

HOUSE BILL NO. 299

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE KELLER

Introduced: 1/15/08

Referred: State Affairs, Judiciary

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to campaign contributions made to candidates in state elections; and**
2 **providing for an effective date."**

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 *** Section 1.** AS 15.13.050(b) is amended to read:

5 (b) If a group **that is not a political party** intends to support only one
6 candidate or to [CONTRIBUTE TO OR] expend on behalf of one candidate 33 1/3
7 percent or more of its funds, the name of the candidate shall be a part of the name of
8 the group. If the group intends to oppose only one candidate or to contribute its funds
9 in opposition to or make expenditures in opposition to a candidate, the group's name
10 must clearly state that it opposes that candidate by using a word such as "opposes,"
11 "opposing," "in opposition to," or "against" in the group's name. Promptly upon
12 receiving the registration, the commission shall notify the candidate of the group's
13 organization and intent. A candidate may register more than one group to support the
14 candidate; however, multiple groups controlled by a single candidate shall be treated

1 as a single group for purposes of the contribution limit in AS 15.13.070(b)(1).

2 * **Sec. 2.** AS 15.13.065(a) is amended to read:

3 (a) Individuals [, GROUPS, NONGROUP ENTITIES,] and political parties
4 may make contributions to a candidate. An individual, group, or nongroup entity may
5 make a contribution to a group, to a nongroup entity, or to a political party. **However,**
6 **an individual may make a contribution to a candidate only if, at the time the**
7 **contribution is made, the individual is qualified to register to vote in the house**
8 **district, senate district, judicial district, municipality, or other area in which the**
9 **candidate is running for office or seeking retention.**

10 * **Sec. 3.** AS 15.13.070(c) is amended to read:

11 (c) A group that is not a political party may contribute not more than \$1,000 **a**
12 [PER] year

13 [(1) TO A CANDIDATE, OR TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO
14 CONDUCTS A WRITE-IN CAMPAIGN AS A CANDIDATE;

15 (2)] to another group, to a nongroup entity, or to a political party.

16 * **Sec. 4.** AS 15.13.070(f) is amended to read:

17 (f) A nongroup entity may contribute not more than \$1,000 a year to another
18 nongroup entity for the purpose of influencing the nomination or election of a
19 candidate, [TO A CANDIDATE, TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO CONDUCTS A
20 WRITE-IN CAMPAIGN AS A CANDIDATE,] to a group, or to a political party.

21 * **Sec. 5.** AS 15.13.072(a) is amended to read:

22 (a) A candidate or an individual who has filed with the commission the
23 document necessary to permit that individual to incur election-related expenses under
24 AS 15.13.100 may not solicit or accept a contribution from

25 (1) a person not authorized by law to make a contribution;

26 (2) [AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS NOT A RESIDENT OF THE
27 STATE AT THE TIME THE CONTRIBUTION IS MADE, EXCEPT AS
28 PROVIDED IN (e) OF THIS SECTION;

29 (3)] a group organized under the laws of another state, resident in
30 another state, or whose participants are not residents of this state at the time the
31 contribution is made; or

1 **(3)** [(4)] a person registered as a lobbyist if the contribution violates
 2 AS 15.13.074(g) or AS 24.45.121(a)(8).

3 * **Sec. 6.** AS 15.13.074(h) is amended to read:

4 (h) Notwithstanding AS 15.13.070, a candidate for governor or lieutenant
 5 governor and a group that is not a political party and that, under the definition of the
 6 term "group," is presumed to be controlled by a candidate for governor or lieutenant
 7 governor, may not make a contribution to a candidate for another office, to a person
 8 who conducts a write-in campaign as a candidate for other office, or to another group
 9 of amounts received by that candidate or controlled group as contributions between
 10 January 1 and the date of the general election of the year of a general election for an
 11 election for governor and lieutenant governor. This subsection does not prohibit

12 [(1) THE GROUP DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION FROM
 13 MAKING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR AND
 14 LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR WHOM THE GROUP SUPPORTS; OR

15 (2)] the governor or lieutenant governor, or the group described in this
 16 subsection, from making contributions under AS 15.13.116(a)(2)(A).

17 * **Sec. 7.** AS 15.13.400(8) is amended to read:

18 (8) "group" means

19 (A) every state and regional executive committee of a political
 20 party; and

21 (B) any combination of two or more individuals acting jointly
 22 who organize for the principal purpose of influencing the outcome of one or
 23 more elections and who take action the major purpose of which is to influence
 24 the outcome of an election; a group that makes expenditures or receives
 25 contributions with the authorization or consent, express or implied, or under
 26 the control, direct or indirect, of a candidate shall be considered to be
 27 controlled by that candidate; a group whose major purpose is to further the
 28 nomination, election, or candidacy of only one individual, or intends to expend
 29 more than 50 percent of its money on a single candidate, shall be considered to
 30 be controlled by that candidate and its actions done with the candidate's
 31 knowledge and consent unless, within 10 days from the date the candidate

1 learns of the existence of the group, the candidate files with the commission,
2 on a form provided by the commission, an affidavit that the group is operating
3 without the candidate's control; a group organized for more than one year
4 preceding an election and endorsing candidates for more than one office or
5 more than one political party is presumed not to be controlled by a candidate;
6 however, a group that **expends** [CONTRIBUTES] more than 50 percent of its
7 money [TO OR] on behalf of one candidate shall be considered to support only
8 one candidate [FOR PURPOSES OF AS 15.13.070], whether or not control of
9 the group has been disclaimed by the candidate;

10 * **Sec. 8.** AS 15.13.072(e) is repealed.

11 * **Sec. 9.** This Act takes effect January 1, 2009.