



General Assembly

February Session, 2020

***Raised Bill No. 5529***

LCO No. 3040



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION  
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:  
(GAE)

***AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE CITIZENS' ELECTION  
PROGRAM.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General  
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 9-750 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2020*):

3 (a) If, (1) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, or any fiscal year  
4 thereafter, the amount of funds available under section 3-69a for deposit  
5 in the Citizens' Election Fund established in section 9-701 is less than the  
6 amount of funds required under [said] section 3-69a to be deposited in  
7 said fund, resulting in an insufficiency in the amount of the deposit, or  
8 (2) during an election cycle the amount of funds in the Citizens' Election  
9 Fund is less than the amount of funds required to provide grants to each  
10 qualified candidate committee pursuant to the provisions of this  
11 chapter, resulting in an insufficiency in said fund, a portion of the  
12 revenues from the tax imposed under chapter 208, equal to the amount  
13 of any insufficiency described in subdivision (1) or (2) of this section,  
14 shall be deposited in said fund to allow for the payment of grants

15 pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

16 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3-69a, if funds are  
17 deposited into the Citizens' Election Fund pursuant to the provisions of  
18 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section, the aggregate amount of  
19 any such deposits shall be deducted from the amount deposited into  
20 said fund under section 3-69a for the following fiscal year.

21 Sec. 2. Section 9-711 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
22 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2020*):

23 (a) If an expenditure in excess of the applicable expenditure limit set  
24 forth in subsection (c) of section 9-702 is made or incurred by a qualified  
25 candidate committee that receives a grant from the Citizens' Election  
26 Fund pursuant to section 9-706, (1) the candidate and treasurer of [said]  
27 such committee shall be jointly and severally liable for paying for the  
28 excess expenditure, (2) the committee shall not receive any additional  
29 grants or moneys from the fund for the remainder of the election cycle  
30 if the State Elections Enforcement Commission determines that the  
31 candidate or treasurer of [said] such committee had knowledge of the  
32 excess expenditure, (3) the treasurer shall be subject to penalties under  
33 section 9-7b, and (4) the candidate of [said] such candidate committee  
34 shall be deemed to be a nonparticipating candidate for the purposes of  
35 sections 9-700 to 9-716, inclusive, if the commission determines that the  
36 candidate or treasurer of [said] such committee had knowledge of the  
37 excess expenditure. The commission may waive the provisions of this  
38 subsection upon determining that an excess expenditure is de minimis.  
39 The commission shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the  
40 provisions of chapter 54, establishing standards for making such  
41 determinations. Such standards shall include, but need not be limited  
42 to, a finding by the commission that the candidate or treasurer has, from  
43 the candidate's or treasurer's personal funds, either paid the excess  
44 expenditure or reimbursed the qualified candidate committee for its  
45 payment of the excess expenditure.

46 (b) If an individual, who is associated with the campaign of a

47 candidate whose qualified candidate committee has received a grant  
48 from the Citizens' Election Fund pursuant to section 9-706, makes or  
49 incurs an expenditure in excess of the applicable expenditure limit set  
50 forth in subsection (c) of section 9-702 for [said] such committee, without  
51 the consent of the candidate or treasurer of the committee, the  
52 individual shall (1) repay to the fund the amount of such excess  
53 expenditure, and (2) shall be subject to penalties under section 9-7b. The  
54 provisions of this subsection shall not apply to an individual who is the  
55 candidate or the treasurer of such committee.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2020</i>	9-750
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2020</i>	9-711

***Statement of Purpose:***

To make technical revisions to provisions concerning the Citizens' Election Program.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*