HB 181 2019

1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to campaign financing; amending s. 3 106.011, F.S.; revising the definition of the term 4 "contribution" to conform to changes made by the act; 5 amending ss. 106.07 and 106.0703, F.S.; revising the 6 schedule governing campaign finance reporting for 7 candidates, political committees, and electioneering 8 communications organizations; revising reporting 9 requirements regarding transfers made by political 10 committees and electioneering communications 11 organizations, to conform; creating s. 106.38, F.S.; 12 prohibiting a political committee or an electioneering communications organization from transferring funds to 13 14 certain entities; providing a transitional provision regarding final monthly reports by candidates, 15 16 political committees, and electioneering 17 communications organizations; providing an effective 18 date. 20 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

19

21 22

Subsection (5) of section 106.011, Florida Section 1. Statutes, is amended to read:

24

23

Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the 106.011 following terms have the following meanings unless the context

25

Page 1 of 16

clearly indicates otherwise:

- (5) "Contribution" means:
- (a) A gift, subscription, conveyance, deposit, loan, payment, or distribution of money or anything of value, including contributions in kind having an attributable monetary value in any form, made for the purpose of influencing the results of an election or making an electioneering communication.
- (b) A transfer of funds between political committees, between electioneering communications organizations, or between any combination of these groups.
- (b) (c) The payment, by a person other than a candidate or political committee, of compensation for the personal services of another person which are rendered to a candidate or political committee without charge to the candidate or committee for such services.
- (c) (d) The transfer of funds by a campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer between a primary depository and a separate interest-bearing account or certificate of deposit, and the term includes interest earned on such account or certificate.

Notwithstanding the foregoing meanings of "contribution," the term may not be construed to include services, including, but not limited to, legal and accounting services, provided without

Page 2 of 16

compensation by individuals volunteering a portion or all of their time on behalf of a candidate or political committee or editorial endorsements.

Section 2. Subsections (1) and (2) and paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 106.07, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

106.07 Reports; certification and filing.-

- (1) Each campaign treasurer designated by a candidate or political committee pursuant to s. 106.021 shall file regular reports of all contributions received, and all expenditures made, by or on behalf of such candidate or political committee. Except as provided in paragraphs (a) and (b), reports shall be filed on the 10th day following the end of each calendar quarter month from the time the campaign treasurer is appointed, except that, if the 10th day following the end of a calendar quarter month occurs on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the report shall be filed on the next following day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. Quarterly Monthly reports must shall include all contributions received and expenditures made during the calendar quarter month which have not otherwise been reported pursuant to this section.
- (a) A statewide candidate or a political committee required to file reports with the division must file reports:
- 1. on the 60th day immediately preceding the primary election, and each week thereafter, with the last weekly report

Page 3 of 16

being filed on the 4th day immediately preceding the general election.

- 2. On the 10th day immediately preceding the general election, and each day thereafter, with the last daily report being filed the 5th day immediately preceding the general election.
- (b) Any other candidate or a political committee required to file reports with a filing officer other than the division must file reports on the 32nd, 25th, 18th, 11th, and 4th days 60th day immediately preceding the primary election, and on the 46th, 32nd, 25th, 18th, 11th, and 4th days biweekly on each Friday thereafter through and including the 4th day immediately preceding the general election, with additional reports due on the 25th and 11th days before the primary election and the general election.
- (c) Following the last day of qualifying for office, any unopposed candidate need only file a report within 90 days after the date such candidate became unopposed. Such report shall contain all previously unreported contributions and expenditures as required by this section and shall reflect disposition of funds as required by s. 106.141.
- (d)1. When a special election is called to fill a vacancy in office, all political committees making contributions or expenditures to influence the results of such special election or the preceding special primary election shall file campaign

treasurers' reports with the filing officer on the dates set by the Department of State pursuant to s. 100.111.

- 2. When an election is called for an issue to appear on the ballot at a time when no candidates are scheduled to appear on the ballot, all political committees making contributions or expenditures in support of or in opposition to such issue shall file reports on the 18th and 4th days before such election.
- (e) The filing officer shall provide each candidate with a schedule designating the beginning and end of reporting periods as well as the corresponding designated due dates.
- (2) (a) 1. All reports required of a candidate by this section shall be filed with the officer before whom the candidate is required by law to qualify. All candidates who file with the Department of State shall file their reports pursuant to s. 106.0705. Except as provided in s. 106.0705, reports shall be filed not later than 5 p.m. of the day designated; however, any report postmarked by the United States Postal Service no later than midnight of the day designated is deemed to have been filed in a timely manner. Any report received by the filing officer within 5 days after the designated due date that was delivered by the United States Postal Service is deemed timely filed unless it has a postmark that indicates that the report was mailed after the designated due date. A certificate of mailing obtained from and dated by the United States Postal Service at the time of mailing, or a receipt from an established

courier company, which bears a date on or before the date on which the report is due, suffices as proof of mailing in a timely manner. Reports other than daily reports must contain information on all previously unreported contributions received and expenditures made as of the preceding Friday, except that the report filed on the Friday immediately preceding the election must contain information on all previously unreported contributions received and expenditures made as of the day preceding that designated due date; daily reports must contain information on all previously unreported contributions received as of the preceding day. All such reports are open to public inspection.

- 2. This subsection does not prohibit the governing body of a political subdivision, by ordinance or resolution, from imposing upon its own officers and candidates electronic filing requirements not in conflict with s. 106.0705. Expenditure of public funds for such purpose is deemed to be for a valid public purpose.
- (b)1. Any report that is deemed to be incomplete by the officer with whom the candidate qualifies must be accepted on a conditional basis. The campaign treasurer shall be notified by certified mail or by another method using a common carrier that provides a proof of delivery of the notice as to why the report is incomplete and within 7 days after receipt of such notice must file an addendum to the report providing all information

necessary to complete the report in compliance with this section. Failure to file a complete report after such notice constitutes a violation of this chapter.

- 2. Notice is deemed complete upon proof of delivery of a written notice to the mailing or street address of the campaign treasurer or registered agent of record with the filing officer.
- (4) (a) Except for daily reports, to which only the contributions provisions below apply, and except as provided in paragraph (b), each report required by this section must contain:
- 1. The full name, address, and occupation, if any, of each person who has made one or more contributions to or for such committee or candidate within the reporting period, together with the amount and date of such contributions. For corporations, the report must provide as clear a description as practicable of the principal type of business conducted by the corporation. However, if the contribution is \$100 or less or is from a relative, as defined in s. 112.312, provided that the relationship is reported, the occupation of the contributor or the principal type of business need not be listed.
- 2. The name and address of each political committee from which the reporting committee or the candidate received, or to which the reporting committee or candidate made, any transfer of funds, together with the amounts and dates of all transfers.
 - 3. Each loan for campaign purposes to or from any person

or political committee within the reporting period, together with the full names, addresses, and occupations, and principal places of business, if any, of the lender and endorsers, if any, and the date and amount of such loans.

- 4. A statement of each contribution, rebate, refund, or other receipt not otherwise listed under subparagraphs 1. through 3.
- 5. The total sums of all loans, in-kind contributions, and other receipts by or for such committee or candidate during the reporting period. The reporting forms shall be designed to elicit separate totals for in-kind contributions, loans, and other receipts.
- 6. The full name and address of each person to whom expenditures have been made by or on behalf of the committee or candidate within the reporting period; the amount, date, and purpose of each such expenditure; and the name and address of, and office sought by, each candidate on whose behalf such expenditure was made. However, expenditures made from the petty cash fund provided by s. 106.12 need not be reported individually.
- 7. The full name and address of each person to whom an expenditure for personal services, salary, or reimbursement for authorized expenses as provided in s. 106.021(3) has been made and which is not otherwise reported, including the amount, date, and purpose of such expenditure. However, expenditures made from

the petty cash fund provided for in s. 106.12 need not be reported individually. Receipts for reimbursement for authorized expenditures shall be retained by the treasurer along with the records for the campaign account.

- 8. The total amount withdrawn and the total amount spent for petty cash purposes pursuant to this chapter during the reporting period.
- 9. The total sum of expenditures made by such committee or candidate during the reporting period.
- 10. The amount and nature of debts and obligations owed by or to the committee or candidate, which relate to the conduct of any political campaign.
- 11. Transaction information for each credit card purchase. Receipts for each credit card purchase shall be retained by the treasurer with the records for the campaign account.
- 12. The amount and nature of any separate interest-bearing accounts or certificates of deposit and identification of the financial institution in which such accounts or certificates of deposit are located.
- 13. The primary purposes of an expenditure made indirectly through a campaign treasurer pursuant to s. 106.021(3) for goods and services such as communications media placement or procurement services, campaign signs, insurance, and other expenditures that include multiple components as part of the expenditure. The primary purpose of an expenditure shall be that

Page 9 of 16

purpose, including integral and directly related components, that comprises 80 percent of such expenditure.

Section 3. Subsections (1) and (2) and paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 106.0703, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

106.0703 Electioneering communications organizations; reporting requirements; certification and filing; penalties.—

- (1)(a) Each electioneering communications organization shall file regular reports of all contributions received and all expenditures made by or on behalf of the organization. Except as provided in paragraph (b) paragraphs (b) and (c), reports must be filed on the 10th day following the end of each calendar quarter month from the time the organization is registered. However, if the 10th day following the end of a calendar quarter month occurs on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the report must be filed on the next following day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. Quarterly Monthly reports must include all contributions received and expenditures made during the calendar quarter month that have not otherwise been reported pursuant to this section.
- (b) For an electioneering communications organization required to file reports with the division, reports must be filed:
- 1. On the 60th day immediately preceding the primary election, and each week thereafter, with the last weekly report

Page 10 of 16

being filed on the 4th day immediately preceding the general election.

- 2. On the 10th day immediately preceding the general election, and every day thereafter excluding the 4th day immediately preceding the general election, with the last daily report being filed the day before the general election.
- (c) For An electioneering communications organization must file reports required to file reports with a filing officer other than the division, reports must be filed on the 32nd, 25th, 18th, 11th, and 4th days 60th day immediately preceding the primary election, and on the 46th, 32nd, 25th, 18th, 11th, and 4th days biweekly on each Friday thereafter through and including the 4th day immediately preceding the general election, with additional reports due on the 25th and 11th days before the primary election and the general election.
- (c) (d) When a special election is called to fill a vacancy in office, all electioneering communications organizations making contributions or expenditures to influence the results of the special election shall file reports with the filing officer on the dates set by the Department of State pursuant to s. 100.111.
- (d) (e) In addition to the reports required by paragraph (a), an electioneering communications organization that is registered with the Department of State and that makes a contribution or expenditure to influence the results of a county

Page 11 of 16

or municipal election that is not being held at the same time as a state or federal election must file reports with the county or municipal filing officer on the same dates as county or municipal candidates or committees for that election. The electioneering communications organization must also include the expenditure in the next report filed with the Division of Elections pursuant to this section following the county or municipal election.

- (e)(f) The filing officer shall make available to each electioneering communications organization a schedule designating the beginning and end of reporting periods as well as the corresponding designated due dates.
- (2) (a) Except as provided in s. 106.0705, the reports required of an electioneering communications organization shall be filed with the filing officer not later than 5 p.m. of the day designated. However, any report postmarked by the United States Postal Service no later than midnight of the day designated is deemed to have been filed in a timely manner. Any report received by the filing officer within 5 days after the designated due date that was delivered by the United States Postal Service is deemed timely filed unless it has a postmark that indicates that the report was mailed after the designated due date. A certificate of mailing obtained from and dated by the United States Postal Service at the time of mailing, or a receipt from an established courier company, which bears a date

on or before the date on which the report is due, suffices as proof of mailing in a timely manner. Reports other than daily reports must contain information on all previously unreported contributions received and expenditures made as of the preceding Friday, except that the report filed on the Friday immediately preceding the election must contain information on all previously unreported contributions received and expenditures made as of the day preceding the designated due date; daily reports must contain information on all previously unreported contributions received as of the preceding day. All such reports are open to public inspection.

- (b)1. Any report that is deemed to be incomplete by the officer with whom the electioneering communications organization files shall be accepted on a conditional basis. The treasurer of the electioneering communications organization shall be notified, by certified mail or other common carrier that can establish proof of delivery for the notice, as to why the report is incomplete. Within 7 days after receipt of such notice, the treasurer must file an addendum to the report providing all information necessary to complete the report in compliance with this section. Failure to file a complete report after such notice constitutes a violation of this chapter.
- 2. Notice is deemed sufficient upon proof of delivery of written notice to the mailing or street address of the treasurer or registered agent of the electioneering communication

Page 13 of 16

326 organization on record with the filing officer.

- (3) (a) Except for daily reports, to which only the contribution provisions below apply, Each report required by this section must contain:
- 1. The full name, address, and occupation, if any, of each person who has made one or more contributions to or for such electioneering communications organization within the reporting period, together with the amount and date of such contributions. For corporations, the report must provide as clear a description as practicable of the principal type of business conducted by the corporation. However, if the contribution is \$100 or less, the occupation of the contributor or the principal type of business need not be listed.
- 2. The name and address of each political committee from which or to which the reporting electioneering communications organization made any transfer of funds, together with the amounts and dates of all transfers.
- 2.3. Each loan for electioneering communication purposes to or from any person or political committee within the reporting period, together with the full names, addresses, and occupations and principal places of business, if any, of the lender and endorsers, if any, and the date and amount of such loans.
- 3.4. A statement of each contribution, rebate, refund, or other receipt not otherwise listed under <u>subparagraph 1. or</u>

Page 14 of 16

subparagraph 2. subparagraphs 1.-3.

- $\underline{4.5.}$ The total sums of all loans, in-kind contributions, and other receipts by or for such electioneering communications organization during the reporting period. The reporting forms shall be designed to elicit separate totals for in-kind contributions, loans, and other receipts.
- 5.6. The full name and address of each person to whom expenditures have been made by or on behalf of the electioneering communications organization within the reporting period and the amount, date, and purpose of each expenditure.
- $\underline{6.7.}$ The full name and address of each person to whom an expenditure for personal services, salary, or reimbursement for expenses has been made and that is not otherwise reported, including the amount, date, and purpose of the expenditure.
- 7.8. The total sum of expenditures made by the electioneering communications organization during the reporting period.
- 8.9. The amount and nature of debts and obligations owed by or to the electioneering communications organization that relate to the conduct of any electioneering communication.
- 9.10. Transaction information for each credit card purchase. Receipts for each credit card purchase shall be retained by the electioneering communications organization.
- 10.11. The amount and nature of any separate interestbearing accounts or certificates of deposit and identification

Page 15 of 16

of the financial institution in which such accounts or certificates of deposit are located.

11.12. The primary purposes of an expenditure made indirectly through an electioneering communications organization for goods and services, such as communications media placement or procurement services and other expenditures that include multiple components as part of the expenditure. The primary purpose of an expenditure shall be that purpose, including integral and directly related components, that comprises 80 percent of such expenditure.

Section 4. Section 106.38, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

106.38 Transfer of political committee and electioneering communications organization funds.—A political committee or an electioneering communications organization may not transfer funds to another political committee, electioneering communications organization, or a political party or an affiliated party committee.

Section 5. Final monthly campaign finance reports for September 2019 filed by candidates, political committees, and electioneering communications organizations pursuant to present ss. 106.07(1) and 106.0703(1), Florida Statutes, respectively, are due on Tuesday, October 9, 2019.

Section 6. This act shall take effect October 1, 2019.

Page 16 of 16