

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to campaign financing; amending s.  
 3           106.141, F.S.; allowing unopposed legislative candidates  
 4           to transfer surplus campaign funds to or retain such funds  
 5           in a campaign account for reelection to the same office;  
 6           establishing limits on the transferable amount of such  
 7           funds; providing an effective date.

8  
 9   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

10  
 11           Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section  
 12           106.141, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

13           106.141   Disposition of surplus funds by candidates.--

14           (4) (a)   Except as provided in paragraph (b), any candidate  
 15           required to dispose of funds pursuant to this section shall, at  
 16           the option of the candidate, dispose of such funds by any of the  
 17           following means, or any combination thereof:

18           1.   Return pro rata to each contributor the funds that have  
 19           not been spent or obligated.

20           2.   Donate the funds that have not been spent or obligated  
 21           to a charitable organization or organizations that meet the  
 22           qualifications of s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

23           3.   Give not more than \$10,000 of the funds that have not  
 24           been spent or obligated to the political party of which such  
 25           candidate is a member, except that a candidate for the ~~Florida~~  
 26           Senate may give not more than \$30,000 of such funds to the  
 27           political party of which the candidate is a member.

28           4.   Give the funds that have not been spent or obligated:

HB 1037

2006

29 | a. In the case of a candidate for state office, to the  
30 | state, to be deposited in either the Election Campaign Financing  
31 | Trust Fund or the General Revenue Fund, as designated by the  
32 | candidate; or

33 | b. In the case of a candidate for an office of a political  
34 | subdivision, to such political subdivision, to be deposited in  
35 | the general fund thereof.

36 | 5. With respect to an unopposed candidate for the House of  
37 | Representatives or the Senate, transfer the funds to or retain  
38 | the funds in a campaign account for the same office to which the  
39 | candidate was elected by virtue of being unopposed, with a  
40 | maximum per election of \$50,000 for a candidate for the House of  
41 | Representatives and \$150,000 for a candidate for the Senate.

42 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.