

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY FINKELSTEIN, ULMER, BROWN,
AND KOPONEN

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 327

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to contributions to a campaign for
7 public office."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. AS 15.13.070(a) is amended to read:

10 (a) A person or group, including but not limited to all politi-
11 cal committees, businesses, corporations, and labor unions, may not
12 contribute [TO OR EXPEND] more than \$500 [\$1,000] a year to a candi-
13 date [ON BEHALF OF OR IN OPPOSITION TO THE COMPETING CANDIDATES] for
14 [EACH] elective office. A political party and its subdivisions [POLIT-
15 ICAL PARTIES AND THEIR SUBDIVISIONS] are not subject to the limitation
16 prescribed in this subsection, but they are subject to the reporting
17 requirements prescribed by AS 15.13.040(b) and 15.13.110. This sec-
18 tion [CHAPTER] does not prohibit

19 (1) a candidate from contributing more than \$500 [\$1,000]
20 of the candidate's own money to the candidate's own campaign; or

21 (2) individuals or groups, including but not limited to all
22 political committees, businesses, corporations, and labor unions, from
23 contributing to [OR EXPENDING ON BEHALF OF] a ballot proposition or
24 question more than \$500 [\$1,000] a year; the contribution [HOWEVER,
25 THESE CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES] shall be reported under [IN
26 ACCORDANCE WITH] AS 15.13.040 and 15.13.110.

27 * Sec. 2. AS 15.13.070 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

28 (i) An individual who accepts campaign contributions as a candi-
29 date for public office may not convert surplus campaign funds to

1 personal income at any time. A candidate shall dispose of campaign
2 funds that were not spent or obligated during the election campaign by
3 (1) leaving the funds in a campaign account for a future
4 election campaign;
5 (2) transferring the funds to an account for the office, in
6 the case of a successful candidate only;
7 (3) donating the funds to an organization that qualifies as
8 a charitable organization under 26 U.S.C. 501(c);
9 (4) donating the funds to the general fund of the state or
10 of a municipality of the state organized under AS 29;
11 (5) returning the funds to contributors on a pro rata
12 basis; or
13 (6) making campaign contributions not in violation of
14 AS 15.13.070 to another candidate or group or by making independent
15 expenditures.

16 * Sec. 3. AS 15.13.110(b) is amended to read:

17 (b) Each contribution or expenditure that [WHICH] exceeds \$250
18 and that [WHICH] is made within nine days [ONE WEEK] of the election
19 shall be reported to the commission by date, amount, and contributor
20 or recipient within 24 hours of receipt or expenditure by the candi-
21 date or campaign treasurer.

22 * Sec. 4. AS 15.13.110 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

23 (f) A candidate who has campaign funds in excess of debts accu-
24 mulated during the campaign shall continue to file a report each
25 December 31.