169.269 Limitations on contributions for election cycle; "immediate family" defined; determination of election cycle beginning and ending; notices; violation as misdemeanor; penalty; bundled contributions.

Sec. 69. (1) Except as provided in subsection (6) or (10) and subject to section 46, a person other than an independent committee or a political party committee shall not make contributions to a candidate committee of a candidate that are more than $6,800.00 in value for an election cycle.

(2) Except as provided in subsection (11), an independent committee shall not make contributions to a candidate committee that for an election cycle are more than 10 times the amount permitted a person other than an independent committee or political party committee in subsection (1).

(3) A political party committee that is a state central committee shall not make contributions to a candidate committee that for an election cycle are more than $750,000.00.

(4) A political party committee that is a congressional district or county committee shall not make contributions to a candidate committee that for an election cycle are more than $30,000.00.

(5) A candidate committee, a candidate, or a treasurer or agent shall not accept a contribution with respect to an election cycle that exceeds a limitation in subsections (1) to (4), or (10).

(6) As used in this subsection, "immediate family" means a spouse, parent, brother, sister, son, or daughter. A candidate and members of that candidate's immediate family may not contribute in total to that person's candidate committee an amount that is more than $50,000.00 in value for an election cycle.

(7) Sections 5(3) and 52(6) apply to determining when an election cycle begins and ends and to which election cycle a particular contribution is attributed.

(8) The candidate committee of a candidate for governor that does not apply for funds from the state campaign fund and that accepts from the candidate and the candidate's immediate family contributions that total for an election cycle more than $340,000.00 shall notify the secretary of state in writing within 48 hours after receipt of this amount. Within 2 business days after receipt of this notice, the secretary of state shall send notice to all candidates who are either seeking the same nomination, in the case of a primary election, or election to that same office, in the case of a general election, informing those candidate committees of all of the following:

(a) That the expenditure limits provided in section 67 are waived for the remainder of that election for those notified candidate committees that receive funds from the state campaign fund under this act.

(b) That the expenditure limits of section 67 are not waived for the purpose of determining the amount of public funds available to a candidate under section 64 or 65.

(9) A person who knowingly violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable, if the person is an individual, by a fine of not more than $1,000.00 or imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or both, or, if the person is not an individual, by a fine of not more than $10,000.00.

(10) The limitation on a political committee's contributions under subsection (1) does not apply to contributions that are part of 1 or more bundled contributions delivered to the candidate committee of a candidate for statewide elective office and that are attributed to the political committee as prescribed in section 31. A political committee shall not make contributions to a candidate committee of a candidate for statewide elective office that are part of 1 or more bundled contributions delivered to that candidate committee, that are attributed to the political committee as prescribed in section 31, and that, in the aggregate for that election cycle, are more than the amount permitted a person other than an independent committee or political party committee in subsection (1).

(11) The limitation on an independent committee's contributions under subsection (2) does not apply to contributions that are part of 1 or more bundled contributions delivered to the candidate committee of a candidate for statewide elective office and that are attributed to the independent committee as prescribed in section 31. An independent committee shall not make contributions to a candidate committee of a candidate for statewide elective office that are part of 1 or more bundled contributions delivered to that candidate committee, that are attributed to the independent committee as prescribed in section 31, and that, in the aggregate for that election cycle, are more than 10 times the amount permitted a person other than an independent committee or political party committee in subsection (1).


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.”