

1 H.116

2 Introduced by Representatives Page of Newport City, Labor of Morgan,
3 Coffin of Cavendish, Keyser of Rutland City, Krasnow of South
4 Burlington, Morrissey of Bennington, Parsons of Newbury,
5 Tagliavia of Corinth, and Wells of Brownington

6 Referred to Committee on

7 Date:

8 Subject: Elections; campaign finance; contribution limitations

9 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to limit the total
10 amount of campaign contributions to candidates for State Representative and
11 State Senator to the annual amount of compensation for those offices.

12 An act relating to limiting campaign contributions for State Representatives
13 and State Senators

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

15 Sec. 1. 17 V.S.A. § 2941 is amended to read:

16 § 2941. LIMITATIONS OF CONTRIBUTIONS

17 (a) In any election cycle:

18 (1)(A) A candidate for ~~State Representative or for~~ local office shall not
19 accept contributions totaling more than:

20 (i) \$1,000.00 from a single source; or

1 (ii) \$1,000.00 from a political committee.

2 (B) Such a candidate may accept unlimited contributions from a
3 political party.

4 (2)(A) A candidate for ~~State Senator or for~~ county office shall not accept
5 contributions totaling more than:

6 (i) \$1,500.00 from a single source; or

7 (ii) \$1,500.00 from a political committee.

8 (B) Such a candidate may accept unlimited contributions from a
9 political party.

10 (3)(A) A candidate for State Representative shall not accept
11 contributions totaling more than:

12 (i) \$1,000.00 from a single source, including contributions made
13 by a candidate to the candidate's own campaign;

14 (ii) \$1,000.00 from a political committee; or

15 (iii) \$1,000.00 from a political party.

16 (B) Such a candidate shall not accept contributions totaling more than
17 \$29,000.00 from all sources in an election cycle.

18 (4)(A) A candidate for State Senator shall not accept contributions
19 totaling more than:

20 (i) \$1,500.00 from a single source, including contributions made
21 by a candidate to the candidate's own campaign;

1 (ii) \$1,500.00 from a political committee; or

2 (iii) \$1,500.00 from a political party.

3 (B) Such a candidate shall not accept contributions totaling more than
4 \$29,000.00 from all sources in an election cycle.

5 ~~(3)~~(5)(A) A candidate for the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor,
6 Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Auditor of Accounts, or Attorney General
7 shall not accept contributions totaling more than:

8 (i) \$4,000.00 from a single source; or

9 (ii) \$4,000.00 from a political committee.

10 (B) Such a candidate may accept unlimited contributions from a
11 political party.

12 ~~(4)~~(6) A political committee shall not accept contributions totaling more
13 than:

14 (A) \$4,000.00 from a single source;

15 (B) \$4,000.00 from a political committee; or

16 (C) \$4,000.00 from a political party.

17 ~~(5)~~(7) A political party shall not accept contributions totaling more than:

18 (A) \$10,000.00 from a single source;

19 (B) \$10,000.00 from a political committee; or

20 (C) \$60,000.00 from a political party.

21 ~~(6)~~ [Repealed.]

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Sec. 2. 17 V.S.A. § 2947 is amended to read:

§ 2947. CONTRIBUTIONS FROM A CANDIDATE

~~This subchapter shall not be interpreted to limit the amount a candidate may contribute to his or her own campaign.~~ The provisions of this subchapter shall be interpreted to limit the amount a candidate for State Representative or State Senator, but not any candidate for other offices, may contribute to the candidate's own campaign.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.