

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 673

## 103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE CHRISTENSEN.

1732H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

### AN ACT

To repeal section 130.031, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to political advertisements, with penalty provisions.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Section 130.031, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 130.031, to read as follows:

130.031. 1. No contribution of cash in an amount of more than one hundred dollars shall be made by or accepted from any single contributor for any election by a continuing committee, a campaign committee, a political party committee, an exploratory committee or a candidate committee.

2. Except for expenditures from a petty cash fund which is established and maintained by withdrawals of funds from the committee's depository account and with records maintained pursuant to the record-keeping requirements of section 130.036 to account for expenditures made from petty cash, each expenditure of more than fifty dollars, except an in-kind expenditure, shall be made by check drawn on the committee's depository and signed by the committee treasurer, deputy treasurer or candidate. A single expenditure from a petty cash fund shall not exceed fifty dollars, and the aggregate of all expenditures from a petty cash fund during a calendar year shall not exceed the lesser of five thousand dollars or ten percent of all expenditures made by the committee during that calendar year. A check made payable to "cash" shall not be made except to replenish a petty cash fund.

3. No contribution shall be made or accepted and no expenditure shall be made or incurred, directly or indirectly, in a fictitious name, in the name of another person, or by or through another person in such a manner as to conceal the identity of the actual source of the

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 contribution or the actual recipient and purpose of the expenditure. Any person who receives  
19 contributions for a committee shall disclose to that committee's treasurer, deputy treasurer or  
20 candidate the recipient's own name and address and the name and address of the actual source  
21 of each contribution such person has received for that committee. Any person who makes  
22 expenditures for a committee shall disclose to that committee's treasurer, deputy treasurer or  
23 candidate such person's own name and address, the name and address of each person to whom  
24 an expenditure has been made and the amount and purpose of the expenditures the person has  
25 made for that committee.

26         4. No anonymous contribution of more than twenty-five dollars shall be made by any  
27 person, and no anonymous contribution of more than twenty-five dollars shall be accepted by  
28 any candidate or committee. If any anonymous contribution of more than twenty-five dollars  
29 is received, it shall be returned immediately to the contributor, if the contributor's identity can  
30 be ascertained, and if the contributor's identity cannot be ascertained, the candidate,  
31 committee treasurer or deputy treasurer shall immediately transmit that portion of the  
32 contribution which exceeds twenty-five dollars to the state treasurer and it shall escheat to the  
33 state.

34         5. The maximum aggregate amount of anonymous contributions which shall be  
35 accepted in any calendar year by any committee shall be the greater of five hundred dollars or  
36 one percent of the aggregate amount of all contributions received by that committee in the  
37 same calendar year. If any anonymous contribution is received which causes the aggregate  
38 total of anonymous contributions to exceed the foregoing limitation, it shall be returned  
39 immediately to the contributor, if the contributor's identity can be ascertained, and, if the  
40 contributor's identity cannot be ascertained, the committee treasurer, deputy treasurer or  
41 candidate shall immediately transmit the anonymous contribution to the state treasurer to  
42 escheat to the state.

43         6. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 5 of this section, contributions from  
44 individuals whose names and addresses cannot be ascertained which are received from a  
45 fund-raising activity or event, such as defined in section 130.011, shall not be deemed  
46 anonymous contributions, provided the following conditions are met:

47             (1) There are twenty-five or more contributing participants in the activity or event;

48             (2) The candidate, committee treasurer, deputy treasurer or the person responsible for  
49 conducting the activity or event makes an announcement that it is illegal for anyone to make  
50 or receive a contribution in excess of one hundred dollars unless the contribution is  
51 accompanied by the name and address of the contributor;

52             (3) The person responsible for conducting the activity or event does not knowingly  
53 accept payment from any single person of more than one hundred dollars unless the name and

54 address of the person making such payment is obtained and recorded pursuant to the record-  
55 keeping requirements of section 130.036;

56 (4) A statement describing the event shall be prepared by the candidate or the  
57 treasurer of the committee for whom the funds were raised or by the person responsible for  
58 conducting the activity or event and attached to the disclosure report of contributions and  
59 expenditures required by section 130.041. The following information to be listed in the  
60 statement is in addition to, not in lieu of, the requirements elsewhere in this chapter relating to  
61 the recording and reporting of contributions and expenditures:

62 (a) The name and mailing address of the person or persons responsible for conducting  
63 the event or activity and the name and address of the candidate or committee for whom the  
64 funds were raised;

65 (b) The date on which the event occurred;

66 (c) The name and address of the location where the event occurred and the  
67 approximate number of participants in the event;

68 (d) A brief description of the type of event and the fund-raising methods used;

69 (e) The gross receipts from the event and a listing of the expenditures incident to the  
70 event;

71 (f) The total dollar amount of contributions received from the event from participants  
72 whose names and addresses were not obtained with such contributions and an explanation of  
73 why it was not possible to obtain the names and addresses of such participants;

74 (g) The total dollar amount of contributions received from contributing participants in  
75 the event who are identified by name and address in the records required to be maintained  
76 pursuant to section 130.036.

77 7. No candidate or committee in this state shall accept contributions from any out-of-  
78 state committee unless the out-of-state committee from whom the contributions are received  
79 has filed a statement of organization pursuant to section 130.021 or has filed the reports  
80 required by sections 130.049 and 130.050, whichever is applicable to that committee.

81 8. Any person publishing, circulating, or distributing any printed matter relative to  
82 any candidate for public office or any ballot measure shall on the face of the printed matter  
83 identify in a clear and conspicuous manner the person who paid for the printed matter with the  
84 words "Paid for by" followed by the proper identification of the sponsor pursuant to this  
85 section. For the purposes of this section, "printed matter" shall be defined to include any  
86 pamphlet, circular, handbill, sample ballot, advertisement, including advertisements in any  
87 newspaper or other periodical, sign, including signs for display on motor vehicles, or other  
88 imprinted or lettered material; but "printed matter" is defined to exclude materials printed and  
89 purchased prior to May 20, 1982, if the candidate or committee can document that delivery  
90 took place prior to May 20, 1982; any sign personally printed and constructed by an

91 individual without compensation from any other person and displayed at that individual's  
92 place of residence or on that individual's personal motor vehicle; any items of personal use  
93 given away or sold, such as campaign buttons, pins, pens, pencils, book matches, campaign  
94 jewelry, or clothing, which is paid for by a candidate or committee which supports a candidate  
95 or supports or opposes a ballot measure and which is obvious in its identification with a  
96 specific candidate or committee and is reported as required by this chapter; and any news  
97 story, commentary, or editorial printed by a regularly published newspaper or other periodical  
98 without charge to a candidate, committee or any other person.

99 (1) In regard to any printed matter paid for by a candidate from the candidate's  
100 personal funds, it shall be sufficient identification to print the first and last name by which the  
101 candidate is known.

102 (2) In regard to any printed matter paid for by a committee, it shall be sufficient  
103 identification to print the name of the committee as required to be registered by subsection 5  
104 of section 130.021 and the name and title of the committee treasurer who was serving when  
105 the printed matter was paid for.

106 (3) In regard to any printed matter paid for by a corporation or other business entity,  
107 labor organization, or any other organization not defined to be a committee by subdivision (7)  
108 of section 130.011 and not organized especially for influencing one or more elections, it shall  
109 be sufficient identification to print the name of the entity, the name of the principal officer of  
110 the entity, by whatever title known, and the mailing address of the entity, or if the entity has  
111 no mailing address, the mailing address of the principal officer.

112 (4) In regard to any printed matter paid for by an individual or individuals, it shall be  
113 sufficient identification to print the name of the individual or individuals and the respective  
114 mailing address or addresses, except that if more than five individuals join in paying for  
115 printed matter it shall be sufficient identification to print the words "For a list of other  
116 sponsors contact:" followed by the name and address of one such individual responsible for  
117 causing the matter to be printed, and the individual identified shall maintain a record of the  
118 names and amounts paid by other individuals and shall make such record available for review  
119 upon the request of any person. No person shall accept for publication or printing nor shall  
120 such work be completed until the printed matter is properly identified as required by this  
121 subsection.

122 9. Any broadcast station transmitting any matter relative to any candidate for public  
123 office or ballot measure as defined by this chapter shall identify the sponsor of such matter as  
124 required by federal law.

125 10. The provisions of subsection 8 or 9 of this section shall not apply to candidates for  
126 elective federal office, provided that persons causing matter to be printed or broadcast

127 concerning such candidacies shall comply with the requirements of federal law for  
128 identification of the sponsor or sponsors.

129       **11. Any person publishing, circulating, or distributing any political**  
130 **advertisement relative to any candidate for public office or any ballot measure that**  
131 **uses generative artificial intelligence shall, on the face of such advertisement, identify in**  
132 **a clear and conspicuous manner that generative artificial intelligence was used in the**  
133 **creation of the advertisement. As used in this subsection, the term "generative artificial**  
134 **intelligence" means an advertisement that contains images, video, audio, text, or other**  
135 **digital content created in whole or in part by a machine-based system that can, for a**  
136 **given set of human-defined objectives, emulate the structures, patterns, and**  
137 **characteristics of input data in order to generate synthetic content.**

138       **12.** It shall be a violation of this chapter for any person required to be identified as  
139 paying for printed matter pursuant to subsection 8 of this section or paying for broadcast  
140 matter pursuant to subsection 9 of this section to refuse to provide the information required or  
141 to purposely provide false, misleading, or incomplete information.

142       ~~[12.]~~ **13.** It shall be a violation of this chapter for any committee to offer chances to  
143 win prizes or money to persons to encourage such persons to endorse, send election material  
144 by mail, deliver election material in person or contact persons at their homes; except that, the  
145 provisions of this subsection shall not be construed to prohibit hiring and paying a campaign  
146 staff.

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