

H.10

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.

(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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Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.