

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1631 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY ROAE, S. H. SMITH, TURZAI, CIVERA, MAJOR, STERN, PHILLIPS, SAYLOR, PAYNE, SCHRODER, MARSHALL, BARRAR, GRELL, REICHLEY, MUSTIO, KAUFFMAN, ROCK, VEREB, BAKER, BEAR, BOYD, BROOKS, CAUSER, CLYMER, CREIGHTON, CUTLER, DALLY, DENLINGER, EVERETT, FARRY, FLECK, GABLER, GEIST, GINGRICH, GROVE, HARRIS, HELM, HICKERNELL, M. KELLER, KNOWLES, MARSICO, MENSCH, METZGAR, MICOZZIE, MILLARD, MILLER, MILNE, MOUL, MURT, OBERLANDER, O'NEILL, PICKETT, READSHAW, REED, ROHRER, SCAVELLO, SONNEY, STEVENSON, SWANGER, TRUE, VULAKOVICH AND WATSON, JUNE 23, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JUNE 23, 2009

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 25 (Elections) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in registration system, further providing for open
3 records and documents; and providing for voter registration
4 drives.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Section 1207 of Title 25 of the Pennsylvania
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

9 § 1207. Open records and documents.

10 (a) Scope.--The following documents under this part are open
11 to public inspection except as otherwise provided in this
12 section:

13 (1) Records of a registration commission and district
14 registers.

15 (2) Street lists.

- 1 (3) Official voter registration applications.
2 (4) Petitions and appeals.
3 (5) Witness lists.
4 (6) Accounts and contracts.
5 (7) Reports, including reports filed under Chapter 20
6 (relating to voter registration drives).

7 (b) Use.--Open material under subsection (a) may be
8 inspected during ordinary business hours subject to the
9 efficient operation of a commission. Public inspection shall
10 only be in the presence of a commissioner [or], authorized
11 commission employee or authorized employee of the department, as
12 applicable, and shall be subject to proper regulation for
13 safekeeping of the material and subject to this part. Upon
14 request, a photocopy of the record or computer-generated data
15 record shall be provided at cost. The material may not be used
16 for commercial or improper purposes.

17 Section 2. Title 25 is amended by adding a chapter to read:

18 CHAPTER 20
19 VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVES

20 Sec.

21 2001. Definitions.

22 2002. Reporting required.

23 2003. Forms.

24 2004. Content of reports.

25 2005. Timing of reports.

26 2006. Limitations on contributions.

27 § 2001. Definitions.

28 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
29 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
30 context clearly indicates otherwise:

1 "Contribution." A payment, gift, subscription, assessment,
2 contract, payment for services, dues, loan, forbearance, advance
3 or deposit of money or any valuable thing to an entity made for
4 the purpose of supporting or financing a voter registration
5 drive organized or conducted by the entity. The term does not
6 include a contribution as defined in section 1621 of the act of
7 June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania
8 Election Code.

9 "Expenditure." A payment, distribution, loan or advancement
10 of money or other valuable thing by an entity made for the
11 purpose of a voter registration drive organized or conducted by
12 the entity or individuals associated with the entity. The term
13 does not include any expenditure as defined in section 1621 of
14 the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the
15 Pennsylvania Election Code.

16 "Government agency." The Department of State, the Department
17 of Transportation, a commission established under section 1203
18 (relating to commissions), an agency enumerated in section
19 1325(a) (relating to government agencies) or 1327(c) (2)
20 (relating to preparation and distribution of applications).

21 "Political committee." The term as defined in section
22 1621(h) of the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as
23 the Pennsylvania Election Code.

24 "Voter registration drive." An effort to encourage
25 individuals to register to vote under this part that is
26 supported, organized or conducted by an entity, other than a
27 government agency, in which the entity or individuals associated
28 with the entity do one or more of the following:

- 29 (1) assist individuals with the completion of voter
30 registration applications;

1 (2) accept completed registration applications; or
2 (3) transmit completed applications to a commission.
3 § 2002. Reporting required.

4 Each entity that receives a contribution or makes an
5 expenditure shall file with the secretary a report of the
6 contribution or expenditure.

7 § 2003. Forms.

8 A report shall be filed on a form designed by the secretary.
9 The secretary shall design forms to accommodate reports of
10 single contributions or expenditures and reports of multiple
11 contributions or expenditures. The secretary may establish a
12 system for the electronic reporting of contributions or
13 expenditures under this chapter.

14 § 2004. Content of reports.

15 (a) General information.--In addition to the information
16 required under subsections (b) and (c), a report required under
17 section 2002 (relating to reporting required) shall contain the
18 following information:

- 19 (1) The name of the entity.
20 (2) The address of the principal place of business of
21 the entity.
22 (3) The telephone number of the entity.
23 (4) The names and addresses of all officers of the
24 entity.

25 (b) Contribution information.--

- 26 (1) For each contribution received, a report filed under
27 this chapter shall contain all of the following:
28 (i) The date on which the contribution was received.
29 (ii) The full name and mailing address of the person
30 who made the contribution.

1 (2) If the person who made the contribution is an
2 individual, the report shall also include the name of the
3 individual's employer, if any, or the principal place of
4 business of the individual.

5 (3) The person who made the contribution shall be
6 responsible for the accuracy of the information furnished to
7 the entity.

8 (c) Expenditure information.--For each expenditure made, a
9 report filed under this chapter shall contain all of the
10 following:

11 (1) The date the expenditure was made.

12 (2) The full name and address of the person to whom the
13 expenditure was made.

14 (3) The specific purpose for which the expenditure was
15 made.

16 § 2005. Timing of reports.

17 Each contribution shall be reported no later than ten
18 business days after it is received by an entity. Each
19 expenditure shall be reported no later than ten business days
20 after it is made by an entity.

21 § 2006. Limitations on contributions.

22 It is unlawful for any person other than a natural person or
23 a political committee to make a contribution. It is also
24 unlawful for any entity to knowingly accept or receive a
25 contribution from a person other than a natural person or a
26 political committee.

27 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 90 days.