

# **Summary**

## **Proposed Amendments to the Rules on Independent Expenditures**

### **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of these proposed amendments is to bring the Rules on Independent Expenditures into conformity with the legislation passed during the 94<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Arkansas Legislature. Likewise, there is a small grammatical change that was recommended by the Bureau of Legislative Research (“BLR”) in the context of the codifications of the Code of Arkansas Rules.

### **DISCUSSION:**

Act 307 of 2023 amended the reporting schedule for Independent Expenditures (“IE”). It now provides that the first IE report is due within fifteen (15) days following the month in which the five hundred-dollar (\$500) threshold required under this section is met. Likewise, each subsequent report shall be filed no later than fifteen (15) days after the end of each month until the election is held.

Act 307 of 2023 provided that 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.

Act 753 of 2023 lowered the trigger amount for IE reporting from \$500 to \$200. Act 753 of 2023 raised the itemization threshold for contributions reported on Contribution and expenditure reports filed by state and district candidates from \$50 to \$200, which in turn, changes it for IEs as well.

Likewise, there is a small grammatical change that was recommended by the BLR in the context of the codifications of the Code of Arkansas Rules, specifically removing and replacing the phrase “and/or” whenever possible.