

1 H.10

2 Introduced by Representative Copeland Hanzas of Bradford

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Elections; campaign finance; candidates; expenditures; permitted  
6 expenditures

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to explicitly  
8 permit candidates to spend campaign funds on expenses necessary to allow a  
9 candidate to campaign, such as expenses for the care of a dependent family  
10 member that are incurred as a direct result of campaign activity.

11 An act relating to permitted candidate expenditures

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

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

14 § 2901. DEFINITIONS

15 As used in this chapter:

16 \* \* \*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

17 \* \* \*

18 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

19 This act shall take effect on passage.