
**State Government & Tribal
Affairs Committee**

HB 1714

Brief Description: Changing campaign contribution provisions.

Sponsors: Representative Chase.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Increases contribution limits made by county central committees and legislative district committees from a shared limit of 35 cents to a limit of 70 cents each per registered voter in the candidate's district.

Hearing Date: 2/13/07

Staff: Marsha Reilly (786-7135).

Background:

The Fair Campaign Practices Act was enacted following passage of Initiative 134 in 1992. The initiative imposed campaign contribution limits, further regulated independent expenditures, restricted the use of public funds for political purposes, and required public officials to report gifts received in excess of \$50. The contribution limits imposed by Initiative 134 apply only to elections for statewide office and elections to state legislative office.

In addition to limits imposed on individuals, businesses, unions and political action committees, limits were imposed on political parties. State party central committees, minor party committees, and legislative caucus committees may contribute an aggregate of up to \$0.70 per registered voter in the candidate's district for an election cycle. County central committees and legislative district committees may contribute an aggregate of up to \$0.35 per registered voter in the candidate's district. Contributions received from county central committees and legislative district committees combined may not exceed an amount more than \$0.35 times the number of registered voters statewide to any one candidate.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

All campaign contribution limits are adjusted for inflation by the Public Disclosure Commission every two years.

Summary of Bill:

County central committees and legislative district committees may each contribute an aggregate of up to \$0.70 per registered voter in the candidate's district. Contributions received from county central committees and legislative district committees are no longer combined as an aggregate contribution.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.