



**ARIZONA STATE SENATE**  
*Fifty-First Legislature, Second Regular Session*

**AMENDED**  
FACT SHEET FOR S.B. 1344

contribution limits; clean election authority

Purpose

Declares alleged violations of campaign contribution and expense requirements by candidates for statewide or legislative offices not participating in the Citizen's Clean Elections Act Funding System (non-participating candidates) are subject to A.R.S. Title 16, Chapter 6, Article 1 and the authority of the Secretary of State (SOS) and Attorney General (AG).

Background

A.R.S. Title 16, Chapter 6 provides requirements regarding campaign contributions and expenses for elections and electors. According to statute, a *contribution* is defined as any gift, subscription, loan, advance or deposit of money or anything of value made for the purpose of influencing an election, including supporting or opposing the recall of a public officer or supporting or opposing the circulation of a petition for a ballot measure, question or proposition or the recall of a public officer. Additionally, *election* is defined as any election for initiative, referendum, or other measure or proposition for a primary, general, recall, special or runoff election for any office in this state other than the office of precinct committeeman and other than a federal office (A.R.S. § 16-901).

A.R.S. § 16-905 provides limits on the amount of contributions candidates for office may receive during an election from individuals, single political committees and all combined political committees, excluding political parties. Violations of the prescribed limitations are subject to civil penalties under A.R.S. § 16-924. A suspected violation of campaign contribution limits and expense requirements, in an election for statewide or legislative office, must be reported to the AG by the SOS. Similarly, violations in county elections must be reported to the county attorney by the officer in charge of elections, and the city or town clerk must report suspected violations to the city or town attorney in municipal elections.

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

1. States that complaints and investigations relating to violations of campaign contribution and expense requirements by non-participating candidates for statewide or legislative office are subject only to jurisdictions, penalties and procedures outlined in the general provisions governing campaign contributions and expenses (A.R.S. Title 16, Chapter 6, Article 1).

2. Stipulates that the enforcement and investigative authority for alleged violations of campaign contribution and expense requirements by non-participating candidates for statewide or legislative office rests with the SOS and the AG.
3. Prohibits the Citizens Clean Elections Commission from accepting, investigating or acting on any complaint involving an alleged violation of general campaign contribution and expense requirements by non-participating candidates for statewide or legislative office.
4. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

Senate Action

ELEC          2/04/14          DP      4-3-0

Amendments adopted by Committee of the Whole

- Limits violations affected to A.R.S. Title 16, Chapter 6, Article 1.

Prepared by Senate Research

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CRS/DF/tf