MICHIGAN CAMPAIGN FINANCE ACT (EXCERPT)
Act 388 of 1976

169.254 Contributions, expenditures, or volunteer personal services by corporation, joint stock company, domestic dependent sovereign, or labor organization, or by persons acting for corporation, joint stock company, domestic dependent sovereign, or labor organization; in-kind contribution; contribution to ballot question committee or independent expenditure committee; independent expenditures as to ballot questions; violation; penalty.

Sec. 54. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section and section 55, and except with respect to loans made in the ordinary course of business, a corporation, joint stock company, domestic dependent sovereign, or labor organization shall not make a contribution or expenditure or provide volunteer personal services that are excluded from the definition of a contribution under section 4(3)(a).

(2) An officer, director, stockholder, attorney, agent, or any other person acting for a labor organization, a domestic dependent sovereign, or a corporation or joint stock company, whether incorporated under the laws of this or any other state or foreign country, except corporations formed for political purposes, shall not make a contribution or expenditure or provide volunteer personal services that are excluded from the definition of a contribution under section 4(3)(a).

(3) Except for expenditures made by a corporation in the ordinary course of its business, an expenditure made by a corporation to provide for the collection and transfer of contributions to a separate segregated fund for which it is not a connected organization as provided in section 55 constitutes an in-kind contribution by the corporation and is prohibited under this section. Advanced payment or reimbursement to a corporation by a nonconnected separate segregated fund does not cure a use of corporate resources otherwise prohibited by this section.

(4) A corporation, joint stock company, domestic dependent sovereign, or labor organization may make a contribution to a ballot question committee or independent expenditure committee subject to this act. A corporation, joint stock company, domestic dependent sovereign, or labor organization may make an independent expenditure in any amount advocating for the election or defeat of a candidate, or the qualification, passage, or defeat of a ballot question and does not for this reason become a committee, unless it solicits or receives contributions in excess of $500.00 for the purpose of making the independent expenditure, but is subject to the independent expenditure reporting requirements of section 51.

(5) A person who knowingly violates this section is guilty of a felony punishable, if the person is an individual, by a fine of not more than $5,000.00 or imprisonment for not more than 3 years, or both, or, if the person is not an individual, by a fine of not more than $10,000.00.


Compiler’s note: Section 2 of Act 264 of 1995 provides:
“If any portion of this amendatory act or the application of this amendatory act to any person or circumstance is found to be invalid by a court, the invalidity does not affect the remaining portions or applications of this amendatory act that can be given effect without the invalid portion or application, if those remaining portions are not determined by the court to be inoperable. To this end, this amendatory act is declared to be severable.”