

CCS#2 SS SCS HB 2203 -- INVESTMENT OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS

This bill requires funds held in candidate committees, campaign committees, debt service committees, and exploratory committees to be liquid and readily available for the specific and limited purposes allowed by law. These funds may be invested only in short-term treasury instruments or short-term bank certificates with durations of six months or less, or that allow the removal of funds at any time without any additional financial penalty other than the loss of interest income. Continuing committees, political party committees, and other committees such as out-of-state committees not formed for the benefit of any single candidate or ballot issue are not subject to the bill.

Any person who registers as a lobbyist must dissolve his or her candidate committee and can disburse moneys from such committee only as follows upon dissolution:

- (1) Returning a contribution made to the candidate committee to the entity responsible for making the contribution to the committee;
- (2) Donating moneys to a nonprofit entity qualified as exempt from federal taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended; or
- (3) Transferring moneys to a political party committee.

Any person who transfers funds from his or her candidate committee, or a committee over which they have control over the expenditures, to any other committee cannot be compensated, for any purpose, by the committee that received such funds. No person who registers as a lobbyist may transfer funds from any candidate committee, exploratory committee, debt service committee, or continuing committee under his or her control to any such committee controlled by a candidate or public official, as defined under Section 105.470, RSMo.

The bill contains a severability clause.