

ASSEMBLY, No. 5681

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

222nd LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 19, 2026

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman LUANNE M. PETERPAUL
District 11 (Monmouth)

SYNOPSIS

Requires candidate contact information to be provided on certain forms filed with ELEC.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT requiring candidate contact information to be provided on
2 certain forms filed with the Election Law Enforcement
3 Commission and amending P.L.1973, c.83.

4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7

8 1. Section 16 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-16) is amended to
9 read as follows:

10 16. a. The campaign treasurer of each candidate committee and
11 joint candidates committee shall make a cumulative quarterly
12 report, upon a form prescribed by the Election Law Enforcement
13 Commission, of all contributions in excess of \$200 in the form of
14 moneys, loans, paid personal services or other things of value, made
15 to him or to the deputy campaign treasurers of the candidate
16 committee or joint candidates committee, and all expenditures paid
17 out of the election fund of the candidate or candidates, during the
18 period ending with the second day preceding the date of the
19 cumulative quarterly report and beginning on the date of the first of
20 those contributions, the date of the first of those expenditures, or the
21 date of the appointment of the campaign treasurer, whichever
22 occurred first. The report shall also contain the name and mailing
23 address of each person or group from whom moneys, loans, paid
24 personal services or other things of value in excess of \$200 were
25 contributed after the second day preceding the date of the previous
26 cumulative quarterly report and the amount contributed by each
27 person or group, and where an individual has made such
28 contributions, the report shall indicate the occupation of the
29 individual and the name and mailing address of the individual's
30 employer. In the case of any loan reported pursuant to this section,
31 the report shall further contain the name and mailing address of
32 each person who cosigns such loan, the occupation of the person
33 and the name and mailing address of the person's employer. If no
34 moneys, loans, paid personal services or other things of value were
35 contributed, the report shall so indicate, and if no expenditures were
36 paid or incurred, the report shall likewise so indicate. The
37 campaign treasurer and the candidate or several candidates shall
38 certify the correctness of the report.

39 b. During the period between the appointment of the campaign
40 treasurer and the election with respect to which contributions are
41 accepted or expenditures made by him, the campaign treasurer shall
42 file his cumulative campaign quarterly report (1) on the 29th day
43 preceding the election, and (2) on the 11th day preceding the
44 election; and after the election he shall file his report on the 20th
45 day following such election. Concurrent with the report filed on the

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 20th day following an election, or at any time thereafter, the
2 campaign treasurer of a candidate committee or joint candidates
3 committee may certify to the Election Law Enforcement
4 Commission that the election fund of such candidate committee or
5 joint candidates committee has wound up its business and been
6 dissolved, or that business regarding the late election has been
7 wound up but the candidate committee or joint candidates
8 committee will continue for the deposit and use of contributions in
9 accordance with section 17 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-11.2).
10 Certification shall be accompanied by a final accounting of such
11 election fund, or of the transactions relating to such election,
12 including the final disposition of any balance remaining in such
13 fund at the time of dissolution or the arrangements which have been
14 made for the discharge of any obligations remaining unpaid at the
15 time of dissolution. Until the candidate committee or joint
16 candidates committee is dissolved, each such treasurer shall
17 continue to file reports in the form and manner herein prescribed.

18 The Election Law Enforcement Commission shall promulgate
19 regulations providing for the termination of post-election campaign
20 reporting requirements applicable to political committees, candidate
21 committees and joint candidates committees. The requirements to
22 file quarterly reports after the first post-election report may be
23 waived by the commission, notwithstanding that the certification
24 has not been filed, if the commission determines under any
25 regulations so promulgated that the outstanding obligations of the
26 political committee, candidate committee or joint candidates
27 committee do not exceed 10% of the expenditures of the campaign
28 fund with respect to the election or \$1,000.00, whichever is less, or
29 are likely to be discharged or forgiven.

30 A candidate committee or joint candidates committee shall file
31 with the Election Law Enforcement Commission, not later than
32 April 15, July 15, October 15 of each calendar year in which the
33 candidate or candidates in control of the committee does or do not
34 run for election or reelection and January 15 of each calendar year
35 in which the candidate or candidates does or do run for election or
36 reelection, a cumulative quarterly report of all moneys, loans, paid
37 personal services or other things of value in excess of \$200
38 contributed to it or to the candidate or candidates during the period
39 ending on the 15th day preceding that date and commencing on
40 January 1 of that calendar year or, in the case of the cumulative
41 quarterly report to be filed not later than January 15, of the previous
42 calendar year, and all expenditures made, incurred, or authorized by
43 it or the candidate or candidates during the period, whether or not
44 such expenditures were made, incurred or authorized in furtherance
45 of the election or defeat of any candidate, or in aid of the passage or
46 defeat of any public question or to provide information on any
47 candidate or public question. The commission may by regulation
48 require any such candidate committee or joint candidates committee

1 to file during any calendar year one or more additional cumulative
2 reports of such contributions received and expenditures made as
3 may be necessary to ensure that no more than five months shall
4 elapse between the last day of a period covered by one such report
5 and the last day of the period covered by the next such report.

6 The commission, on any form it shall prescribe for the reporting
7 of expenditures by a candidate committee or joint candidates
8 committee, shall provide for the grouping together of all
9 expenditures under the category of "campaign expenses" under
10 paragraph (1) of subsection a. of section 17 of P.L.1993, c.65,
11 identified as such, and for the grouping together, separately, of all
12 other expenditures under the categories prescribed by paragraphs
13 (2) through (6) of that subsection. The cumulative quarterly report
14 due on April 15 in a year immediately after the year in which the
15 candidate or candidates does or do run for election or reelection
16 shall contain a report of all of the contributions received and
17 expenditures made by the candidate or candidates since the 18th day
18 after that election.

19 The cumulative quarterly report shall contain the name and
20 mailing address of each person or group from whom moneys, loans,
21 paid personal services or other things of value in excess of \$200
22 have been contributed and the amount contributed by each person or
23 group, and where an individual has made such contributions, the
24 report shall indicate the occupation of the individual and the name
25 and mailing address of the individual's employer. In the case of any
26 loan reported pursuant to this section, the report shall contain the
27 name and address of each person who cosigns such loan, and where
28 an individual has cosigned such loans, the report shall indicate the
29 occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of
30 his employer. The report shall also contain the name and address of
31 each person, firm or organization to whom expenditures have been
32 paid and the amount and purpose of each such expenditure. The
33 treasurer of the candidate committee or joint candidates committee
34 and the candidate or candidates shall certify to the correctness of
35 each cumulative quarterly report.

36 c. No candidate for elective public office shall be required to
37 file a duplicate copy of the campaign treasurer's report with the
38 county clerk of the county in which the candidate resides.

39 d. There shall be no obligation to file the reports required by
40 this section on behalf of a candidate if such candidate files with the
41 Election Law Enforcement Commission a sworn statement to the
42 effect that the total amount to be expended in behalf of his
43 candidacy by the candidate committee, by any political party
44 committee, by any political committee, or by any person shall not in
45 the aggregate exceed \$2,000.00 or \$4,000 for any joint candidates
46 committee containing two candidates or \$6,000 for any joint
47 candidates committee containing three or more candidates. The
48 sworn statement may be submitted at the time when the name and

1 address of the campaign treasurer and depository is filed with the
2 Election Law Enforcement Commission, provided that in any case
3 the sworn statement is filed no later than the 29th day before an
4 election. If a candidate who has filed such a sworn statement
5 receives contributions from any one source aggregating more than
6 \$200 he shall forthwith make report of the same, including the name
7 and mailing address of the source and the aggregate total of
8 contributions therefrom, and where the source is an individual, the
9 occupation of the individual and the name and mailing address of
10 the individual's employer, to the Election Law Enforcement
11 Commission. The \$200 limit established in this subsection shall
12 remain as stated in this subsection without further adjustment by the
13 commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993,
14 c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

15 e. There shall be no obligation imposed upon a candidate
16 seeking election to a public office of a school district to file either
17 the reports required under subsection b. of this section or the sworn
18 statement referred to in subsection d. of this section, if the total
19 amount expended and to be expended in behalf of his candidacy by
20 the candidate committee, any political committee, any continuing
21 political committee, or a political party committee or by any person,
22 does not in the aggregate exceed \$2,000.00 per election or \$4,000
23 for any joint candidates committee containing two candidates or
24 \$6,000 for any joint candidates committee containing three or more
25 candidates; provided, that if such candidate receives contributions
26 from any one source aggregating more than \$200, he shall forthwith
27 make a report of the same, including the name and mailing address
28 of the source, the aggregate total of contributions therefrom, and
29 where the source is an individual, the occupation of the individual
30 and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer, to
31 the commission.

32 The \$200 limit established in this subsection shall remain as
33 stated in this subsection without further adjustment by the
34 commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993,
35 c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

36 f. In any report filed pursuant to the provisions of this section,
37 the names and addresses of contributors whose contributions during
38 the period covered by the report did not exceed \$200 may be
39 excluded; provided, however, that (1) such exclusion is unlawful if
40 any person responsible for the preparation or filing of the report
41 knew that such exclusion was made with respect to any person
42 whose total contributions relating to the same election and made to
43 the reporting candidate or to an allied campaign organization or
44 organizations aggregate, in combination with the total contributions
45 in respect of which such exclusion is made, more than \$200, and (2)
46 any person who knowingly prepares, assists in preparing, files or
47 acquiesces in the filing of any report from which the identity of any
48 contributor has been excluded contrary to the provisions of this

1 section is subject to the provisions of section 21 of this act, but (3)
2 nothing in this proviso shall be construed as requiring any candidate
3 committee or joint candidates committee reporting pursuant to this
4 act to report the amounts, dates or other circumstantial data
5 regarding contributions made to any other candidate committee,
6 joint candidates committee, political committee, continuing political
7 committee, political party committee or legislative leadership
8 committee.

9 The \$200 limit established in this subsection shall remain as
10 stated in this subsection without further adjustment by the
11 commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993,
12 c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

13 g. Any report filed pursuant to the provisions of this section
14 shall include an itemized accounting of all receipts and
15 expenditures relative to any testimonial affair held since the date of
16 the most recent report filed, which accounting shall include the
17 name and mailing address of each contributor in excess of \$200 to
18 such testimonial affair and the amount contributed by each; in the
19 case of any individual contributor, the occupation of the individual
20 and the name and mailing address of the individual's employer; the
21 expenses incurred; and the disposition of the proceeds of such
22 testimonial affair.

23 The \$200 limit established in this subsection shall remain as
24 stated in this subsection without further adjustment by the
25 commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993,
26 c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

27 h. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1993, c.65.)

28 i. Each campaign treasurer of a candidate committee or joint
29 candidates committee shall file written notice with the commission
30 of a contribution in excess of \$200 received during the period
31 between the 13th day prior to the election and the date of the
32 election and of an expenditure of money or other thing of value in
33 excess of \$800 made, incurred or authorized by the candidate
34 committee or joint candidates committee to support or defeat a
35 candidate in an election, or to aid the passage or defeat of any
36 public question, during the period between the 13th day prior to the
37 election and the date of the election, provided that a candidate shall
38 not be required to file written notice pursuant to this subsection of
39 an expenditure made to support his or her own candidacy, or to
40 support or defeat a candidate for the same office in an election. For
41 the purposes of this subsection, the offices of member of the Senate
42 and member of the General Assembly shall be deemed to be the
43 same office in a legislative district; the offices of member of the
44 board of chosen freeholders and county executive shall be deemed
45 to be the same office in a county; and the offices of mayor and
46 member of the municipal governing body shall be deemed to be the
47 same office in a municipality.

1 The notice of a contribution shall be filed in writing or by
2 electronic transmission within 72 hours of the receipt of the
3 contribution, except that a contribution received between the
4 seventh day prior to the election and the date of the election shall be
5 reported within 24 hours of the receipt thereof. The notice shall set
6 forth the amount and date of the contribution, the name and mailing
7 address of the contributor, and where the contributor is an
8 individual, the occupation of the individual and the name and
9 mailing address of the individual's employer. The notice of an
10 expenditure shall be filed in writing or by electronic transmission
11 within 72 hours of the making, incurring or authorization of the
12 expenditure, except that such expenditure made during the period
13 between the seventh day prior to the election and the date of the
14 election shall be reported within 24 hours of the making, incurring,
15 or authorization of the expenditure. The notice shall set forth the
16 name and mailing address of the person, firm or organization to
17 whom or which the expenditure was paid and the amount and
18 purpose of the expenditure.

19 j. Each county shall provide on its Internet site a link to the
20 Internet site for the Election Law Enforcement Commission for the
21 purpose of providing public access to the reports that are required to
22 be submitted to the commission pursuant to this section.

23 k. Any statement, report, or other form required to be filed with
24 the commission pursuant to the provisions of this section shall
25 include the name, phone number, and electronic mail address of the
26 candidate or joint candidates for whom the statement, report, or
27 other form is being filed.

28 (cf: P.L.2023, c.30, s.9)

29
30 2. This act shall take effect January 1 next following the date
31 of enactment.
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33

34 STATEMENT

35
36 This bill requires that whenever a candidate, candidate
37 committee, or joint candidates committee files a statement, report,
38 or form with the Election Law Enforcement Commission, the
39 candidate or committee must include the name, phone number, and
40 electronic mail address of the candidate or joint candidates on the
41 statement, report, or form.