



STATE OF ARKANSAS
SARAH HUCKABEE SANDERS
GOVERNOR

Request for Governor's Approval of Proposed Rule or Regulation

Department /Agency: _____

Short Title of Rule: _____ || (7 CAR § 2)

New Rule: Yes No

Amendment to Existing Rule: Yes No

State Mandate: Yes No

Federal Mandate: Yes No

If yes, please provide the legal citation of the mandate: _____

Legal Authority for Rule: _____

Proposed Effective Date: _____

Emergency Rule: Yes No

Expedited Rule Requested: Yes No

Summary of Proposed New Rule or Proposed Amendment to Existing Rule:

Financial Impact: Yes No Unknown; If yes or unknown, please explain:

Public Hearing Occurred on Rule: Yes No TBD, ASAP

Controversial: Yes No

If yes, please explain and provide detail of expected opposition.

Two Rules Repealed: **Exception from the Governor:** ~~XX~~ Exception requested

First Rule Repealed: [Rules on Campaign Contribution Limit \(7 CAR § 2\)](#)

Brief explanation of why repeal is appropriate:

The Commission respectfully requests that an exemption be granted. It is the position of the Commission that these proposed amendments would not create a new rule but rather keep existing rules up-to-date and in conformity with the law. If this is considered a new rule, then the Commission requests the exemption be granted. Act 270 of 2025 removed the requirement that the AEC establish the campaign contribution limit via rulemaking. This set of administrative rules are no longer necessary.

Second Rule Repealed: N/A

Brief explanation of why repeal is appropriate:

N/A

Documents Required for Approval Process

Please note that the Governor’s office will not begin the approval process if any of the following applicable documents are not enclosed with the approval request.

- BLR Questionnaire
- BLR Financial Impact Statement
- Proposed Rule - clean version
- Mark-Up of Rule, if amended from previous version
- Copy of Act or Regulation, if Rule is pursuant to State or Federal mandate

Contact Information

Department POC for Rules Process: [Jill Rogers Barham](#)

Department POC for this Rule: [Jill Rogers Barham](#)

NOTE: All documents must be returned to the Governor’s Counsel as a single PDF file.

**QUESTIONNAIRE FOR FILING PROPOSED RULES WITH
THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

DEPARTMENT _____
 BOARD/COMMISSION _____
 BOARD/COMMISSION DIRECTOR _____
 CONTACT PERSON _____
 ADDRESS _____
 PHONE NO. _____ EMAIL _____
 NAME OF PRESENTER(S) AT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING _____
 PRESENTER EMAIL(S) _____

INSTRUCTIONS

In order to file a proposed rule for legislative review and approval, please submit this Legislative Questionnaire and Financial Impact Statement, and attach (1) a summary of the rule, describing what the rule does, the rule changes being proposed, and the reason for those changes; (2) both a markup and clean copy of the rule; and (3) all documents required by the Questionnaire.

If the rule is being filed for permanent promulgation, please email these items to the attention of Rebecca Miller-Rice, miller-ricer@blr.arkansas.gov, for submission to the Administrative Rules Subcommittee.

If the rule is being filed for emergency promulgation, please email these items to the attention of Director Marty Garrity, garritym@blr.arkansas.gov, for submission to the Executive Subcommittee.

Please answer each question completely using layman terms.

1. What is the official title of this rule?

2. What is the subject of the proposed rule? [The campaign contribution limit for candidates for public office in Arkansas.](#)
3. Is this rule being filed under the emergency provisions of the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act? Yes No

If yes, please attach the statement required by Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(c)(1).

If yes, will this emergency rule be promulgated under the permanent provisions of the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act? Yes No

4. Is this rule being filed for permanent promulgation? Yes No

If yes, was this rule previously reviewed and approved under the emergency provisions of the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act? Yes No

If yes, what was the effective date of the emergency rule? _____

On what date does the emergency rule expire? _____

5. Is this rule required to comply with a *federal* statute, rule, or regulation? Yes No

If yes, please provide the federal statute, rule, and/or regulation citation.

6. Is this rule required to comply with a *state* statute or rule? Yes No

If yes, please provide the state statute and/or rule citation.

7. Are two (2) rules being repealed in accord with Executive Order 23-02? Yes No

If yes, please list the rules being repealed.

If no, please explain.

8. Is this a new rule? Yes No

Does this repeal an existing rule? Yes No

If yes, the proposed repeal should be designated by strikethrough. If it is being replaced with a new rule, please attach both the proposed rule to be repealed and the replacement rule.

Is this an amendment to an existing rule? Yes No

If yes, all changes should be indicated by strikethrough and underline. In addition, please be sure to label the markup copy clearly as the markup.

9. What is the state law that grants the agency its rulemaking authority for the proposed rule, outside of the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act? Please provide the specific Arkansas Code citation(s), including subsection(s).

10. Is the proposed rule the result of any recent legislation by the Arkansas General Assembly?
Yes No

If yes, please provide the year of the act(s) and act number(s).

11. What is the reason for this proposed rule? Why is it necessary?

12. Please provide the web address by which the proposed rule can be accessed by the public as provided in Ark. Code Ann. § 25-19-108(b)(1).

13. Will a public hearing be held on this proposed rule? Yes No

If yes, please complete the following:

Date: _____

Time: _____

Place: _____

Please be sure to advise Bureau Staff if this information changes for any reason.

14. On what date does the public comment period expire for the permanent promulgation of the rule? Please provide the specific date. _____

15. What is the proposed effective date for this rule? _____

16. Please attach (1) a copy of the notice required under Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(a)(1) and (2) proof of the publication of that notice.

17. Please attach proof of filing the rule with the Secretary of State, as required by Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e)(1)(A).

18. Please give the names of persons, groups, or organizations that you anticipate will comment on these rules. Please also provide their position (for or against), if known.

19. Is the rule expected to be controversial? Yes No

If yes, please explain.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS COMPLETELY.

DEPARTMENT _____
BOARD/COMMISSION _____
PERSON COMPLETING THIS STATEMENT _____
TELEPHONE NO. _____ **EMAIL** _____

To comply with Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e), please complete the Financial Impact Statement and email it with the questionnaire, summary, markup and clean copy of the rule, and other documents. Please attach additional pages, if necessary.

TITLE OF THIS RULE _____

1. Does this proposed, amended, or repealed rule have a financial impact?
 Yes No

2. Is the rule based on the best reasonably obtainable scientific, technical, economic, or other evidence and information available concerning the need for, consequences of, and alternatives to the rule?
 Yes No

3. In consideration of the alternatives to this rule, was this rule determined by the agency to be the least costly rule considered? Yes No

If no, please explain:

(a) how the additional benefits of the more costly rule justify its additional cost;

(b) the reason for adoption of the more costly rule;

(c) whether the reason for adoption of the more costly rule is based on the interests of public health, safety, or welfare, and if so, how; and

(d) whether the reason for adoption of the more costly rule is within the scope of the agency’s statutory authority, and if so, how.

4. If the purpose of this rule is to implement a *federal* rule or regulation, please state the following:
 - (a) What is the cost to implement the federal rule or regulation?

Current Fiscal Year

General Revenue _____
Federal Funds _____
Cash Funds _____
Special Revenue _____
Other (Identify) _____

Total _____

Next Fiscal Year

General Revenue _____
Federal Funds _____
Cash Funds _____
Special Revenue _____
Other (Identify) _____

Total _____

(b) What is the additional cost of the state rule?

Current Fiscal Year

General Revenue _____
Federal Funds _____
Cash Funds _____
Special Revenue _____
Other (Identify) _____

Total _____

Next Fiscal Year

General Revenue _____
Federal Funds _____
Cash Funds _____
Special Revenue _____
Other (Identify) _____

Total _____

5. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to any private individual, private entity, or private business subject to the proposed, amended, or repealed rule? Please identify those subject to the rule, and explain how they are affected.

Current Fiscal Year

\$ _____

Next Fiscal Year

\$ _____

6. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to a state, county, or municipal government to implement this rule? Is this the cost of the program or grant? Please explain how the government is affected.

Current Fiscal Year

\$ _____

Next Fiscal Year

\$ _____

7. With respect to the agency's answers to Questions #5 and #6 above, is there a new or increased cost or obligation of at least one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per year to a private individual, private entity, private business, state government, county government, municipal government, or to two (2) or more of those entities combined?

Yes No

If yes, the agency is required by Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e)(4) to file written findings at the time of filing the financial impact statement. The written findings shall be filed simultaneously with the financial impact statement and shall include, without limitation, the following:

- (1) a statement of the rule's basis and purpose;
- (2) the problem the agency seeks to address with the proposed rule, including a statement of whether a rule is required by statute;
- (3) a description of the factual evidence that:
 - (a) justifies the agency's need for the proposed rule; and
 - (b) describes how the benefits of the rule meet the relevant statutory objectives and justify the rule's costs;
- (4) a list of less costly alternatives to the proposed rule and the reasons why the alternatives do not adequately address the problem to be solved by the proposed rule;
- (5) a list of alternatives to the proposed rule that were suggested as a result of public comment and the reasons why the alternatives do not adequately address the problem to be solved by the proposed rule;
- (6) a statement of whether existing rules have created or contributed to the problem the agency seeks to address with the proposed rule and, if existing rules have created or contributed to the problem, an explanation of why amendment or repeal of the rule creating or contributing to the problem is not a sufficient response; and
- (7) an agency plan for review of the rule no less than every ten (10) years to determine whether, based upon the evidence, there remains a need for the rule including, without limitation, whether:
 - (a) the rule is achieving the statutory objectives;
 - (b) the benefits of the rule continue to justify its costs; and
 - (c) the rule can be amended or repealed to reduce costs while continuing to achieve the statutory objectives.

NOTICE OF RULE MAKING AND PUBLIC HEARING ARKANSAS ETHICS COMMISSION

NOTICE is hereby given that the Arkansas Ethics Commission intends to amend the portions of the Code of Arkansas Rules (“CAR”) under the jurisdiction of the Arkansas Ethics Commission, specifically the Rules on Ballot and Legislative Question Committees (7 CAR § 7), Rules on Campaign Contribution Limit (7 CAR § 2; seeking to repeal), Rules on Campaign Finance & Disclosure (7 CAR § 3), Rules on Conflicts (21 CAR § 2), Rules on Independent Expenditures (7 CAR § 6), Rules on Political Committees (7 CAR § 5), and Rules on Special State Employees (19 CAR § 25). The proposed amendments to the rules are intended to implement and administer the provisions of Acts 250, 270, 323, 419, 524, 592, 994, 996, 999 of the 2025 Regular Session of the 95th General Assembly, and to further implement and administer applicable provisions of the laws under the Commission’s jurisdiction. Copies of the proposed amended rules may be obtained from the Commission, which is located at 501 Woodlane, Suite 301N, Little Rock, Arkansas, 72201, telephone (501) 324-9600, and may also be found at www.ArkansasEthics.com.

Interested parties should forward written comments to Graham F. Sloan, Director, Post Office Box 1917, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1917, by 5:00 p.m. on _____, _____, 2025. The Commission will hold a public hearing on _____, _____, 2025, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Commission’s office in Little Rock to consider the written submissions and receive oral comments on the aforementioned sets of rules.

Summary of Proposed Amendments to 7 CAR § 2 et seq.
(The Rules on Campaign Contribution Limit)

Purpose:

The purpose of this proposed repeal is to bring the Code of Arkansas Rules into conformity with the legislation passed in 2025 during the 95th General Assembly of the Arkansas Legislature. A specific part of the Code of Arkansas Rules (7 CAR § 2 et seq. - The Rules on Campaign Contribution Limit) is no longer necessary. In keeping with Executive Order 23-02, and in order to keep the Code of Arkansas Rules up to date, the Arkansas Ethics Commission seeks to repeal 7-CAR § 2 - The Rules on Campaign Contribution Limit).

Summary:

Act 270 (Section 3) of 2025 amended Ark. Code Ann. 7-6-203, removing the requirement that the AEC establish the campaign contribution limit via rule making. The Rules on Campaign Contribution Limit are no longer necessary or required by law, and the AEC should seek to repeal the rules. Likewise, Act 270 of 2025 set out new guidelines for how the maximum contribution limit should be calculated and adjusted. 7 CAR § 2-101- Definitions, 7 CAR § 2-102 - Contribution limit, and 7 CAR § 2-103- Adjustment of contribution limit should be repealed in full.

Proposed Rulemaking

Title

Promulgated by:
Arkansas Ethics Commission

~~Title 7. Elections~~

~~Chapter I. Arkansas Ethics Commission~~

~~Subchapter A. Generally~~

~~Part 2. Rules on Campaign Contribution Limit~~

~~Subpart 1. Generally~~

~~7 CAR § 2-101. Definitions.~~

~~As used in this part:~~

~~(1)(A) "Approved political action committee" means any person that:~~

~~(i) Receives contributions from one (1) or more persons in order to make contributions to:~~

~~(a) Candidates;~~

~~(b) Ballot question committees;~~

~~(c) Legislative question committees;~~

~~(d) Political parties;~~

~~(e) County political party committees; or~~

~~(f) Other political action committees;~~

~~(ii) Does not accept any contribution or cumulative contributions in excess of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) from any person in any calendar year; and~~

~~(iii) Has registered pursuant to Arkansas Code § 7-6-215 prior to making contributions.~~

~~(B) "Approved political action committee" does not include:~~

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~~_____ (i) Political parties;~~

~~_____ (ii) County political party committees;~~

~~_____ (iii) The candidate's own campaign committee;~~

~~_____ (iv) Exploratory committees;~~

~~_____ (v) Ballot question committees; or~~

~~_____ (vi) Legislative question committees;~~

~~_____ (2) "Candidate" means any individual who has knowingly and willingly taken affirmative action, including solicitation of funds, for the purpose of seeking nomination for or election to any public office;~~

~~_____ (3)(A) "Contribution" means, whether direct or indirect, advances, deposits, or transfers of funds, contracts, or obligations, whether or not legally enforceable, payments, gifts, subscriptions, assessments, payment for services, dues, advancements, forbearance, loans, or pledges or promises of money or anything of value, whether or not legally enforceable, to a candidate, committee, or holder of elective office, made for the purpose of influencing the nomination or election of any candidate.~~

~~_____ (B)(i) "Contribution" includes:~~

~~_____ (a) The purchase of tickets for events such as dinners, luncheons, rallies, and similar fundraising events;~~

~~_____ (b) The granting of discounts or rebates by television stations, radio stations, and newspapers not extended on an equal basis to all candidates for the same office; and~~

~~_____ (c) Any payments for the services of any person serving as an agent of a candidate or committee by a person other than the candidate or committee or persons whose expenditures the candidates or committee must report under Arkansas Code § 7-6-201 et seq.~~

~~_____ (ii) The term "contribution" further includes any transfer of anything of value received by a committee from another committee.~~

~~_____ (iii) "Contribution" shall not include noncompensated, nonreimbursed, volunteer personal services or travel.~~

~~—————(C) "Contribution and expenditure" shall not include activity sponsored and funded by a political party to promote its candidates or nominees through events such as dinners, luncheons, rallies, or similar gatherings and shall not include nonpartisan activity designed to encourage individuals to register to vote or to vote or any communication by any membership organization to its members or stockholders if the membership organization or corporation is not organized primarily for the purpose of influencing the nomination for election or election of any candidate;~~

~~—————(4) "County political party committee" means a person that:~~

~~—————(A) Is organized at the county level for the purpose of supporting its affiliate party and making contributions;~~

~~—————(B) Is recognized by an organized political party, as defined in Arkansas Code § 7-1-101, as being affiliated with that political party;~~

~~—————(C) Receives contributions from one (1) or more persons in order to make contributions to:~~

~~—————(i) Candidates;~~

~~—————(ii) Ballot question committees;~~

~~—————(iii) Legislative question committees;~~

~~—————(iv) Political parties;~~

~~—————(v) Political action committees; or~~

~~—————(vi) Other county political party committees;~~

~~—————(D) Does not accept any contribution or cumulative contributions in excess of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) from any person in any calendar year; and~~

~~—————(E) Registers pursuant to Arkansas Code § 7-6-226 prior to making contributions;~~

~~—————(5)(A) "Election" means each election to be held to nominate or elect a candidate to any public office, including school elections.~~

~~—————(B) For the purposes of this part, a preferential primary election, a general primary election, a runoff election, a special election, and a general election shall each constitute a separate election;~~

~~—————(6) "Individual" means a human being;~~

~~(7)(A) "Legislative caucus committee" means a person that:~~

- ~~(i) Is composed exclusively of members of the General Assembly;~~
- ~~(ii) Elects or appoints officers and recognizes identified legislators as members of the organization; and~~
- ~~(iii) Exists for research and other support of policy development and interests that the membership hold in common.~~

~~(B) A "legislative caucus committee" includes, but is not limited to, a political party caucus of the:~~

- ~~(i) General Assembly;~~
- ~~(ii) Senate; or~~
- ~~(iii) House of Representatives.~~

~~(C) An organization whose only nonlegislator members are the Lieutenant Governor or the Governor is a "legislative caucus committee" under this part;~~

~~(8)(A) "Person" means any:~~

- ~~(i) Individual;~~
- ~~(ii) Proprietorship;~~
- ~~(iii) Firm;~~
- ~~(iv) Partnership;~~
- ~~(v) Joint venture;~~
- ~~(vi) Syndicate;~~
- ~~(vii) Labor union;~~
- ~~(viii) Business trust;~~
- ~~(ix) Company;~~
- ~~(x) Corporation;~~
- ~~(xi) Association;~~
- ~~(xii) Committee; or~~
- ~~(xiii) Other organization or group of persons acting in concert.~~

~~(B) It shall also include a:~~

- ~~(i) Political party;~~
- ~~(ii) County political party committee; and~~

~~_____ (iii) Legislative caucus committee; and~~

~~_____ (9)(A) "Political party" means any group of voters that:~~

~~_____ (i) At the last preceding general election, polled for its candidate for Governor in the state or nominees for presidential electors at least three percent (3%) of the entire vote cast for the office; or~~

~~_____ (ii) Has filed a petition with the Secretary of State containing at the time of filing the signatures of at least ten thousand (10,000) registered voters in the State of Arkansas, declaring the intention of organizing a political party, the name of which shall be stated in the declaration, and of participating in the next general election, and that has been declared a new political party by the Secretary of State.~~

~~_____ (B) When any political party fails to obtain three percent (3%) of the total votes cast at an election for the Office of Governor or nominees for presidential electors, it shall cease to be a political party.~~

~~_____ **7 CAR § 2-102. Contribution limit.**~~

~~_____ As of February 2, 2023, a candidate may accept a campaign contribution or contributions up to the maximum amount of three thousand three hundred dollars (\$3,300) for each election, whether opposed or unopposed, from:~~

~~_____ (1) An individual;~~

~~_____ (2) A political party;~~

~~_____ (3) A county political party committee;~~

~~_____ (4) A legislative caucus committee; or~~

~~_____ (5) An approved political action committee.~~

~~_____ **7 CAR § 2-103. Adjustment of contribution limit.**~~

~~_____ (a) The contribution limit shall be adjusted by the Arkansas Ethics Commission at the beginning of each odd-numbered year in an amount equal to the percentage certified to the Federal Election Commission by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor under 52 U.S.C. § 30116(c) as existing on January 1, 2015.~~

~~—(b) If the amount after adjustment is not a multiple of one hundred dollars (\$100), the Arkansas Ethics Commission shall round the amount to the nearest multiple of one hundred dollars (\$100).~~

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the
Code of Arkansas Rules.

Proposed Rulemaking

Title

Promulgated by:
Arkansas Ethics Commission

Title 7 Chapter I, Part 2- Rules on Campaign Contribution Limit
REPEALED

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1 State of Arkansas *As Engrossed: H2/20/25 S3/3/25*

2 95th General Assembly

A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2025

HOUSE BILL 1369

4

5 By: Representative Ray

6 *By: Senator J. Dotson*

7

8

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MAXIMUM
10 CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION LIMIT BY THE ARKANSAS ETHICS
11 COMMISSION; AMENDING PORTIONS OF LAW RESULTING FROM
12 INITIATED ACT 1 OF 1990 AND INITIATED ACT 1 OF 1996;
13 DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

14

15

16

Subtitle

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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

24

25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-6-203(a)(1)(A), concerning campaign
26 contribution limitations and resulting from Initiated Act 1 of 1990 and
27 Initiated Act 1 of 1996, is amended to read as follows:

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(a)(1)(A) It shall be unlawful for any candidate for any public office
or for any person acting on the candidate's behalf to accept campaign
contributions in excess of the maximum campaign contribution ~~level~~ limit
established by ~~rule of~~ the Arkansas Ethics Commission under subsection (i) of
this section per election from:

33

(i) An individual;

34

(ii) A political party that meets the definition of a

35

political party under § 7-1-101;

36

(iii) A political party that meets the requirements



1 of § 7-7-205;

- 2 (iv) A county political party committee;
 3 (v) A legislative caucus committee; or
 4 (vi) An approved political action committee.
 5

6 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 7-6-203(b)(1)(A), concerning campaign
 7 contribution limitations and resulting from Initiated Act 1 of 1990 and
 8 Initiated Act 1 of 1996, is amended to read as follows:

9 (b)(1)(A) It shall be unlawful for any person to make a contribution
 10 to a candidate for any public office or to any person acting on the
 11 candidate's behalf, which in the aggregate amount exceeds the maximum
 12 campaign contribution limit established by ~~rule~~ of the Arkansas Ethics
 13 Commission per election.
 14

15 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 7-6-203(i), concerning the establishment of
 16 the maximum campaign contribution limit, is amended to read as follows:

17 (i)(1) The Arkansas Ethics Commission shall establish the maximum
 18 campaign contribution limit ~~by rule~~ as follows:

19 ~~(1)(A)~~ The adjusted maximum campaign contribution limit
 20 *shall be calculated from a base amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) as of*
 21 *January 1, 2015;*

22 ~~(2)(B)(i)~~ The ~~contribution limits~~ maximum campaign
 23 contribution limit shall be adjusted ~~at the beginning of~~ each odd-numbered
 24 year in an amount equal to the percentage certified to the Federal Election
 25 Commission by the ~~United States Bureau of Labor Statistics~~ United States
 26 Secretary of Labor under 52 U.S.C. § 30116(c) as existing on January 1, ~~2015+~~
 27 2025.

28 (ii) The adjustment under subdivision (i)(1)(B)(i)
 29 of this section shall occur as soon as practicable following the
 30 certification to the Federal Election Commission by the United States
 31 Secretary of Labor, but no later than the later of:

32 (a) Thirty (30) days following the
 33 certification; or

34 (b) The next regularly scheduled meeting of
 35 the Arkansas Ethics Commission.

36 ~~(3)(C)~~ If the amount of the maximum campaign contribution

1 limit after adjustment under subdivision ~~(i)(2)~~(i)(1)(B) of this section is
2 not a multiple of one hundred dollars (\$100), the Arkansas Ethics Commission
3 shall round the amount to the nearest multiple of one hundred dollars (\$100)+
4 and.

5 ~~(4)(2)(A)~~ The Arkansas Ethics Commission shall ~~promulgate rules~~
6 ~~identifying the adjusted contribution limit under this subsection:~~

7 (i) Publish the maximum campaign contribution limit
8 established under subdivision (i)(1) of this section on the official website
9 of the Arkansas Ethics Commission and in any other location or format deemed
10 necessary by the Arkansas Ethics Commission; and

11 (ii) Make the maximum campaign contribution limit
12 established under subdivision (i)(1) of this section available to the
13 Secretary of State, elected public officials, candidates, committees under
14 this subchapter, and the public.

15 (B) The maximum campaign contribution limit established under
16 subdivision (i)(1) of this section shall be:

17 (i) Effective upon being published upon the official
18 website of the Arkansas Ethics Commission; and

19 (ii) Retroactive to the date of the certification to
20 the Federal Election Commission by the United States Secretary of Labor under
21 subdivision (i)(1)(B)(i) of this section.

22 (C) The maximum campaign contribution limit established under
23 subdivision (i)(1) of this section:

24 (i) Is not a rule under §§ 10-3-309 and 25-15-202;
25 and

26 (ii) Shall not be promulgated under the Arkansas
27 Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.

28
29 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 10-3-309(b)(1)(B), concerning the review
30 and approval of state agency rules, is amended to add an additional
31 subdivision to read as follows:

32 (vi) An adjustment to the maximum campaign
33 contribution limit under § 7-6-203(i).

34
35 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 25-15-202(9)(B), concerning the definition
36 of "rule" in the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, is amended to add an

1 additional subdivision to read as follows:

2 (ix) An adjustment to the maximum campaign
3 contribution limit under § 7-6-203(i).

4
5 SECTION 6. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
6 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that standardizing the laws related
7 to campaign finance contributes significantly to the public peace, health,
8 and safety of the citizens of the State of Arkansas; that the public peace,
9 health, and safety is negatively affected by unclear campaign finance laws
10 which lead to unintentional violations of the law and inhibit the ability of
11 citizens to exercise their right to political expression; that this act
12 preserves the public peace, health, and safety by ensuring that political
13 donors, political candidates, and elected officials are free from unintended
14 limits of their political expression by providing a more efficient and
15 transparent manner of establishing the state's maximum campaign contribution
16 limit; and that this act also preserves the public peace, health, and safety
17 by eliminating unnecessary rulemaking processes, thereby avoiding the use of
18 public funds in that rulemaking that can be allocated to other pressing needs
19 of the state. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act
20 being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health,
21 and safety shall become effective on:

22 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;
23 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,
24 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the
25 bill; or
26 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is
27 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

28
29 /s/Ray

30
31
32 **APPROVED: 3/12/25**