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H.619

Introduced by Representative Sullivan of Dorset

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Elections; campaign finance; candidates; expenditures; child care

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to allow a candidate to make campaign expenditures for the candidate's child care costs incurred as a direct result of campaign activity.

~~An act relating to permitting candidate expenditures for child care costs~~
An act relating to permitted candidate expenditures

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

~~Sec. 1. 17 V.S.A. § 2901 is amended to read:~~

~~§ 2901. DEFINITIONS~~

~~As used in this chapter:~~

~~* * *~~

~~(7) "Expenditure" means a payment, disbursement, distribution, advance, deposit, loan, or gift of money or anything of value, paid or promised to be paid, for the purpose of influencing an election, advocating a position on a public question, or supporting or opposing one or more candidates.~~

1 ~~(A) For a candidate, an expenditure may include the cost of child~~
2 ~~care for the candidate's dependent child if the child care cost is incurred as a~~
3 ~~direct result of campaign activity.~~

4 ~~(B) As used in this chapter, "expenditure" shall not include any of the~~
5 ~~following:~~

6 ~~(A)(i) a personal loan of money to a candidate from a lending~~
7 ~~institution made in the ordinary course of business;~~

8 ~~(B)(ii) services provided without compensation by individuals~~
9 ~~volunteering their time on behalf of a candidate, political committee, or~~
10 ~~political party;~~

11 ~~(C)(iii) unreimbursed travel expenses paid for by an individual for~~
12 ~~himself or herself who volunteers personal services to a candidate; or~~

13 ~~(D)(iv) unreimbursed campaign-related travel expenses paid for by~~
14 ~~the candidate or the candidate's spouse.~~

15 * * *

16 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

17 ~~This act shall take effect on passage.~~

Sec. 1. 17 V.S.A. § 2901 is amended to read:

§ 2901. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

* * *

(7) "Expenditure" means a payment, disbursement, distribution, advance, deposit, loan, or gift of money or anything of value, paid or promised

to be paid, for the purpose of influencing an election, advocating a position on a public question, or supporting or opposing one or more candidates.

(A) Expenditures may include those expenses that are necessary to allow a candidate to campaign, such as expenses for the care of a dependent family member that are incurred as a direct result of campaign activity.

(B) As used in this chapter, “expenditure” shall not include any of the following:

(A)(i) a personal loan of money to a candidate from a lending institution made in the ordinary course of business;

(B)(ii) services provided without compensation by individuals volunteering their time on behalf of a candidate, political committee, or political party;

(C)(iii) unreimbursed travel expenses paid for by an individual for himself or herself who volunteers personal services to a candidate; or

(D)(iv) unreimbursed campaign-related travel expenses paid for by the candidate or the candidate’s spouse.

* * *

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This act shall take effect on passage.