

HB 2450 -- CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

SPONSOR: Arthur

Beginning January 1, 2017, the amount of contributions made by or accepted from any person other than the candidate in any one election shall not exceed the following:

(1) To elect an individual to the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Auditor, or Attorney General, \$5000;

(2) To elect an individual to the office of State Senator, \$1500;

(3) To elect an individual to the office of State Representative, \$750;

(4) To elect an individual to any other office, including judicial office, if the population of the electoral district, ward, or other unit according to the latest decennial census does not exceed \$50,000, \$750;

(5) To elect an individual to any other office, including judicial office, if the population of the electoral district, ward, or other unit according to the latest decennial census is more than 50,000 but does not exceed 150,000, \$1500; and

(6) To elect an individual to any other office, including judicial office, if the population of the electoral district, ward, or other unit according to the latest decennial census is greater than 150,000, \$5000.

The amount of aggregate contributions made by any single contributor in a calendar year to any political party committee shall not exceed \$32,400.

Every committee is subject to the limits in the bill. The provisions of this subsection shall not limit the amount of contributions that may be accumulated by a candidate committee and used for expenditures to further the nomination or election of the candidate who controls such candidate committee. All limits will be adjusted using a base year formula specified in the bill.

Contributions from persons under 14 years of age are considered made by the parents or guardians of such person and shall be attributed toward any contribution limits. If the contributor under 14 years of age has two custodial parents or guardians, 50% of the contribution shall be attributed to each parent or guardian,

and if such contributor has one custodial parent or guardian, all such contributions shall be attributed to the custodial parent or guardian.

Contributions received and expenditures made before January 1, 2017, shall be reported as a separate account and under the laws in effect at the time such contributions are received or expenditures made. Contributions received and expenditures made on or after January 1, 2017, shall be reported under the provisions of this chapter as a separate account from the other separate account described in this subsection. The account reported under the prior law shall be retained as a separate account and any remaining funds in such account may be spent.

Any committee that accepts or gives contributions other than those allowed shall be subject to a surcharge of \$1000 plus an amount equal to the contribution per nonallowable contribution, to be paid to the Ethics Commission and which shall be transferred to the Director of Revenue, upon notification of such nonallowable contribution by the Ethics Commission, and after the candidate has had ten business days after receipt of notice to return the contribution to the contributor. The candidate and the candidate committee treasurer or deputy treasurer owing a surcharge shall be personally liable for the payment of the surcharge or may pay such surcharge only from campaign funds existing on the date of the receipt of notice. Such surcharge shall constitute a debt to the state enforceable under, but not limited to, the provisions of Chapter 143, RSMo.

The bill also specifies contribution amounts to campaign committees for statewide elected officials or General Assembly members or candidates for those offices which will require reporting in disclosure reports within 48 hours. These reporting requirements are triggered when the legislature is in session or when legislation is under consideration by the Governor.