

2 state and county executive committees of political parties
3 regulated by chapter 103 shall not be considered political

5 regulated by chapter 607 or chapter 617 or other business
6 entities formed for purposes other than to support or oppose

8 political activities are limited to contributions to
9 candidates, political parties, or political committees or

11 corporate or business funds and if no contributions are
12 received by such corporations or business entities.

14 (a) A gift, subscription, conveyance, deposit, loan,
15 payment, or distribution of money or anything of value,

17 monetary value in any form, made for the purpose of
18 influencing the results of an election.

20 between committees of continuous existence, or between a
21 political committee and a committee of continuous existence.

23 or political committee, of compensation for the personal
24 services of another person which are rendered to a candidate

26 committee for such services.

27 (d) The transfer of funds by a campaign treasurer or

29 separate interest-bearing account or certificate of deposit,
30 and the term includes any interest earned on such account or

1 (e) Any funds received by a political committee which
2 are used or intended to be used, directly or indirectly, to
3 pay for a political advertisement supporting or opposing an
4 elected public official.

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6 Notwithstanding the foregoing meanings of "contribution," the
7 word shall not be construed to include services, including,
8 but not limited to, legal and accounting services, provided
9 without compensation by individuals volunteering a portion or
10 all of their time on behalf of a candidate or political
11 committee. This definition shall not be construed to include
12 editorial endorsements.

13 (4) "Expenditure" means a purchase, payment,
14 distribution, loan, advance, transfer of funds by a campaign
15 treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer between a primary
16 depository and a separate interest-bearing account or
17 certificate of deposit, or gift of money or anything of value
18 made for the purpose of influencing the results of an election
19 or for purchasing a political advertisement supporting or
20 opposing an elected public official. However, "expenditure"
21 does not include a purchase, payment, distribution, loan,
22 advance, or gift of money or anything of value made for the
23 purpose of influencing the results of an election when made by
24 an organization, in existence prior to the time during which a
25 candidate qualifies or an issue is placed on the ballot for
26 that election, for the purpose of printing or distributing
27 such organization's newsletter, containing a statement by such
28 organization in support of or opposition to a candidate or
29 issue, which newsletter is distributed only to members of such
30 organization.

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1 Section 2. Subsection (5) of section 106.04, Florida
2 Statutes, is amended to read:

3 106.04 Committees of continuous existence.--

4 (5) No committee of continuous existence shall
5 contribute to any candidate or political committee an amount
6 in excess of the limits contained in s. 106.08(1) or
7 participate in any other activity which is prohibited by this
8 chapter. If any violation occurs, it shall be punishable as
9 provided in this chapter for the given offense. No funds of a
10 committee of continuous existence shall be expended on behalf
11 of a candidate, except by means of a contribution made through
12 the duly appointed campaign treasurer of a candidate. No such
13 committee shall make expenditures in support of, or in
14 opposition to, an issue or an elected public official unless
15 such committee first registers as a political committee
16 pursuant to this chapter and undertakes all the practices and
17 procedures required thereof; provided such committee may make
18 contributions in a total amount not to exceed 25 percent of
19 its aggregate income, as reflected in the annual report filed
20 for the previous year, to one or more political committees
21 registered pursuant to s. 106.03 and formed to support or
22 oppose issues.

23 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.
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HOUSE SUMMARY

Modifies the definitions of the terms "political committee," "contribution," and "expenditure" for purposes of applicability and enforcement of the state's campaign finance laws with respect to political advertising in support of or in opposition to an elected public official. Provides that a committee of continuous existence may not make an expenditure in support of or in opposition to an elected public official unless the committee first registers as a political committee and undertakes all practices and procedures required thereof.