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VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 130TH LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 727, L.D. 981, “An Act To Strengthen the Integrity of the Maine Clean Election Act by Limiting the Amount of Money Paid to Political Operatives”

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§6-G is enacted to read:

6-G. Expenditures for salaries and professional services. After certification, a candidate and a candidate's authorized political committee may not use fund revenues to pay or compensate employees, consultants or other individuals for services provided to the campaign except as authorized by this subsection.

A. Except as provided in paragraph B, a certified candidate for the State Senate and the candidate's authorized political committee may not use fund revenues to pay an individual more than \$7,500 for services provided to the campaign during a single election cycle and a certified candidate for the State House of Representatives and the candidate's authorized political committee may not use fund revenues to pay an individual more than \$2,500 for services provided to the campaign during a single election cycle.

B. Salaries and consulting fees paid by a certified candidate and the candidate's authorized political committee for professional marketing services are not subject to the restrictions in paragraph A. For purposes of this paragraph, "professional marketing services" includes, but is not limited to, audio, video and graphic advertising production services.'

Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 3 and 4.

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the minority report of the committee, removes the provisions of the bill that require a candidate certified under the Maine Clean Election Act to pay individuals who provide services to the candidate’s campaign on an hourly basis. The amendment retains the bill’s prohibition against a certified candidate for the State Senate paying an individual more than \$7,500 for services provided to the candidate’s campaign and a certified candidate for the State House of Representatives paying an individual more than \$2,500 for services provided to the candidate’s campaign. As in the bill, individuals who provide professional marketing services, including audio, video and graphic advertising production services, are not subject to this salary cap.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)