt shall contain the name, address, and social security number of the contributor, shall be signed by the contributor, and the candidate or committee receiving the contribution shall retain a copy of the receipt. If the contributor refuses to furnish his name, address, or social security number or refuses to sign the receipt, the contribution shall be immediately returned to said contributor. If the contributor is unable to write, he shall affix his mark to the receipt, and the person receiving the contribution shall affix the name of the incapacitated person to the receipt, provided he does so in the presence of a witness who shall also sign his name as witness to the mark. The copy of the receipt retained by the candidate or committee provided for in this Subsection shall be available to the supervisory committee for inspection. The supervisory committee shall promulgate rules and regulations relative to the receipt required by this Subsection.

D.(1) No person shall knowingly coerce or attempt to coerce another person to give or withhold a contribution.

(2) No person based on an individual's contribution, promise to make a contribution, or failure to make a contribution shall directly or indirectly affect an individual's employment by means of:

(a) Denial or deprivation or the threat of the denial or deprivation of any employment or position.

(b) Denial or deprivation or the threat of the denial or deprivation of the loss of any compensation, payment, benefit, or other emolument derived from or related to such employment or position.

(c) Discharge, promotion, degradation, or change in any manner in rank or classification, or the threat or promise to do so.

(3)(a) No person based on an individual's contribution, promise to make a contribution, or failure to make any contribution shall directly or indirectly affect an individual by means of:

(i) Denial or deprivation or the threat of the denial or deprivation of membership or participation in any organization.

(ii) Denial or deprivation or the threat of the denial or deprivation of the loss of any compensation, payment, benefit, or other emolument derived from or related to such membership or participation in any organization.

(iii) Discharge, promotion, degradation, or change in any manner in rank, status, or classification in any organization, or the threat or promise to do so.

(b)(i) No organization shall directly or indirectly have as a condition of membership or participation the requirement that a person make a contribution to such organization which will be used by such organization for the purpose of supporting, opposing, or otherwise influencing the nomination or election of any person to public office, for the purpose of supporting or opposing a proposition or question submitted to the voters, or for the purpose of supporting or opposing the recall of a public officer.

(ii) For the purposes of this Subparagraph, "contribution" shall have the same meaning as provided for in R.S. 18:1483(6) and shall also include any dues or membership fees of any organization.

(c) For the purposes of this Paragraph, "organization" shall mean a partnership, association, labor union, political committee, corporation, or other legal entity, including its subsidiaries.

(4) No political committee, candidate, or other person shall knowingly and willfully make a contribution or expenditure using funds which were obtained through practices prohibited in this Subsection.

(5) Any contribution received by a candidate, political committee, or other person required to file reports under this Chapter which was obtained through practices prohibited in this Subsection shall be reported as

provided in R.S. 18:1491.7(B)(21) and 1495.5(B)(20) and shall escheat to the state and shall be paid over to the state by such candidate, political committee, or other such person.

E. No expenditure in excess of one hundred dollars shall be made from a petty cash fund and no expenditure shall be made from a petty cash fund for any personal services, except for gratuities paid for the serving of food or drink. No expenditure shall be made from the petty cash fund in violation of R.S. 18:1531.

F. No profit or nonprofit corporation, labor organization, or trade, business, or professional association shall make any campaign contribution or expenditure unless specifically authorized to do so whether: by the vote of the board of directors of the corporation, of the executive board of the labor organization or of the trade, business, or professional association at a regular or special meeting thereof; by the president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer of a corporation or labor organization whom the board has specifically empowered to authorize such contributions or expenditures, or, for a corporation, by any other person designated by resolution of the board of directors of a corporation to authorize contributions or expenditures; or by a vote of the membership of the labor organization. No profit or nonprofit corporation, labor organization or trade, business, or professional association shall make any contribution or expenditure, other than an in-kind contribution or expenditure, except by check.

G. No committee shall receive contributions or loans or make expenditures or loans, or make or receive a transfer of funds to or from another committee in the aggregate in excess of five hundred dollars during a calendar year until it has filed the annual statement of organization required by R.S. 18:1491.1. The chairman and the treasurer of any committee which violates the provisions of this Subsection shall be subject to the penalties provided in this Part. No candidate shall make a contribution to any committee required to file an annual statement of organization by the provisions of R.S. 18:1491.1 which has not filed such a statement.

H.(1)(a) The following contribution limits are established for contributions made to candidates or the principal campaign committee and any subsidiary committee of a candidate for the following offices:

- (i) Major office - five thousand dollars.
- (ii) District office - two thousand five hundred dollars.
- (iii) Other office - one thousand dollars.

(b) The provisions of this Paragraph shall not apply to contributions made to a candidate or the principal or any subsidiary committee of a candidate by a recognized political party or any committee thereof.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraph (a), the contribution limit for contributions made to an unsuccessful major office candidate, or the principal campaign committee and any subsidiary committee of such unsuccessful candidate, who does not participate in the general election and for the time period for which such candidate has a deficit for expenditures made through the day of the primary election, shall be ten thousand dollars.

(2)(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (1), the following contribution limits are established for contributions by political committees supporting or opposing a candidate for the following offices:

- (i) Major office - five thousand dollars.
- (ii) District office - two thousand five hundred dollars.
- (iii) Other office - one thousand dollars.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (1) and Subparagraph (2)(a) of this Subsection, the following campaign contribution limits are established for contributions by political committees supporting or opposing a candidate for the following offices, the membership of which political committee exceeds two hundred and fifty members as of the December thirty-first of the preceding calendar year, and additionally

provided that at least two hundred and fifty of the members have each contributed at least fifty dollars to the political committee during the preceding one-year period:

- (i) Major office - ten thousand dollars.
- (ii) District office - five thousand dollars.
- (iii) Other office - two thousand dollars.

No contribution in excess of the limits contained in Subparagraph (2)(a) of this Subsection shall be made by any political committee until such membership certification is made on the statement of organization form required by this Chapter and timely submitted to the supervisory committee by the applicable due date. Any political committee certified under this Paragraph shall notify the supported candidate in writing at the time any contribution is made under this Paragraph.

(c) If the contribution is made to a committee which is supporting or opposing candidates for different offices, the highest applicable limit shall apply.

(d) The provisions of this Paragraph shall not apply to recognized political parties and their committees.

(e) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (1) and Subparagraph (2)(a) of this Subsection, the contributions limit for contributions by political committees to an unsuccessful major office candidate, or the principal campaign committee and subsidiary committee of such unsuccessful candidate, who does not participate in the general election and for the time period for which such candidate has a deficit for expenditures made through the day of the primary election, shall be ten thousand dollars.

(f) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (1) and Subparagraphs (2)(a) and (b) of this Subsection, the contributions limit for contributions by political committees certified according to the provisions of Subparagraph (2)(b) to an unsuccessful major office candidate, or the principal campaign committee and subsidiary committee of such unsuccessful candidate, who does not participate in the general election and for the time period for which such candidate has a deficit for expenditures made through the day of the primary election, shall be twenty thousand dollars.

(g) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraphs (a) and (b) of this Paragraph, the contribution limit for contributions by a political committee to a recognized political party or any committee thereof shall be as provided in Subsection K of this Section.

(3)(a) For purposes of this Subsection, a primary election and a general election shall constitute two separate elections. For purposes of this Subsection, for candidates and committees that participate in a general election, the reporting period for the general election shall be deemed to begin the day following the primary election.

(b) No person shall make a loan, transfer of funds, or contribution, including but not limited to funds for any purchase of campaign materials for more than twenty-five dollars, funds for the purchase of testimonial tickets, and any in-kind contribution, in the aggregate for all reporting periods for an election, as defined in this Paragraph, including reporting periods for any supplemental reports required, in excess of the contribution limits established in Paragraphs (1) and (2) of this Subsection, except as otherwise specifically provided in this Subsection.

(c) No candidate including his principal campaign committee and any subsidiary committee thereof, shall accept from the same contributor a loan, transfer of funds, or contribution, including but not limited to funds for any purchase of campaign materials for more than twenty-five dollars, funds for the purchase of testimonial tickets, and any in-kind contribution, in the aggregate for all reporting periods of an election, as defined in this Paragraph, including reporting periods for any supplemental reports, in excess of the contribution limits established in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, except as otherwise specifically provided in this Subsection, and except that the provisions of Paragraph (2) shall apply for contributions accepted from

a political committee. The provisions of this Subparagraph shall not apply to recognized political parties and their committees.

(d) After January 1, 1989, no person shall make a loan, transfer of funds, or contribution to a candidate including his principal campaign committee with funds loaned to him without disclosing to the candidate or his committee the source of the funds. A candidate or his committee receiving such a loan, transfer of funds, or contribution shall not only report the name of the contributor, but also the source of the funds contributed.

(4) The provisions of this Subsection shall not prohibit a transfer of funds between a candidate or his principal campaign committee and any subsidiary committee thereof, provided that all parties shall comply with applicable reporting requirements.

(5) The provisions of this Subsection shall not apply to any contributions or loans a candidate makes to his own campaign.

(6)(a) For purposes of this Subsection, "loan" shall not include any loan of money by a state bank, a federally chartered depository institution, or a depository institution the deposits or accounts of which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, or the National Credit Union Administration, any licensed lender under the Louisiana Consumer Credit Law, or an insurance company, other than any overdraft made with respect to a checking or savings account, made in accordance with applicable law and in the ordinary course of business, but such loan:

(i) Shall be considered a loan by each endorser or guarantor, in that proportion of the unpaid balance that each endorser or guarantor bears to the total number of endorsers or guarantors, and such loan by each endorser and guarantor shall be subject to the contribution limits provided in this Subsection;

(ii) Shall be made on a basis which assures repayment, evidenced by a written instrument, and subject to a due date or amortization schedule; and

(iii) Shall bear the usual and customary interest rate of the lending institution.

(7)(a) The total amount of combined contributions for both the primary and general elections, from political committees, which may be accepted by a candidate and his principal and subsidiary campaign committees, shall not exceed the following aggregate amounts:

(i) Major office candidates - eighty thousand dollars.

(ii) District office candidates - sixty thousand dollars.

(iii) Other office candidates - twenty thousand dollars.

(b) The provisions of this Paragraph shall not apply to contributions made by a recognized political party or any committee thereof.

I.(1) On and after January 1, 1991, contributions received by a candidate or a political committee may be expended for any lawful purpose, but such funds shall not be used, loaned, or pledged by any person for any personal use unrelated to a political campaign, the holding of a public office or party position, or, in the case of a political committee, other than a candidate's principal campaign committee or subsidiary committee, the administrative costs or operating expenses of the political committee; except that excess campaign funds may be returned to contributors on a pro rata basis, given as a charitable contribution as provided in 26 USC 170(c), given to a charitable organization as defined in 26 USC 501(c)(3), expended in support of or in opposition to a proposition, political party, or candidacy of any person, or maintained in a segregated fund for use in future political campaigns or activity related to preparing for future candidacy to elective office. However, the use of campaign funds of a candidate or his principal or subsidiary committees to reimburse a candidate for expenses related to his political campaign or his holding of a public office or party position shall not be considered personal use by the candidate. If a candidate is required by state or federal law to pay taxes on the interest earned by campaign funds of the candidate or any political committee of the

candidate, the candidate may use the interest on which such tax is paid for such purpose. A payment from campaign funds shall not be considered as having been spent for personal use when the funds are used to replace articles lost, stolen, or damaged in connection with the campaign.

(2) The provisions of this Subsection shall not apply to campaign funds received prior to July 15, 1988.

(3)(a) A candidate or his principal or subsidiary campaign committee shall not make an expenditure of funds derived from contributions for any purpose so long as the candidate owes a fine, fee, or penalty imposed by a final order of a court or the supervisory committee pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter and against which all appeal delays have lapsed. This Paragraph shall apply to all contributions regardless of the date received by the candidate or committee.

(b) Any person who makes an expenditure in violation of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph may be assessed a civil penalty not to exceed two hundred percent of the expenditure or one thousand dollars, whichever is greater.

(4) No candidate, political committee, person required to file reports under this Chapter, nor any other person shall use a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds to pay a fine, fee, or penalty imposed pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 15 of Title 42 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

(5)(a) No candidate nor the principal or any subsidiary political committee of a candidate shall use a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds received by such candidate or committee to make any payment or expenditure to any immediate family member of the candidate.

(b) This Paragraph shall not prohibit a payment or expenditure to a business in which an immediate family member has any ownership interest, provided that all of the following apply:

(i) The business is a bona fide business that is doing business and has been doing business regularly in the state for at least twelve months at the time of the payment or expenditure and the business either:

(aa) Has been registered and in good standing with the secretary of state for at least twelve months at that time and provides goods or services related to the payment or expenditure.

(bb) Holds and has held an occupational license for at least twelve months at that time for a business which provides goods or services related to the payment or expenditure and which license was duly issued by the appropriate local governmental subdivision.

(ii) The payment or expenditure is made solely for campaign purposes.

(iii) The payment or expenditure is made through an arm's length transaction in which the value of the goods or services furnished is commensurate with the consideration provided.

(c) This Paragraph shall not prohibit a candidate nor the principal or any subsidiary political committee of a candidate from using a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds received by such candidate or committee to make a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds to any immediate family member who is a candidate or to any principal or subsidiary political committee of such family member who is a candidate.

(d) For purposes of this Paragraph, "immediate family member" shall mean the candidate's children, the spouses of his children, his brothers and their spouses, his sisters and their spouses, his parents, his spouse, and the parents of his spouse.

(e) Any candidate who violates the provisions of this Paragraph or whose principal campaign committee or subsidiary committee violates the provisions of this Paragraph shall be subject to the penalties provided in Subsection J of this Section, and the supervisory committee shall enforce the provisions of this Paragraph as provided in Subsection J of this Section and as otherwise provided in this Chapter.

(6) No candidate, political committee, or other person required to file reports pursuant to this Chapter, shall use a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds received by such candidate, committee, or person to purchase immovable property or a motor vehicle. For purposes of this Paragraph, "motor vehicle" shall have

the same meaning as provided in R.S. 32:781, except that "motor vehicle" shall not include a "trailer" as that term is defined in R.S. 32:1252.

J.(1) Any candidate, treasurer, or chairman of a political committee who violates any provision of Subsection H or I of this Section shall be assessed a penalty of not more than five thousand dollars or the amount of the violation, whichever is greater, except that the penalty for a knowing and willful violation shall not be more than ten thousand dollars or two hundred percent of the violation, whichever is greater. "Knowing and willful", for purposes of this Subsection, means conduct which could have been avoided through the exercise of due diligence. The civil penalties provided for in R.S. 18:1505.5 shall be inapplicable to violations of Subsection H or I. Enforcement of Subsections H and I shall be in the same manner provided for in Part VI of this Chapter.

(2) The supervisory committee shall institute civil proceedings to collect the civil penalties provided for in this Subsection as soon as the committee determines, as a result of its review and investigation of any sworn complaint or other document or information received by the supervisory committee, that a violation of Subsection H or I of this Section has occurred. If the supervisory committee makes a determination of such violation at least ten days prior to the election in which the candidate, treasurer, or chairman of a political committee in apparent violation is participating, the supervisory committee shall institute such civil proceedings at least by the fourth calendar day prior to the election.

K.(1) During any four year calendar period commencing January 1, 1991 and every fourth year thereafter, no person shall contribute more than one hundred thousand dollars to any political committee or any subsidiary committee of such political committee, other than the principal or any subsidiary committee of a candidate. Such limitation on a contribution shall not apply to any contribution from a national political committee to an affiliated regional or state political committee.

(2) During the time period provided for in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, no political committee or subsidiary of such political committee, other than the principal or any subsidiary committee of a candidate, shall accept more than one hundred thousand dollars from any person.

(3) The provisions of this Subsection shall not apply to contributions made by a recognized political party or any committee thereof.

L.(1) The legislature recognizes that it is essential to the operation of effective democratic government in this state that citizens have confidence in the electoral process and that elections be conducted so as to prevent influence and the appearance of influence of candidates for public office and of the election process by special interests, particularly by persons substantially interested in the gaming industry in this state.

(2) No person to whom this Subsection is applicable as provided in Paragraph (3) of this Subsection shall make a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds, including but not limited to any in-kind contribution, as defined in this Chapter, to any candidate, any political committee of any such candidate, or to any other political committee which supports or opposes any candidate. This Section shall not prohibit contributions made to any account of a political committee affiliated with a recognized political party organized under the laws of another jurisdiction, where the account is segregated and no funds from such segregated account are used to support or oppose any candidate in this state or any political committee of any candidate in this state, provided that any person to whom this Section applies shall expressly request, prior to making a contribution, that such political committee shall not use such funds to support or oppose any candidate or any political committee of any candidate in Louisiana.

(3) This Subsection shall be applicable to all of the following:

(a)(i) Any person who holds a license or permit as a distributor of gaming devices, who holds a license or permit as a manufacturer of gaming devices, who holds a license or permit as a device service entity, and any person who owns a truck stop or a licensed pari-mutuel or off-track wagering facility which is a licensed device establishment, all pursuant to the Video Draw Poker Devices Control Law.<sup>1</sup>

(ii) Any person who holds a license to conduct gaming activities on a riverboat, who holds a license or permit as a distributor or supplier of gaming devices or gaming equipment including slot machines, or who holds a license or permit as a manufacturer of gaming devices or gaming equipment including slot machines issued pursuant to the Louisiana Riverboat Economic Development and Gaming Control Act,<sup>2</sup> and any person who owns a riverboat upon which gaming activities are licensed to be conducted.

(iii) Any person who holds a license or entered into a contract for the conduct of casino gaming operations, who holds a license or permit as a distributor of gaming devices or gaming equipment including slot machines, or who holds a license or permit as a manufacturer of gaming devices or gaming equipment including slot machines issued pursuant to the Louisiana Economic Development and Gaming Corporation Act,<sup>3</sup> and any person who owns a casino where such gaming operations are licensed.

(b)(i) Any person who has an interest, directly or indirectly, in any legal entity included in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph. "Interest", as used in this Subparagraph, means ownership by an individual or his spouse, either individually or collectively, of an interest which exceeds ten percent of any legal entity. An indirect interest is ownership through any number of layers of legal entities when twenty-five percent or more of each legal entity is owned by the legal entity ownership beneath it.

(ii) Any holding, intermediary, or subsidiary company of any person included in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph and any officer, director, trustee, or partner thereof.

(c) Any officer, director, trustee, partner, or senior management level employee or key employee as defined in R.S. 27:205(19) of any person included in Subparagraph (a) or (b) of this Paragraph.

(d) Any person subject to the provisions of R.S. 27:63(C)(4), 226(C)(4), or 261(D).

(e) The spouse of any person to whom this Subsection is made applicable by this Paragraph.

(4) This Subsection shall not prohibit an expenditure by a candidate for his own campaign or a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds by a candidate to his own political committee.

(5)(a)(i) Any person who makes a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds in violation of this Subsection shall be assessed a civil penalty in the same amounts as provided in Paragraph (J)(1) of this Section. The penalties provided in R.S. 18:1505.5 shall not be applicable to any violation of this Subsection.

(ii) If a candidate, committee, or person required to file reports is notified by the supervisory committee that a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds to such candidate, committee, or person was made in violation of this Subsection, such contribution, loan, or transfer of funds shall escheat to the state. Any such contribution, loan, or transfer of funds, or an amount equal thereto, shall be paid over to the state by the recipient candidate, committee, or other person required to file reports within ten business days after the recipient candidate, committee, or person required to file reports is notified by the supervisory committee that the contribution, loan, or transfer of funds was made by a person prohibited by this Subsection from making such contribution, loan, or transfer of funds.

(b) The supervisory committee shall institute civil proceedings to collect the civil penalties provided for in this Subsection as provided in Paragraph (J)(2) of this Section.

(c) The criminal penalties provided in R.S. 18:1505.6(C) shall be applicable to any violation of this Subsection.

(d)(i) In addition to all other applicable penalties, the violation of this Subsection by any person to whom the Subsection is applicable pursuant to Paragraph (3) of this Subsection shall be reported by the supervisory committee to the gaming division of the office of state police, the Riverboat Gaming Commission<sup>4</sup> and the board of directors of the Louisiana Economic Development and Gaming Corporation.

(ii) Such a violation of this Subsection shall be prohibited conduct under the Louisiana Riverboat Economic Development and Gaming Control Act, the Louisiana Economic Development and Gaming

Corporation Act, and the Video Draw Poker Devices Control Law that renders the violator unsuitable to hold the license which made him subject to the provisions of this Subsection.

(6)(a) The gaming enforcement section of the office of state police of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, with the technical assistance of the supervisory committee, shall provide written notification of the provisions of this Subsection to each person issued or granted a permit, license, or contract as provided in Paragraph (3)(a)(i) and (ii) of this Subsection.

(b) The Louisiana Economic Development and Gaming Corporation, with the technical assistance of the supervisory committee, shall provide written notification of the provisions of this Subsection to each person issued or granted a permit, license, or contract as provided in Paragraph (3)(a)(iii) of this Subsection.

M.(1) No foreign national shall, directly or through any other person, make any contribution of money or other thing of value, or promise expressly or impliedly, any such contribution, in connection with an election to any political office or in connection with any primary election, convention, or caucus held to select candidates for any political office; nor shall any person solicit, accept, or receive any such contribution from such foreign national.

(2) As used in this Subsection, "foreign national" means:

(a) A foreign principal such as a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party, except that "foreign national" shall not mean any individual.

(b) A partnership, association, corporation, organization, or other combination of persons organized under the laws of or having its principal place of business in a foreign country, unless authorized and qualified to do business in Louisiana.

(c) An individual who is not a citizen of the United States and who is not lawfully admitted for permanent residence and accorded the privilege of residing permanently in the United States as an immigrant.

(3)(a) Any person who makes a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds in violation of this Subsection shall be subject to the penalties provided in R.S. 18:1505.5 and R.S. 18:1505.6.

(b) If a candidate, committee, or person required to file reports is notified by the supervisory committee that a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds to such candidate, committee, or person was made in violation of this Subsection, such contribution, loan, or transfer of funds shall escheat to the state. Any such contribution, loan, or transfer of funds, or an amount equal thereto, shall be paid over to the state by the recipient candidate, committee, or other person required to file reports within ten business days after the recipient candidate, committee, or person required to file reports is notified by the supervisory committee that the contribution, loan, or transfer of funds was made by a person prohibited by this Subsection from making such contribution, loan, or transfer of funds.

N. Any interest payments made to a candidate from campaign funds of such candidate or any political committee of such candidate on loans made by the candidate to his campaign or to his political committee shall not be considered as having been spent for personal use to the extent that the interest charged on such loans does not exceed the judicial interest rate at the time the loan was made.

O.(1) A fine, fee, or penalty assessed for a violation of this Chapter shall be paid only by the person against whom the fine, fee, or penalty was assessed. All such fines, fees, or penalties may be paid only with the personal funds of such person or with contributions in accordance with Subsection I of this Section; however, the supervisory committee may prohibit a candidate or elected official from using contributions received by, or other campaign funds of, such candidate or elected official or the principal or a subsidiary campaign committee of such candidate or elected official to pay a fine, fee, or penalty, assessed for a violation of this Chapter upon a finding that the violation was intentional or egregious.

(2) "Intentional" for the purposes of this Subsection shall mean actions which, in the considered opinion of the supervisory committee, were designed to avoid full and accurate compliance with the provisions of



this Chapter. "Egregious" for the purposes of this Subsection shall mean actions which, in the considered opinion of the supervisory committee, significantly injured the public's right to full and accurate disclosure of the financing of election campaigns.

P. No funds contributed which are subject to the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, to or for a person who seeks election to an office subject to the provisions of said Act shall be transferred, loaned, or contributed by a candidate, his agent, or his federal campaign committee to the candidate, any political committee of such candidate, or to any other political committee which supports the candidate; nor shall the candidate, his federal campaign committee, or his agent use such funds to otherwise support his candidacy.

Q.(1) No legislator or any principal or subsidiary committee of a legislator shall accept or deposit a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds or accept and use any in-kind contribution, as defined in this Chapter, for his own campaign during a regular legislative session.

(2) If a legislator or any principal or subsidiary committee of a legislator receives a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds during a regular legislative session in violation of this Subsection, the legislator shall return such contribution, loan, or transfer of funds to the contributor within ten days after the receipt of such contribution, loan, or transfer of funds. Any contribution, loan, or transfer of funds so returned shall not be deemed to be accepted.

(3)(a)(i) The provisions of this Subsection shall not prohibit an expenditure by a legislator for his own campaign or a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds by a legislator to his own political committee.

(ii) The provisions of this Subsection shall not prohibit a legislator from obtaining a loan for his own campaign from a state bank, a federally chartered depository institution, or a depository institution the deposits or accounts of which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, or the National Credit Union Administration, any licensed lender under the Louisiana Consumer Credit Law, or an insurance company, made in accordance with applicable law and in the ordinary course of business, provided that the legislator is the sole endorser or guarantor of the loan and that the loan is made on a basis which assures repayment evidenced by a written instrument, is subject to a due date or amortization schedule, and bears the usual and customary interest rate of the lending institution.

(b) The provisions of Paragraphs (Q)(1) and (2) of this Subsection shall not apply to any legislator who is a candidate for the office of United States senator; the office of United States representative; an office which is to be filled by an election which occurs during the regular legislative session during which the contribution, loan, or transfer of funds or in-kind contribution is accepted or within sixty days after such regular legislative session adjourns; or an office other than that of a member of the state legislature. However, if a legislator accepts a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds or in-kind contribution during a regular legislative session for a state or local office to which the prohibition in this Subsection does not apply and the legislator chooses not to seek said office or fails to qualify for said office, such legislator shall return, in the manner prescribed by the supervisory committee, each such contribution, loan, transfer of funds, or in-kind contribution which remains unexpended or unencumbered for expenses directly related to the campaign for said office.

R.(1) Neither the governor nor any principal or subsidiary committee of the governor shall accept or deposit a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds or accept and use any in-kind contribution, as defined in this Chapter, for his own campaign during a regular legislative session or within thirty days after such regular legislative session adjourns.

(2) If the governor or any principal or subsidiary committee of the governor receives a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds in violation of this Subsection, the governor shall return such contribution, loan, or transfer of funds to the contributor within ten days after the receipt of such contribution, loan, or transfer of funds. Any contribution, loan, or transfer of funds so returned shall not be deemed to be accepted.

(3)(a)(i) The provisions of this Subsection shall not prohibit an expenditure by the governor for his own campaign or a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds by the governor to his own political committee.

(ii) The provisions of this Subsection shall not prohibit the governor from obtaining a loan for his own campaign from a state bank, a federally chartered depository institution, or a depository institution the deposits or accounts of which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation, or the National Credit Union Administration, any licensed lender under the Louisiana Consumer Credit Law, or an insurance company, made in accordance with applicable law and in the ordinary course of business, provided that the governor is the sole endorser or guarantor of the loan and that the loan is made on a basis which assures repayment evidenced by a written instrument, is subject to a due date or amortization schedule, and bears the usual and customary interest rate of the lending institution.

(b) The provisions of Paragraphs (R)(1) and (2) of this Subsection shall not apply if the governor is a candidate for the office of United States senator; the office of United States representative; an office which is to be filled by an election which occurs during the regular legislative session during which the contribution, loan, or transfer of funds or in-kind contribution is accepted or within sixty days after such regular legislative session adjourns; or an office other than that of governor. However, if the governor accepts a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds or in-kind contribution during a regular legislative session or within thirty days after such a regular legislative session adjourns for a state or local office to which the prohibition in this Subsection does not apply and the governor chooses not to seek said office or fails to qualify for said office, the governor shall return, in the manner prescribed by the supervisory committee, each such contribution, loan, transfer of funds, or in-kind contribution which remains unexpended or unencumbered for expenses directly related to such campaign for said office.

S.(1) No candidate for the office of the commissioner of insurance shall accept any campaign contribution, loan, or transfer of funds or accept and use any in-kind contribution for his or her campaign from any service provider who has contracted with the Louisiana Citizens Property Insurance Corporation and which service provider subcontracts with insurance adjusters to adjust claims for the Louisiana Citizens Property Insurance Corporation.

(2) Any contribution, loan, transfer of funds, or any in-kind contribution prohibited under Paragraph (1) of this Subsection made on or after January 1, 2006, shall be returned or refunded to the contributor by the candidate.

(3) As used in this Subsection, the term "service provider" shall include any of the following entities:

(a) An individual.

(b) A person, whether or not incorporated.

(c) A partnership, including the individual partners or members of the partnership.

(d) A corporation, including its individual officers and members of the board of directors.

(e) A limited liability company, or any of its owners, members, or officers.

(f) Any other legal entity which contracts or subcontracts to provide services beneficial to the Louisiana Citizens Property Insurance Corporation.

T. *Repealed by Acts 2013, No. 220, §29, eff. June 11, 2013.*

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981. Amended by Acts 1982, No. 266, §1, eff. July 18, 1982; Acts 1988, No. 994, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1989; Acts 1989, No. 179, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1990; Acts 1990, No. 180, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1991; Acts 1990, No. 997, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1991; Acts 1992, No. 949, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1993; Acts 1993, No. 199, §§1 and 2, eff. June 1, 1993; Acts 1996, 1st Ex. Sess., No. 67, §1, eff. July 1, 1996; Acts 1997, No. 542, §1; Acts 1997, No. 1164, §1; Acts 1997, No. 1420, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1998; Acts 1999, No. 62, §1; Acts 1999, No. 830, §1, eff. July 2, 1999; Acts 1999, No. 958, §1; Acts 2001, No. 294, §1; Acts 2001, No. 340, §1, eff. June 8, 2001; Acts 2001, No. 800, §1; Acts 2001, No. 1208, §1; Acts 2002, 1st Ex. Sess., No. 126, §1, eff. April 23, 2002; Acts 2003, No. 935, §1, eff. July 1, 2003; Acts 2004, No. 115, §1, eff. June 2, 2004; Acts 2004, No. 760, §1, eff. July 6, 2004; Acts 2004, No. 783, §1; Acts 2006, No. 128, §1, eff. June 2, 2006; Acts 2006, No. 849, §1, eff. July 10, 2006; Acts 2008, 1<sup>st</sup> Ex. Sess., No. 26, §1, eff. April 26, 2008; Acts 2008, 1<sup>st</sup> Ex. Sess., No. 27, §1, eff. March 30, 2008; Acts 2008, No. 821, §1, eff. July 8, 2008; Acts 2009, No. 369, §1; Acts 2010, No. 848, §1, eff. June 30, 2010; Acts 2013, No. 220, §29, eff. June 11, 2013; Acts 2014, No. 613, §1; Acts 2016, No. 450, §1.*

<sup>1</sup>R.S. 27:401 *et seq.*

<sup>2</sup>R.S. 27:41 *et seq.*

<sup>3</sup>R.S. 27:201 *et seq.*

<sup>4</sup>*Abolished May 1, 1996. See R.S. 27:31(A)(2).*

**NOTE:** *R.S. 18:1505.2(L) - The U.S. Supreme Court refused to review the LA Supreme Court decision in Penn v. Foster, 99-2337 La. 10/29/99, 751 So.2d 823 which held that the prohibitions of R.S. 18:1505.2(L) as applied to those persons set forth in R.S. 18:1505.2(L)(3)(a)(i) (certain licensees under the Video Draw Poker Devices Control Law) are unconstitutional. On June 21, 2002, the La. Supreme Court, in the matter of Casino Association of Louisiana, Inc, et al. v. State of Louisiana, 820 So.2d 494, upheld the constitutionality of the prohibitions of R.S. 18:1505.2(L) as applied to certain licensees under the Louisiana Riverboat Economic Development and Gaming Control Act and the La. Economic Development and Gaming Corporation Act.*

### **§1505.3. Subterfuge to avoid compliance with Chapter**

A. As more specifically provided in R.S. 18:1491.3(D), no committee shall nominally support an additional candidate or candidates for the purpose of avoiding designation as a subsidiary committee and the requirements of this Chapter. The committee chairman of any committee which violates the provisions of said Subsection D shall be subject to the penalties provided in R.S. 18:1505.4, R.S. 18:1505.5, and R.S. 18:1505.6.

B. As more specifically provided in R.S. 18:1491.2(B) no political committee shall dissolve and reorganize under a modified name, charter, or organizational structure as a subterfuge to avoid the reporting and other requirements of this Chapter. The chairman of any committee(s) which violates the provisions of said Subsection B shall be subject to the penalties provided in R.S. 18:1505.4, R.S. 18:1505.5, and R.S. 18:1505.6.

C. As more specifically provided in R.S. 18:1491.5(B)(2)(b) and R.S. 18:1495.3(B)(2)(b), no person shall sell or buy campaign paraphernalia in successive single transactions for amounts below those for which specific records are required as a subterfuge to avoid the requirements of this Chapter. Any person who violates the provisions of said Paragraphs shall be subject to the penalties provided in R.S. 18:1505.4, R.S. 18:1505.5, and R.S. 18:1505.6.

D.(1)(a) No public relations firm, advertising agency, media buyer, or other person who purchases media advertising time or space shall accept payment for placing any advertisement which purports to be paid for

by a particular candidate or political committee from any source other than such candidate or political committee.

(b) Any person who violates the provisions of this Paragraph shall be assessed a penalty by the supervisory committee of not more than five thousand dollars or the amount of the payment, whichever is greater.

(2)(a)(i) No person shall pay for an advertisement which purports to be paid for by a particular candidate or political committee without the consent of such candidate or political committee.

(ii) Any person who violates the provisions of this Subparagraph shall be assessed a penalty by the supervisory committee of not more than five thousand dollars or the amount of the payment, whichever is greater.

(b) If a publisher or broadcaster of an advertisement which purports to be paid for by a particular candidate or political committee accepts payment for such an advertisement from any source other than such candidate or political committee, the publisher or broadcaster shall require, prior to publishing or broadcasting the advertisement, that the person making the payment provide a written statement containing the following:

(i) The full name and address of the individual or name of the organization, committee, or corporation, and the full name and address of its chairman or other chief administrative officer who is the source of the funds used to pay for the advertisement, and

(ii) A statement that the advertisement is being run with the knowledge and consent of the candidate or political committee which the advertisement purports has paid for the advertisement.

(c) A completed form meeting the standards required by the rules promulgated by the Federal Communications Commission with regard to sponsorship identification of political advertisements shall be sufficient to meet the requirements of Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph.

(d) The publisher or broadcaster shall maintain the statement as a public record at its official business address or at the station address for a period of two years during which time the publisher or broadcaster shall make the statement available for public inspection as the custodian of a public record, pursuant to R.S. 44:1 et seq.

(e) Any person who provides false or inaccurate information in a statement required by this Paragraph shall be assessed a penalty by the supervisory committee of not more than ten thousand dollars.

(3) Nothing in this Subsection shall prohibit any person who publishes or broadcasts political advertisements from accepting payment for a political advertisement from any person, so long as the advertisement does not misrepresent who paid for the advertisement either directly or indirectly through the person who purchased the advertising time or space. However, if a third-party entity pays for a political announcement or advertisement for a candidate, the name of the third-party entity shall be displayed on the face of the advertisement. The font size of such display shall be no less than half of the font size of the content of the advertisement.

(4) The provisions of R.S. 18:1505.5 and 1505.6 shall not apply to violations of this Subsection.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981. Acts 1988, No. 994, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1989; Acts 2001, No. 1194, §1; Acts 2008, 1<sup>st</sup> Ex. Sess., No. 14, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2010.*

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

A.(1) Any candidate, the treasurer or chairman of a political committee, or any other person required to file any reports under this Chapter, who knowingly fails to file or who knowingly fails to timely file any

such reports as are required by this Chapter may be assessed a civil penalty as provided in R.S. 18:1511.4.1 for each day until such report is filed.

(2)(a) The amount of such penalty may be:

(i) One hundred dollars per day, not to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars, for each candidate for major office and any treasurer or chairman of any political committee designated as a principal campaign committee or subsidiary committee of such a candidate.

(ii) Sixty dollars per day, not to exceed two thousand dollars, for any candidate for district office and any treasurer or chairman of any political committee designated as a principal campaign committee or subsidiary committee of such a candidate.

(iii) Forty dollars per day, not to exceed one thousand dollars, for any candidate for all other offices and any treasurer or chairman of any political committee designated as a principal campaign committee or subsidiary committee of such a candidate.

(iv) Forty dollars per day, not to exceed one thousand dollars, for any person or the treasurer or chairman of any political committee, not supporting or opposing a candidate, but only supporting or opposing any proposition or question submitted to the voters or any recall of a public officer.

(v) Two hundred dollars per day, not to exceed three thousand dollars, for the treasurer or chairman of any political committee supporting or opposing a candidate, other than a candidate's principal or subsidiary campaign committee.

(b) The late filing fees for any report required by R.S. 18:1491.6(C) or R.S. 18:1495.4(C) may not exceed twice those otherwise applicable as provided in this Section.

(3)(a) If a person, other than a political committee, required to file is supporting or opposing a candidate or candidates, the penalty applicable to such candidate or candidates as provided in Item (i), (ii), or (iii) of Subparagraph (2)(a) of this Subsection shall apply.

(b) If a person, other than a political committee, required to file is supporting or opposing candidates with different penalty levels, the penalty shall be the highest penalty for any such candidate.

(4)(a) For reports required by this Chapter which are required to be filed between the time a candidate qualifies and election day, in addition to any penalties which may be imposed under this Section or any other law, the supervisory committee may impose on any person required to file such a report who has not filed such report by the sixth day after the report is due, after an adjudicatory hearing by an adjudicatory panel of the Ethics Adjudicatory Board conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Governmental Ethics, with notice to the party who is the subject of the hearing, an additional civil penalty not to exceed ten thousand dollars.

(b) For all other reports required by this Chapter, in addition to any penalties which may be imposed by this Section or any other law, the supervisory committee may impose on any person required to file such a report who has not filed such report by the eleventh day after the report is due, after an adjudicatory hearing by an adjudicatory panel of the Ethics Adjudicatory Board conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Governmental Ethics, with notice to the party who is the subject of the hearing, an additional civil penalty not to exceed ten thousand dollars.

B. Any candidate, the treasurer or chairman of any political committee, or any other person required to file reports under this Chapter who knowingly and willfully fails to disclose, or knowingly and willfully fails to accurately disclose, any information required by this Chapter to be disclosed in the reports required herein, may be assessed a civil penalty for each day until such information is disclosed by amendment to the

appropriate report of such candidate, political committee, or other person. "Knowingly and willfully", for purposes of this Subsection, means conduct which could have been avoided through the exercise of due diligence. Such penalties shall be as provided in Subsection A above.

C.(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection A of this Section and the provisions of R.S. 18:1511.4.1, for a committee that is supporting, opposing, or otherwise influencing the nomination or election of a person to public office, the maximum amount of the penalty that shall be imposed for knowingly failing to file or knowingly failing to timely file any report required by this Chapter 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 under the provisions of Subsection A of this Section, whichever is less.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section and the provisions of R.S. 18:1511.4.1, 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.

(3) This Subsection shall not apply to a candidate's principal campaign committee or any designated subsidiary committee of a candidate.

D.(1) Any elected official who fails to comply with a final order of a court or the supervisory committee or a final decision of an adjudicatory panel of the Ethics Adjudicatory Board which imposes a fine, fee, or penalty pursuant to this Chapter and against which all appeal delays have lapsed shall be subject to forfeiture of the nonexempt portion of his public salary, as provided in this Subsection, until such time as he has complied with such order or final decision. The forfeiture shall take effect no less than twenty days after notice is sent to the elected official pursuant to Paragraph (2) of this Subsection.

(2) The supervisory committee shall notify the elected official in writing when he is subject to the forfeiture provided for in this Subsection. The notice shall provide the name of the elected official, the office he holds, the amount of the outstanding fines, fees, or penalties which are subject to forfeiture, and the date on which the forfeiture is to take effect. The supervisory committee shall send two copies of the notice by certified mail, one to the campaign address of the elected official on file with the supervisory committee and the other to the official address of the office which he holds. Additionally, the supervisory committee shall send a copy of the notice by certified mail to the entity which is responsible for disbursing the elected official's salary, along with instructions as to the proper method for forwarding the forfeited funds.

(3)(a) "Forfeiture" pursuant to this Subsection shall be an alternative means of collecting an outstanding fine, fee, or penalty imposed by a final order of a court or the supervisory committee pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter and against which all appeal delays have lapsed.

(b) On the next payroll date following the effective date of the forfeiture, and each payroll date thereafter so long as the forfeiture remains in effect, the entity which is responsible for disbursing the elected official's salary shall withhold that portion of the elected official's salary which is not exempt from seizure, as provided in R.S. 13:3881. This portion of the elected official's salary shall be forwarded to the supervisory committee, as directed in the notice. The forfeiture shall remain in effect until such time as the supervisory committee notifies the entity which is responsible for disbursing the elected official's salary that the elected official has complied with the order.

(c) The entity which is responsible for disbursing the elected official's salary may withhold three dollars from the nonexempt portion of the elected official's salary for each pay period during which the forfeiture is in effect to cover the administrative costs of the forfeiture.

(4) The supervisory committee shall treat all sums forwarded to it under this Subsection as payments by the elected official of the outstanding fines, fees, or penalties and shall immediately notify the entity which is responsible for disbursing the elected official's salary when the elected official has complied with the order or when the fines, fees, and penalties have been paid in full from the forfeited funds.

(5) For the purposes of this Subsection, an elected official shall be deemed to have complied with a final order upon paying the fine, fee, or penalty in full or upon entering into and remaining current on an agreement with the supervisory committee providing for a payment schedule. The failure to remain current on a payment schedule shall subject the elected official to forfeiture.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981. Amended by Acts 1982, No. 266, §1, eff. July 18, 1982; Acts 1988, No. 994, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1989; Acts 1989, No. 179, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1990; Acts 1990, No. 180, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1991; Acts 1995, No. 1046, §1, eff. June 29, 1995; Acts 1996, 1st Ex. Sess., No. 66, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1997; Acts 1997, No. 352, §1; Acts 1999, No. 1349, §1, eff. July 12, 1999; Acts 2001, No. 1208, §1; Acts 2012, No. 609, §1, eff. June 7, 2012; Acts 2014, No. 792, §1.*

#### **§1505.5. Civil penalties; violations of Chapter**

A. Except as provided in R.S. 18:1505.4, any person who knowingly and willfully violates any provision of R.S. 18:1505.2 or R.S. 18:1505.3 or any other provision of this Chapter shall be assessed a civil penalty for each violation. "Knowingly and willfully", for purposes of this Subsection, means conduct which could have been avoided through the exercise of due diligence.

B. The amount of such penalty shall be:

(1) Not in excess of five hundred dollars for each candidate for a major office and any treasurer or chairman of any political committee designated as a principal campaign committee or subsidiary committee of such a candidate.

(2) Not in excess of three hundred dollars for any candidate for district office and any treasurer or chairman of any political committee designated as a principal campaign committee or subsidiary committee of such a candidate.

(3) Not in excess of one hundred dollars for any candidate for all other offices and any treasurer or chairman of any political committee designated as a principal campaign committee or subsidiary committee of such a candidate.

(4) Not in excess of one hundred dollars for any person or any treasurer or chairman of any political committee, not supporting or opposing a candidate, but only supporting or opposing any proposition or question submitted to the voters or any recall of a public officer.

(5) Not in excess of one thousand dollars for the treasurer or chairman of any political committee supporting or opposing a candidate, other than a candidate's principal or subsidiary campaign committee.

C.(1)(a) If a person, other than a political committee, required to file is supporting or opposing a candidate or candidates, the penalty applicable to such candidate or candidates as provided in Paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of Subsection B of this Section shall apply.

(b) If a person, other than a political committee, required to file is supporting or opposing candidates with different penalty levels, the penalty shall be the highest penalty for any such candidates.

(2) Each day of violation, if applicable, shall constitute a separate offense. Maximum civil penalties imposed under this Section shall be as provided in R.S. 18:1505.4(A).

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981. Amended by Acts 1982, No. 266, §1, eff. July 18, 1982; Acts 1995, No. 1046, §1, eff. June 29, 1995; Acts 1997, No. 352, §1.*

**§1505.6. Criminal penalties**

A.(1) It shall be unlawful for any candidate, treasurer, or chairman of a political committee, or any other person required to file reports under this Part to knowingly, wilfully, and fraudulently fail to file or knowingly, wilfully, and fraudulently fail to timely file any such report.

(2) Any candidate, treasurer, or chairman of a political committee, or any other person required to file reports under this Chapter who knowingly, wilfully, and fraudulently fails to file such report or knowingly, wilfully, and fraudulently fails to file such report timely shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to not more than six months in a parish jail or to pay a fine of not more than five hundred dollars, or both.

B.(1) It shall be unlawful for any candidate, treasurer, or chairman of a political committee, or any other person required to file reports under the Chapter knowingly, wilfully, and fraudulently to fail to disclose, or knowingly, wilfully, and fraudulently to disclose inaccurately, any information required to be disclosed in the reports required by this Chapter.

(2) Any candidate, treasurer, or chairman of a political committee, or any other person required to file such reports who knowingly, wilfully, and fraudulently fails to disclose any such information or who knowingly, wilfully, and fraudulently fails to accurately disclose such information shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to not in excess of six months in the parish jail or to pay a fine of not more than five hundred dollars, or both.

C. Any candidate, chairman of a political committee, treasurer, person required to file reports under this Chapter, or any other person who knowingly, wilfully, and fraudulently violates any provision of R.S. 18:1505.2 or R.S. 18:1505.3, or any other provision of this Chapter shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to not in excess of six months in the parish jail or to pay a fine of not more than five hundred dollars, or both.

D.(1) It shall be unlawful for any person to commit an intentional criminal violation of the provisions of R.S. 18:1501.1(A)(2).

(2) Any person who commits an intentional criminal violation of R.S. 18:1501.1(A)(2) shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than twice the amount of such expenditure or compensation or imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for not more than five years, or both.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981. Acts 1988, No. 994, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1989; Acts 2008, 1<sup>st</sup> Ex. Sess., No. 27, §1, eff. March 30, 2008.*

**PART VI. ENFORCEMENT**

**§1511.1. Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure/Board of Ethics; functions; compensation; immunity**

A. The Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure is established. The Board of Ethics, as established in R.S. 42:1132, shall function as the supervisory committee to administer and enforce the provisions of this Chapter and the rules, regulations, and orders issued hereunder. The members of the Board of Ethics shall constitute the supervisory committee.



B. The members of the supervisory committee shall be paid the same per diem as members of the legislature for each day of attendance at committee meetings, and shall receive reimbursement for vouchered traveling, lodging, and other expenses at the rate established for state employees.

C. The members of the supervisory committee shall be immune from any civil liability for any official action taken in the exercise of their functions pursuant to or in connection with the provisions of this Chapter, except any wrongful and malicious act or gross negligence.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981. Amended by Acts 1981, No. 59, §1, eff. June 17, 1981.*

### **§1511.2. Supervisory Committee; rule-making authority; advisory opinions**

A. The supervisory committee may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act necessary to effectuate the provisions and purposes of this Chapter. Such rules shall be in conformity with the provisions of this Chapter and may include but shall not be limited to any rule to:

(1) Provide for operations of the committee and for committee investigations and proceedings pursuant to this Chapter.

(2) Clarify a provision of this Chapter.

(3) Define a term used in this Chapter.

(4) Apply a general provision of this Chapter or of a committee rule or regulation to specific circumstances.

(5) *Repealed by Acts 2014, No. 857, §3.*

B. The supervisory committee may render an advisory opinion concerning the application of a general provision of this Chapter, or a general provision prescribed as a rule or regulation by the committee. The supervisory committee may render an opinion in response to a request by any public official, any candidate for public office, any political committee, or the committee may render an advisory opinion on its own initiative. Such an opinion shall not constitute a rule under the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act and the supervisory committee shall not be subject to that Act in carrying out the provisions of this Subsection.

C. The supervisory committee or the staff of the supervisory committee may request clarification or additional information from a candidate, political committee, or other person required to file reports pursuant to this Chapter, regarding any information disclosed on a report or that is required to be disclosed on a report.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981; Acts 2014, No. 657, §1; Acts 2014, No. 857, §3.*

### **§1511.3. Filing of reports; forms; notice**

A.(1) All reports required by this Chapter shall be filed with the supervisory committee as otherwise provided in this Chapter on forms provided by the supervisory committee. The supervisory committee shall prepare forms for all reports required by this Chapter in conformity with the requirements of this Chapter and shall cause such forms to be printed and sufficient copies thereof furnished to the clerks of court and in Orleans Parish to the clerk of the criminal district court, who shall make them available to all persons required to file reports under the provisions of this Chapter. All forms shall contain instructions directing the person filing with whom to file reports. It is the intent of the legislature that the supervisory committee shall provide forms in a simple format in conformity with the requirements of this Chapter.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 42:1134(A)(1) or the Administrative Procedure Act, all forms required by this Chapter and all instructions and explanation for the completion of such forms prepared by the supervisory committee shall be submitted to the Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs

and the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs for review and approval. The approval of each legislative committee shall be required prior to the utilization of a form or related instructions or explanation pursuant to this Chapter. Upon receipt of a proposed form, instructions, or explanation, the legislative committees shall meet, either separately or jointly, within sixty days to consider and act on the proposed form, instructions, or explanation. Approval by either legislative committee, meeting separately, shall require a favorable vote of a majority of the members present and voting, a quorum of the legislative committee being present. Approval by the two legislative committees, meeting jointly, shall require a favorable vote of a majority of the members of each legislative committee present and voting, each house voting separately, a quorum of the joint legislative committee being present. If the proposed form, instructions, or explanation fails to receive the approval of both legislative committees within sixty days after submission by the supervisory committee, the proposed form, instructions, or explanation shall be withdrawn from consideration.

B. The supervisory committee shall prepare and distribute to the general public through the offices of the clerks of court and in Orleans Parish the office of the clerk of the criminal district court, booklets of explanation and instruction concerning the provisions of this Chapter in such a manner as to inform the citizens of this state as to the procedures and requirements of this Chapter. The supervisory committee may publish and distribute additional material to assist persons in complying with the provisions of this Chapter.

C. The supervisory committee shall take all action necessary to receive and file the reports, statements, documents, and papers filed with them under the provisions of this Chapter. The supervisory committee shall make copies of any report available to the public upon request.

D. The supervisory committee shall retain all reports for three years from the date of filing.

E. The supervisory committee shall notify each person who has qualified for office the preceding year and whose last filed disclosure report reflects a deficit, each person who filed a supplemental report the preceding year which reflected a deficit, and each declared but unqualified candidate who filed a report the previous year, of the date that the annual report as provided in R.S. 18:1491.6(E) and 18:1495.4(E) is due and of the information required in the report. Each notice shall be mailed at least thirty days prior to the date the report is due; however, failure by the supervisory committee to notify a candidate, committee, or other person as required by this Subsection shall not bar or be a defense to any action brought against a candidate, treasurer or chairman of any committee, or other person by the supervisory committee under the provisions of this Chapter.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981. Amended by Acts 1982, No. 652, §1. Acts 1984, No. 466, §1; Acts 1990, No. 1088, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1991; Acts 2003, No. 935, §1, eff. July 1, 2003; Acts 2006, No. 7, §1; Acts 2014, No. 857, §1.*

#### **§1511.4. Supervisory committee; investigations**

A. The supervisory committee may investigate any apparent or alleged violation of this Chapter. The supervisory committee by a two-thirds vote of its membership may initiate such an investigation when, as a result of its review of reports, other documents or information, filed under provisions of this Chapter, it determines that there is reason to believe a violation of this Chapter has occurred, and it shall initiate an investigation when it makes such a determination upon receipt of a sworn complaint filed with the supervisory committee by any person who believes a violation of the Chapter has occurred.

B. In any investigation under the authority of this Chapter, the supervisory committee may examine or audit records and reports required to be maintained or filed under the provisions of this Chapter.

C.(1) Pursuant to its authority under this Chapter the supervisory committee shall have the power and authority to hold hearings, to subpoena witnesses, administer oaths, compel the production of books, records, and papers, public and private, require the submission under oath of written reports or answers to questions, and to do all that is necessary to effect the provisions of this Chapter.

(2) Upon motion by an affected party including, but not limited to, a candidate, committee, any member of a committee, a prospective witness or any person whose books, records, papers, or other documents are the subject of any subpoena, and for good cause shown, any district court within the jurisdiction of which any inquiry is being conducted may make any order which justice requires to protect such person from annoyance, embarrassment, oppression, or undue burden or expense, including one or more of the following:

(a) That the inquiry not be had.

(b) That the inquiry may be had only upon specified terms and conditions including a designation of the time and place.

(c) That the inquiry shall be conducted by a method other than selected by the supervisory committee.

(d) That certain matters not be inquired into or that the scope of the inquiry be limited to certain matters.

(e) That the inquiry be conducted with no one present except persons designated by the court.

D. Upon petition by the supervisory committee or an adjudicatory panel of the Ethics Adjudicatory Board any district court within the jurisdiction of which any inquiry is being carried on may, in case of refusal to obey a subpoena or order of the supervisory committee or an adjudicatory panel of the Ethics Adjudicatory Board issued pursuant to this Chapter, issue an order requiring compliance. Any failure to obey the order of the court may be punished by the court as a contempt thereof.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981. Amended by Acts 1981, No. 59, §1, eff. June 17, 1981; Acts 1996, 1st Ex. Sess., No. 64, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 1997; Acts 2012, No. 609, §1, eff. June 7, 2012.*

#### **§1511.4.1. Enforcement; failure to file; failure to timely file**

A. The staff of the supervisory committee may assess and issue a final order for the payment of civil penalties for knowingly failing to file or knowingly failing to timely file in accordance with R.S. 18:1505.4 and rules adopted by the supervisory committee.

B. The supervisory committee may waive all or part of any civil penalties assessed pursuant to Subsection A of this Section. A request for waiver of such penalties shall be made in writing to the supervisory committee, which shall promulgate rules governing the procedure to request a waiver. The supervisory committee may take into consideration the provisions of R.S. 18:1511.5(B) in its consideration of the request for waiver of civil penalties. The final disposition of a waiver request shall not be appealable to the Ethics Adjudicatory Board or a panel thereof.

C.(1) A final order issued pursuant to Subsection A of this Section shall be appealable to an adjudicatory panel of the Ethics Adjudicatory Board which shall conduct an adjudicatory hearing in accordance with the Code of Governmental Ethics.

(2) If a final order is appealed pursuant to Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, an adjudicatory panel of the Ethics Adjudicatory Board shall determine the penalties, if any, that should be imposed in accordance with this Chapter, and shall issue a final decision. The final decision may be appealed as provided in R.S. 42:1142.

(3) The Ethics Adjudicatory Board, or a panel thereof, shall have the power and authority to subpoena witnesses, administer oaths, compel the production of books, records, and papers, public and private, require the submission under oath of written reports or answers to questions, and to do all that is necessary to effect the provisions of this Chapter.

D. When all delays for a request for waiver or appeal have expired, a final order of the supervisory committee or its staff or final decision of an adjudicatory panel of the Ethics Adjudicatory Board shall become executory and may be enforced as any other money judgement. The supervisory committee may file civil proceedings to collect such civil penalties in the district court of the parish in which the candidate,

chairman, or treasurer of the political committee or other person required to file reports is domiciled. The proceedings shall be conducted pursuant to the relevant provisions of the Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure. The proceeds of such civil penalties shall be paid directly to the treasurer of the state of Louisiana.

*Acts 2012, No. 609, §1, eff. June 7, 2012.*

**§1511.5. Procedure for enforcement; civil**

A.(1) When the results of the investigation by the supervisory committee indicate that a violation of this Chapter has occurred which is subject to civil penalties, the supervisory committee is authorized to file civil proceedings to collect the civil penalties provided in R.S. 18:1505.4(B) or 1505.5.

(2) The provisions of this Section shall not apply to any action for the payment of civil penalties due pursuant to R.S. 18:1505.4 for knowingly failing to file or knowingly failing to timely file, which shall be governed by R.S. 18:1511.4.1.

(3) Except as provided in R.S. 18:1511.7, these proceedings shall be filed in the district court of the parish in which the candidate, chairman or treasurer of the political committee, or other person required to file reports, is domiciled. The proceedings shall be by rule to show cause and shall be conducted pursuant to the relevant provisions of the Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure.

B. In determining the amount of the civil penalty to be assessed, the district court shall take into consideration the reason for the failure to file timely, the reason for failing to disclose required information, the reason for inaccurately disclosing required information, the nature of the office sought by the candidate, the nature of the office or offices supported or opposed by a political committee or other person, the significance of the information undisclosed or inaccurately disclosed to the voting public, and whether or not the candidate, chairman or treasurer of the political committee, or other person actually has filed a report or disclosed such information prior to the election or prior to the institution of the rule to show cause.

C. A judgment of a district court assessing such civil penalties may be appealed suspensively to the appropriate court of appeal according to the provisions of the Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure.

D. A judgment assessing civil penalties shall become executory when all delays for appeal have expired according to the Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure, and may be enforced as any other money judgment. However, the proceeds of such civil penalties shall be paid directly to the treasurer of the state of Louisiana.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981. Amended by Acts 1982, No. 266, §1, eff. July 18, 1982; Acts 1988, No. 994, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1989; Acts 1996, 1st Ex. Sess., No. 66, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1997; Acts 2012, No. 609, §1, eff. June 7, 2012.*

**§1511.6. Procedures for enforcement; criminal**

A. When the results of the supervisory committee's investigation indicate that a knowing, willful, and fraudulent violation or an intentional criminal violation of this Chapter has occurred, the supervisory committee shall forward all information concerning the alleged violation to the district attorney of the judicial district in which the alleged violation has occurred who shall review such information and make such investigation and initiate such prosecution as he shall deem necessary; except, if the violation occurred with regard to a campaign for the office of district attorney for the judicial district in which the violation took place, the committee shall forward all information concerning the alleged violation to the attorney general who, for cause, when authorized by the court which would have original jurisdiction and subject to judicial review, shall proceed with such criminal prosecutions as are provided by this Chapter.

B. Only the district attorney or attorney general may initiate criminal actions under the provisions of this Chapter. Initiation of such criminal actions by the district attorney or attorney general shall be on the basis of information forwarded by the supervisory committee to the district attorney or attorney general or on the

basis of such other information as may be available to the district attorney or the attorney general. The supervisory committee shall have no authority to initiate prosecution.

C. The supervisory committee shall post on its website the name of each person or entity that is the target of any investigation forwarded to the district attorney or attorney general as provided in Subsection A of this Section. The posting shall indicate the date of such referral and the current status of prosecution. The status of each prosecution shall be updated quarterly for two years or until there is a final disposition of the matter, whichever occurs first.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981; Acts 2008, 1<sup>st</sup> Ex. Sess., No. 27, §1, eff. March 30, 2008; Acts 2010, No. 904, §1.*

#### **§1511.7. Venue**

A. Actions or proceedings for violation of R.S. 18:1505.1 shall be brought in the parish of East Baton Rouge.

B. Except as provided in Subsection A, actions or prosecutions for any violation of this Chapter shall be brought in the parish of the domicile of the offender and prosecutions shall be instituted by the district attorney of that parish.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981.*

#### **§1511.8. Secrecy of proceedings**

A. Each complaint received by the supervisory committee, each review by the committee of reports for compliance with the provisions of this Chapter, and all information forwarded to or gathered by the supervisory committee with regard to such complaints or reviews and all investigation and proceedings of the supervisory committee with regard to the same shall be kept strictly confidential until such time that action with which the supervisory committee or the district attorney has proceeded, or in the case of possible criminal violations in campaigns for district attorney any action with which the attorney general has proceeded, becomes a public record, the prescriptive period has elapsed, or the matter is otherwise finally disposed of. In no event shall such records, evidence, testimony, notes or other data become public records unless and until civil or criminal charges have been instituted in accordance with this Chapter. This prohibition, however, shall not preclude the supervisory committee from: (a) divulging statistical information concerning complaints, reviews, alleged violations, referrals to district attorneys, and similar matters, or (b) divulging that a review or investigation was made or a complaint received with regard to a person or committee, and, upon investigation, no substantial reason was found to believe that a violation of this Chapter has occurred.

B. The attorney general or district attorney shall, prior to the use of any such accounts or records in any criminal proceeding, file a motion in a court of proper jurisdiction requesting a determination by such court of the relevancy or materiality of such accounts or records to a prosecution for violation of this Chapter. The court shall render such determination at an in camera proceeding which shall be confidential and not open to the public. If the court determines that the aforementioned accounts or records are relevant and material to the prosecution in accordance with this Chapter, then such accounts or records shall cease to be confidential in nature and may be introduced as evidence in a criminal proceeding without further restriction. The proceedings in connection with this Subsection shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Louisiana Code of Criminal Procedure<sup>1</sup> governing motions to suppress evidence.

C. Prior to the use of any such accounts or records in any civil proceeding, the supervisory committee shall file a motion in a court of proper jurisdiction requesting a determination by such court of the relevancy or materiality of such accounts or records to an action for violation of this Chapter. The court shall render such determination at an in camera proceeding which shall be confidential and not open to the public. If the court determines that the aforementioned accounts or records are relevant and material to an action in

accordance with this Chapter, then such accounts or records shall cease to be confidential in nature and may be introduced as evidence in a proceeding without further restriction.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981.*

<sup>1</sup>*LSA-C.Cr.P. Art. 703.*

**§1511.9. Immunity from prosecution; prohibition**

No person shall be granted immunity from prosecution for testimony or for providing information in connection with any investigation or proceeding conducted under the provisions of this Chapter.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981.*

**§1511.10. False complaints**

Any person who knowingly and willfully files a false complaint with the supervisory committee, any person who knowingly and willfully discloses the contents of any complaint, any person who knowingly and willfully discloses any information forwarded to the appropriate officials with such a complaint, or any person who knowingly and willfully discloses any proceedings of the supervisory committee before any action with which the supervisory committee or district attorney has proceeded or, in the case of criminal actions relating to campaigns for district attorney, any action with which the attorney general has proceeded, becomes a public record, or before the prescriptive period has elapsed or the matter is otherwise finally disposed of, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not in excess of five hundred dollars, or imprisoned for not in excess of six months, or both. The supervisory committee, district attorney or the attorney general investigating any complaint filed with the supervisory committee or any matter under their review or investigation under the provisions of this Chapter may concurrently investigate such complaint with a view to determining if there has been any violation of this Chapter, or if the complainant has knowingly and willfully filed a false complaint.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981.*

**§1511.11. Precedence of actions; limitation of actions**

A. Any action brought under the provisions of this Chapter shall be advanced on the docket of the district court in which filed, and shall take precedence over and be considered in advance of all other actions other than actions brought under this Chapter.

B. Actions for violation of this Chapter must be commenced before three years have elapsed from the date of the violation or, if the violation is contained in a report, before one year has elapsed from filing of the relevant report.

*Acts 1980, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1981; Acts 1997, No. 286, §1.*

**§1511.12. Legislative intent**

In amending and reenacting this Chapter in 1980 and subsequently, it is and was the intent of the legislature that the provisions of R.S. 18:1491.6(D) and R.S. 18:1495.4(D) are remedial and supplemental in nature and, therefore, shall apply retroactively to candidates and committees which were covered by the deficit reporting provisions of this Chapter before and after such amendments.

*Added by Acts 1982, No. 266, §1, eff. July 18, 1982.*

## PART VII. ELECTION DAY EXPENDITURES

### §1531. Transportation of voters

A. No person or political committee shall accept or agree to accept, either directly or indirectly, from a candidate, a political committee, or a person required to file reports pursuant to R.S. 18:1501.1, or from a person on behalf of a candidate, a political committee, or a person so required to file reports, anything of economic value, including any reimbursement of costs, for the purpose of conveying an elector or causing an elector to be conveyed in a motor vehicle to a polling place for the purpose of voting in an election or to any place where early voting is being conducted for the purpose of early voting, or for driving or being in charge of any motor vehicle being so used.

B. No candidate, political committee, or person required to file reports pursuant to R.S. 18:1501.1, and no person on behalf of a candidate, a political committee, or a person so required to file reports, shall pay, or agree or offer to pay, anything of economic value, including any reimbursement of costs, to any person or political committee for the purpose of conveying an elector or causing an elector to be conveyed in a motor vehicle to a polling place for the purpose of voting in an election or to any place where early voting is being conducted for the purpose of early voting, or for driving or being in charge of a motor vehicle being so used.

C. Whoever violates the provisions of this Section shall be assessed a civil fine of not more than two thousand five hundred dollars. On a second violation, or any succeeding violation, the penalty shall be a civil fine of not more than five thousand dollars. The provisions of R.S. 18:1505.6 shall not apply to violations of this Section.

D.(1) The provisions of this Section shall not be applicable to any person who gratuitously transports voters to the polls on election day or who gratuitously transports voters to vote during early voting.

(2) The provisions of this Section shall not prohibit paying or offering or agreeing to pay any bona fide bus, taxi, or transportation service, which holds a license or permit duly issued by the appropriate governmental entity and which regularly does business in the area, to convey an elector to vote or vote during early voting, nor shall this Section prohibit any such bus, taxi, or transportation service from accepting or agreeing to accept such a payment.

*Added by Acts 1981, No. 716, §1, eff. July 23, 1981; Acts 1993, No. 199, §1, eff. June 1, 1993; Acts 2005, No. 220, §4, eff. Jan. 1, 2006.*

### §1532. Disclosure of expenditures for election day

A. In addition to all other reports required by this Chapter, not later than ten days after a primary election and not later than ten days after a general election, each candidate, each political committee, and each person required to file reports pursuant to this Chapter shall file a report with the supervisory committee, on such form as the committee shall provide, which shall include:

(1) The total amount of expenditures the candidate, committee, or person required to report has made for each category of expenditures listed below for services performed or advertising broadcast or published on election day:

- (a) Television advertising.
- (b) Radio advertising.
- (c) Newspaper advertising.

(d) Services by election day workers paid by the candidate, committee, or other person required to report.

(e) Contributions or expenditures to organizations for election day activities or services in support of a candidate or candidates or in opposition to a candidate or candidates.

(f) Automated calls using a prerecorded or artificial voice as part of the calling.

(2) The name and address of each individual to whom a monetary expenditure was made by the candidate, committee, or person required to file, for services performed on election day.

(3) The name and address of each individual to whom a monetary expenditure was made by an organization, to whom the candidate, committee, or person has made a contribution or expenditure for purposes of the support of the organization, for services performed on election day and the name and address of the organization. Such information shall be provided to the candidate, committee, or person required to report under this Section by the organization to whom the candidate, committee, or person made a contribution or expenditure for purposes of the support of the organization.

(4) The name and address of any person, as defined in R.S. 18:1483, to whom the candidate, committee, or person required to report made an expenditure directly or indirectly for services performed or advertising broadcast or published on election day, except as reported pursuant to Paragraphs (2) and (3).

(5) The amount paid to each individual listed pursuant to Paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) and the purpose of the payment.

B. Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection A of this Section, or any other provision of law to the contrary, a candidate, political committee, or other person required to file reports pursuant to this Chapter who has not made any election day expenditures shall not be required to file the report required by this Section for that election day.

*Acts 1988, No. 994, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 1989; Acts 1990, No. 180, §2, eff. Jan. 1, 1991; Acts 2001, No. 295, §1; Acts 2003, No. 935, §1, eff. July 1, 2003; Acts 2014, No. 786, §1, eff. Jan. 1, 2015.*



<b>Contribution Limits</b>				
	To major office candidate or his committee per election <sup>1,6</sup>	To a district office candidate or his committee per election <sup>1</sup>	To any other office candidate or his committee per election <sup>1</sup>	To a PAC over 4 calendar year period 1/1/15 - 12/31/18 1/1/19 - 12/31/22
Individual may give <sup>2</sup>	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$1,000	\$100,000
Family member of candidate may give	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$1,000	\$100,000
Legal entity may give <sup>3</sup>	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$1,000	\$100,000
PAC may give <sup>4</sup>	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$1,000	\$5,000/2,500/1,000 <sup>7</sup>
Big PAC <sup>5</sup> may give <sup>4</sup>	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$10,000/5,000/2,000 <sup>7</sup>
Democratic or Republican Party or committees may give	No limits	No limits	No limits	No limits

Revised on 11/10/15

<sup>1</sup> The primary and general elections are considered as two separate elections.

<sup>2</sup> A husband and wife may each make a contribution to the same candidate up to the limit. However, separate checks should be used. If a single check is signed by one spouse, the other must provide an affidavit as to their intent to share in the contribution.

<sup>3</sup> Includes legal entities owned wholly or partially by candidates, except Internal Revenue Code Subchapter S corporations and LLCs wholly-owned by the candidate. Parent corporations and their subsidiaries are subject to a single limit. A corporation is a parent if it owns over 50% of another corporation. A wholly-owned Subchapter S corporation and its owner and a wholly-owned LLC and its owner are subject to a single limit.

<sup>4</sup> Candidates are also subject to an aggregate limit on the contributions they may accept from all PACs combined from both the primary and general elections. Those limits are: \$80,000 - major office, \$60,000 - district office, and \$20,000 - any other office.

<sup>5</sup> A PAC with over 250 members who contributed over \$50 to the PAC during the preceding calendar year and has been certified as meeting that membership requirement.

<sup>6</sup> Limits doubled for unsuccessful major office candidates who do not participate in general election and for the time period for which such candidate has a deficit for expenditures made through the day of the primary election.

<sup>7</sup> The applicable limit is determined by the level of office sought by the candidates supported/opposed by the recipient PAC. If the PAC receiving the contribution supports candidates for more than one type of office, then the highest limit applies. Contributions to a recognized political party or any committee thereof are subject to a limit of \$100,000 for the period 1/1/15 through 12/31/18 and 1/1/19 through 12/31/22.

## CAMPAIGN FINANCE DISCLOSURE

CATEGORY	CITATION	SUMMARY OF LAW
<b>Reporting Amount</b>	R.S. 18:1491.7, 1495.5, 1483(6)(b)(i) and (9)(b)(ii)  *R.S. 18:1491.5(B)(2), 1491.7(B)(5), 1495.3(B)(2), 1495.5(B)(5)	Requires reporting of all contributions and expenditures (including in-kind contributions and expenditures valued over \$25 and ticket sales.)  *Single transactions to purchase campaign paraphernalia for \$25 or less do not have to be reported by individual sale but must be reported as gross proceeds received and accepted. Paraphernalia sales are still contributions and successive single sales may not be used to avoid record keeping or reporting requirements.
<b>Contribution Limits</b>  (1) Contribution limits that apply separately for primary and general elections.  .....  (2) Contribution limit that applies to the <u>total amount of combined contributions</u> for both primary and general elections.  .....	R.S. 18:1505.2(H)(1)(a)  R.S. 18:1505.2(H)(2)(a)  R.S. 18:1505.2(H)(2)(b)  .....  R.S. 18:1505.2(H)(7)(a)  .....  *R.S. 18:1505.2(H)  **R.S. 18:1505.2(H)	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>To Candidates or their Committees</u></p> <p>Major – \$5,000 District – \$2,500 Other – \$1,000</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>By PACs to Candidates or their Committees</u></p> <p>Major – \$5,000 District – \$2,500 Other – \$1,000</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>By Big PACs<sup>1</sup></u></p> <p>Major – \$10,000 District – \$5,000 Other – \$2,000</p> <p>.....</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Total Combined Campaign Contribution Limits Received by Candidate or his Committee from PACs</u></p> <p>Major – \$80,000 District – \$60,000 Other – \$20,000</p> <p>.....</p> <p>*Limits do not apply to contributions made by recognized political parties or their committees. **Limits doubled for unsuccessful major office candidates who do not participate in general election and for the time period for which such candidate has a deficit for expenditures made through the day of the primary election.</p>
<b>Ticket Sales</b>	R.S. 18:1491.7(B)(6), 1495.5(B)(6)	Reported as any other contribution
<b>Cash</b>	R.S. 18:1505.2(C)  R.S. 18:1491.4(E), 1495.2(E)	Persons are prohibited from making cash contributions, and candidates or committees are prohibited from receiving cash contributions in excess of \$100 during any calendar year.  Receipt required for exact amount of cash contribution containing the name, address, social security number, and signature of contributor.  No expenditure in excess of \$100 from petty cash and no expenditure made from petty cash for personal services, except gratuities for the serving of food and drink.
<b>Personal Use<sup>2</sup></b>	R.S. 18:1505.2(I)	Prohibits use, loan, or pledge of funds received on and after 7-15-88 for any personal use unrelated to a political campaign or the holding of a public office or party position. Establishes guidelines for excess campaign funds, including returning to contributors on a pro rata basis, giving to certain charities, supporting other candidates, and maintaining in a segregated fund for future campaigns.

CATEGORY	CITATION	SUMMARY OF LAW
<b>Reporting: Special 48 Hours Provision</b> (for period beginning midnight of 20th day prior to election through midnight of election day)	R.S. 18:1491.6(C), 1495.4(C)	Must file within 48 hours of transaction if candidate receives contribution in excess of: Major – \$1000 District – \$500 Other – \$250  Or if candidate makes expenditure in excess of \$200 to any person who makes endorsements and who must file reports.
<b>Reporting: Election Day Activities</b>	R.S. 18:1532	Not later than 10 days after election day all expenditures made for services performed or advertising broadcast or published on election day must be reported. No report is required if no such expenditures are made.  Report name and address of each person to whom a monetary expenditure was made for election day services or advertising.
<b>Transportation of Voters</b>	R.S. 18:1531	Prohibits making or receiving payments, including reimbursements of costs, for the transportation of any voter to a polling place or for early voting site unless payment is to a licensed bus, taxi, or transportation service. Medical transportation services do not qualify to receive payments for transporting voters.
<b>Penalties for Contribution Limits and Personal Use Violations<sup>2</sup></b>	R.S. 18:1505.2(J)	<u>Major, District and Other</u> Not more than \$5,000 or amount of violation, whichever is greater. Knowing and willful violation, the maximum penalty is double.
<b>Penalties for Reporting Violations<sup>2</sup></b>  (1) Automatic Late Fees which may be assessed.  (2) Additional penalties for any report required between qualifying and election day which has not been filed by the 6th day after it is due.  (3) Additional penalties for any other report required which has not been filed by the 11th day after it is due.	R.S. 18:1505.4	(1) Knowingly fails to file or knowingly fails to timely file reports: Major – \$100 per day, maximum of \$2,500 District – \$60 per day, maximum of \$2,000 Other – \$40 per day, maximum of \$1,000  \$40 per day, maximum of \$1,000 for persons or committees which only support/oppose propositions/recalls. \$200 per day, maximum of \$3,000 for PACs which support/oppose candidate.  <b>Penalties for special 48 Hour reports may be up to twice the penalties above.</b>  (2) After a public hearing with notice to party who is subject of hearing, an additional civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000.  (3) After a public hearing with notice to party who is subject of hearing, an additional civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000.
<b>Penalties for Knowing and Willful Violation of Campaign Finance Disclosure Act, Except Failure to File or Timely File<sup>1</sup></b>	R.S. 18:1505.5	Major – Not more than \$500 District – Not more than \$300 Other – Not more than \$100  Not more than \$100 for persons or committees supporting/opposing propositions/recalls. Not more than \$1,000 for PACs which support/oppose a candidate. <b>Each day of violation, if applicable, constitutes a separate offense.</b> Maximum penalties are the same as (1) in "Penalties for Reporting Violations".

CATEGORY	CITATION	SUMMARY OF LAW
<b>Criminal Penalties</b>	R.S. 18:1505.6	Knowingly, willfully, and fraudulently fail to file, fail to timely file, fail to disclose, fail to accurately disclose, or violate provision of Campaign Finance Disclosure-not more than 6 months in parish jail or \$500 or both.  An intentional criminal violation of the requirement that a person who makes an expenditure for the purpose of canvassing submit to the candidate or committee certain information concerning the person to whom the expenditure was made-twice the amount of the expenditure for compensation or imprisonment, with or without hard labor, for not more than five years or both.

<sup>1</sup> A PAC with over 250 members who contributed over \$50 to the PAC during the preceding calendar year and that has been certified as meeting that membership requirement.

<sup>2</sup>R.S. 18:1505.2(I)(3) prohibits a candidate or his committee from expending campaign funds for any purpose if the candidate owes a fine, fee, or penalty imposed by a final order of a court or by the supervisory committee. R.S. 18:1505.2 (I)(4) prohibits the use of campaign funds to pay fines, fees, or penalties imposed pursuant to the Code of Governmental Ethics. R.S. 18:1505.2(I)(5) prohibits, with specified exceptions, a candidate or his committee from using campaign funds to make a payment or expenditure to an immediate family member of the candidate. R.S. 18:1505.2(O) allows the supervisory committee to prohibit a candidate or elected official from using campaign funds to pay campaign finance fines, fees, or penalties for intentional and egregious violations. R.S. 18:1505.4(C) provides that the maximum amount of the penalty to be imposed on a noncandidate PAC participating in a special election for failure to file or timely file shall be the total of the expenditures made in the special election or the maximum penalty provided under R.S. 18:1505.4(A), whichever is less. R.S. 18:1505.4(D) allows the supervisory committee to collect fines, fees, and penalties owed by an elected official through forfeiture of the elected official's public salary.

**Prohibited Contributions (R.S. 18:1505.2(B), (L)\*, (M), and (P)):**

- (1) **Anonymous sources.** Penalty for violation: Anonymous contributions must be reported and paid over to the state (see R.S. 18:1505.2(B)).
  
- (2) **Persons substantially interested in the gaming industry.** Penalty for violation: Candidates or committees who accept illegal gaming contributions must pay those contributions over to the state within 10 days of notification by the supervisory committee. Contributors are subject to civil penalties up to \$10,000 as well as possible criminal penalties, and being rendered unsuitable to hold the gaming license (see R.S. 18:1505.2(L)). However, expenditures by a candidate for his own campaign or a contribution, loan, or transfer of funds by a candidate to his own political committee are not prohibited. Additionally the Board of Ethics has ruled that a gaming interest may make independent expenditures as long as it acts without the cooperation or consultation of any candidate or the representative of any candidate (see Ethics Opinion No. 99-424).  
  

**\*NOTE:** In the case of *Claude M. Penn, Jr., et al. v. State of Louisiana*, 751 So. 2d 823 (La. 1999), the La. Supreme Court found a portion of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act unconstitutional insofar as it precluded contributions to candidates and political committees by video draw poker licensees. In Ethics Opinion No. 2000-248, the Board of Ethics stated that "persons substantially interested in the video poker gaming industry may make campaign contributions and candidates for state and local office may accept such contributions". In *Casino Association of Louisiana, Inc., et al. v. State of Louisiana*, 820 So. 2d 494 (La. 2002), the La. Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the prohibitions in R.S. 18:1505.2(L) as applied to riverboat and land-based casino licensees.
  
- (3) **Foreign nationals.** Penalty for violation: Candidates or committees who accept illegal contributions from foreign nationals must pay those contributions over to the state within 10 days of notification by the supervisory committee. Contributors subject to full penalties under the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act (see R.S. 18:1505.2(M)).
  
- (4) **Federal Campaign Funds.** Prohibits funds which are subject to the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended, contributed to or for a person who seeks election to an office subject to the provisions of Act from being transferred, loaned, or contributed by a candidate, his agent, or his federal campaign committee to the candidate, any political committee of such

candidate, or to any other political committee which supports the candidate; nor shall the candidate, his federal campaign committee, or his agent use such funds to otherwise support his candidacy (see R.S. 18:1505.2(P)).

**Fundraising Functions During Legislative Sessions:**

Regular legislative sessions: R.S. 18:1505.2(R) generally prohibits the governor from accepting or depositing a campaign contribution for his own campaign during a regular legislative session or within 30 days thereafter with certain specified exceptions.

R.S. 18:1505.2(Q) generally prohibits a legislator from accepting or depositing a campaign contribution for his own campaign during a regular legislative session, with certain specified exceptions. R.S. 24:56 prohibits a fundraising function from being held during a regular legislative session for or by a legislator unless written notice of the function has been given to the Board of Ethics no later than 30 days prior to the function.

Special sessions: R.S. 24:56.1 provides that no fundraising function shall be held for or by a legislator during a special session unless notice of the function has been filed with the board no later than two business days after the issuance of the proclamation stating the objects of the session.

***This is a summary and does not purport to fully reflect the law. Please refer to the CFDA at R.S. 18:1481 et seq. or contact the Supervisory Committee on Campaign Finance Disclosure at (225) 219-5600 or 1(800)842-6630. ([www.ethics.la.gov](http://www.ethics.la.gov))***

*Revised 11/10/15 by Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, House Legislative Services.*

