

## Summary

### Proposed amendments to the Rules on Campaign Finance & Disclosure

Act 85 moved the due date for Final report from thirty (30) days after the end of the month in which an election took place, to being due on “the last day of the month” after the end of the month in which an election took place.

Likewise, it clarified that this Final report is only for contributions and expenditures made “for that election.”

Act 85 also clarified that if a candidate keeps remaining campaign funds after an election, “but does not have any activity before the end of the year, the candidate shall not be required to file a fourth quarter report.”

Moreover, it clarified that, “If a candidate keeps remaining campaign funds and raises campaign funds for a future campaign, or expends campaign funds for office holder expenses or a future election,” the candidate shall continue filing the reports required by this subsection. (Act 307)

Act 307 amended the description of the contribution limit from, “the ~~total~~ aggregate amount exceeds ~~two thousand seven hundred dollars (\$2,700) per election~~” to “the maximum campaign contribution limit established by rule of the AEC per election.”

The AEC is required, pursuant to § 7-6-203 (i) to adjust the campaign contribution limit once every two (2) years for inflation. This amendment removed the perennially outdated amount from the Code and protects the Code from having to be amended every time the limit changes. (Act 307)

When the printed campaign material is a two-sided sign, the “Paid for by” language required by this subsection shall appear on both sides of the sign. The effective date of this Section is on and after November 1, 2023. (Act 307)

Related to a filing of a complaint for filing/running for office after having been convicted of a public trust crime, Act 307 clarified that the AEC could investigate and “render findings and disciplinary action,” and added that, “To be considered valid, a complaint alleging a violation of § 21-8-305 shall include a copy of a court record reflecting that the person has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to or has been found guilty of a public trust crime.”

Act 455 raised the contribution limit to Political Action Committees (“PAC”) on an annual basis from \$5,000 to \$10,000 a year.

Act 753 amended the campaign finance reporting schedule, moving the monthly Contribution & Expenditure (“C&E”) report due date from the 15<sup>th</sup> following the end of each month to 20<sup>th</sup> following the end of each month.

Act 753 raised the itemization threshold for contributions on C&Es filed by state and district candidates from \$50 to \$200.

Act 753 raised the itemization threshold on C&Es for contributions received by candidates for school district, township, or municipal office from \$50 to \$200.

Act 753 raised the itemization threshold on C&Es for contributions received by candidates for county office from \$50 to \$200.

Act 753 raised the itemization threshold for contributions made to Exploratory Committees from \$50 to \$200.

Act 753 mandated that the AEC issue one or more reporting calendars for candidates no later than December 31 preceding the year of the reporting calendar.