

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas *As Engrossed: H1/11/17 H2/22/17 S3/8/17*
91st General Assembly **A Bill**
Regular Session, 2017

HOUSE BILL 1010

By: Representatives Sabin, Tucker, V. Flowers, D. Ferguson, Leding, D. Whitaker, *Della Rosa*
By: Senators Elliott, L. Chesterfield, U. Lindsey, Maloch, E. Cheatham, S. Flowers

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE FILING AND PUBLICATION OF CERTAIN CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS; TO AMEND PORTIONS OF LAW RESULTING FROM INITIATED ACT 1 OF 1990 AND INITIATED ACT 1 OF 1996; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE FILING AND PUBLICATION OF CERTAIN CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS; AND TO AMEND PORTIONS OF LAW RESULTING FROM INITIATED ACT 1 OF 1990 AND INITIATED ACT 1 OF 1996.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-6-214 is amended to read as follows:

7-6-214. Publication of reports.

(a)(1) Upon proper filing, the information required in §§ 7-6-203 ~~and~~, 7-6-207 – 7-6-210, 7-6-215, 7-6-216, and 7-6-220 shall constitute a public record and shall be available within twenty-four (24) hours of the reporting deadline to all interested persons and the news media.

(2) The Secretary of State is the official custodian of the records that are required to be:

(A) Filed with the Secretary of State; and

(B) Maintained under §§ 7-6-203 ~~and~~, 7-6-207 – 7-6-210, 7-6-215, 7-6-216, and 7-6-220.



(b) *The Secretary of State shall post on his or her official website reports of contributions required ~~in~~ under §§ 7-6-203 and, 7-6-207 – 7-6-210 on his or her official website, 7-6-215, 7-6-216, and 7-6-220.*

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 7-6-215(d)(5), concerning registration and reporting by approved political action committees and resulting from Initiated Act 1 of 1990, is amended to read as follows:

(5)(A) A report is timely filed if it is:

~~(i) Delivered by hand or mailed to the Secretary of State, properly addressed, postage prepaid, and bearing a postmark indicating that it was received by the post office or common carrier on or before the date that the report is due if the report is filed in paper form; or~~

~~(ii) Filed filed in electronic form through the official website of the Secretary of State on or before the date that the report is due if the Secretary of State offers electronic filing of political action committee reports.~~

~~(B) The Secretary of State shall accept via facsimile any report filed in paper form if the original is received by the Secretary of State within ten (10) days of the date of transmission.~~

~~(C)(B)(i)~~ The Secretary of State may shall receive reports in a readable electronic format that is acceptable to the Secretary of State and approved by the Arkansas Ethics Commission.

(ii) The Arkansas Ethics Commission shall approve the format used by the Secretary of State for the filing of political action committee reports in electronic form to ensure that all required information is requested.

~~(D) If the Secretary of State chooses to offer electronic filing of political action committee reports:~~

~~(i) The Arkansas Ethics Commission shall approve a format used by the Secretary of State for the filing of political action committee reports in electronic form under this section to ensure that all required information is requested; and~~

~~(ii)(iii)~~ The official website of the Secretary of State shall allow for searches of political action committee report information filed in electronic form.

(iv) A political action committee under this section

may file reports in paper form under this section if:

(a) The political action committee does not have access to the technology necessary to submit reports in electronic form; and

(b) Submitting reports in electronic form would constitute a substantial hardship for the political action committee.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 7-6-216(d), concerning registration and reporting by exploratory committees and resulting from Initiated Act 1 of 1990, is amended to read as follows:

(d)(1)(A) The first report shall be filed for the month in which the committee files its registration. The final report shall be filed within thirty (30) days after the end of the month in which the committee either transfers its contributions to a candidate's campaign or no longer accepts contributions.

(B) The reports required by this section shall be filed in electronic form through the official website of the Secretary of State.

(C) The Arkansas Ethics Commission shall approve the format used by the Secretary of State for the filing of exploratory reports in electronic form to ensure that all required information is requested.

(D) The official website of the Secretary of State shall allow for searches of exploratory committee report information filed in electronic form.

(2) An exploratory committee under this section may file reports in paper form under this section if:

(A) The exploratory committee does not have access to the technology necessary to submit reports in electronic form; and

(B) Submitting reports in electronic form would constitute a substantial hardship for the exploratory committee.

~~(2)(3)~~ (3) The committee shall not accept contributions after the filing of a final report.

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 7-6-220(e), concerning reporting of independent expenditures and resulting from Initiated Act 1 of 1996, is amended to read as follows:

(e)(1) A report is timely filed if it is ~~either delivered by hand or~~

~~mailed to the Secretary of State, properly addressed, postage prepaid, bearing a postmark indicating that it was received by the post office or common carrier filed in electronic form through the official website of the Secretary of State on or before the date that the report is due.~~

~~(2) The Secretary of State shall accept via facsimile any report if the original is received by the Secretary of State within ten (10) days of the date of transmission.~~

~~(3)(2)(A) The Secretary of State may shall receive reports in a readable electronic format that is acceptable to the Secretary of State and approved by the Arkansas Ethics Commission.~~

~~(B) The Arkansas Ethics Commission shall approve the format used by the Secretary of State for the filing of independent expenditure reports in electronic form to ensure that all required information is requested.~~

~~(C) The official website of the Secretary of State shall allow for searches of independent expenditure report information filed in electronic form.~~

~~(3) A person or independent expenditure committee under this section may file reports in paper form under this section if:~~

~~(A) The person or independent expenditure committee does not have access to the technology necessary to submit reports in electronic form; and~~

~~(B) Submitting reports in electronic form would constitute a substantial hardship for the person or independent expenditure.~~

~~SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This act shall become effective on and after January 1, 2018.~~

/s/Sabin