

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House

Comm: RCS 03/21/2011

The Committee on Rules Subcommittee on Ethics and Elections (Diaz de la Portilla) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 52 and 53 insert:

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Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 106.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

106.021 Campaign treasurers; deputies; primary and secondary depositories.-

(1) (a) Each candidate for nomination or election to office and each political committee shall appoint a campaign treasurer.

Each person who seeks to qualify for nomination or election to, or retention in, office shall appoint a campaign treasurer and

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designate a primary campaign depository prior to qualifying for office. Any person who seeks to qualify for election or nomination to any office by means of the petitioning process shall appoint a treasurer and designate a primary depository on or before the date he or she obtains the petitions. Each candidate shall at the same time he or she designates a campaign depository and appoints a treasurer also designate the office for which he or she is a candidate. If the candidate is running for an office which will be grouped on the ballot with two or more similar offices to be filled at the same election, the candidate must indicate for which group or district office he or she is running. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit a candidate, at a later date, from changing the designation of the office for which he or she is a candidate. However, if a candidate changes the designated office for which he or she is a candidate, the candidate must notify all contributors in writing of the intent to seek a different office and offer to return pro rata, upon their request, those contributions given in support of the original office sought. This notification shall be given within 15 days after the filing of the change of designation and shall include a standard form developed by the Division of Elections for requesting the return of contributions. The notice requirement shall not apply to any change in a numerical designation resulting solely from redistricting. If, within 30 days after being notified by the candidate of the intent to seek a different office, the contributor notifies the candidate in writing that the contributor wishes his or her contribution to be returned, the candidate shall return the contribution, on a pro rata basis, calculated as of the date the change of



designation is filed. Up to a maximum of the contribution limit in s. 106.08 for the newly designated office, any contribution contributions not requested to be returned within the 30-day period may be used by the candidate for the newly designated office; however, the candidate must dispose of any amount exceeding the contribution limit pursuant to the options in ss. 106.11(5)(b)-(d) for a candidate who withdraws his or her candidacy. No person shall accept any contribution or make any expenditure with a view to bringing about his or her nomination, election, or retention in public office, or authorize another to accept such contributions or make such expenditure on the person's behalf, unless such person has appointed a campaign treasurer and designated a primary campaign depository. A candidate for an office voted upon statewide may appoint not more than 15 deputy campaign treasurers, and any other candidate or political committee may appoint not more than 3 deputy campaign treasurers. The names and addresses of the campaign treasurer and deputy campaign treasurers so appointed shall be filed with the officer before whom such candidate is required to qualify or with whom such political committee is required to register pursuant to s. 106.03.

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======= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========== And the title is amended as follows:

66 Between lines 4 and 5

67 insert:

> amending s. 106.021, F.S.; providing requirements and restrictions on the use of contributions received prior to a candidate changing his or her candidacy to



71 a new office, to conform;