



General Assembly

February Session, 2020

Governor's Bill No. 14

LCO No. 531



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:

SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.

SEN. DUFF, 25th Dist.

REP. ARESIMOWICZ, 30th Dist.

REP. RITTER M., 1st Dist.

***AN ACT PERMITTING THE USE OF CITIZENS' ELECTION PROGRAM
GRANT FUNDS TO OFFSET A PARTICIPATING CANDIDATE'S
CHILDCARE COSTS.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 9-601 of the general statutes is amended by adding
2 subdivision (32) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2020*):

3 (NEW) (32) "Childcare services" means services rendered to a
4 candidate for the care of any child who is under thirteen years of age
5 and for whom such candidate is the parent or legal guardian, which
6 services are necessary as a direct result of campaign activity that would
7 not exist but for such candidate's campaign.

8 Sec. 2. Subsection (e) of section 9-706 of the general statutes is
9 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
10 *2020*):

11 (e) (1) The State Elections Enforcement Commission shall adopt
12 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, on
13 permissible expenditures under subsection (g) of section 9-607, as
14 amended by this act, for qualified candidate committees receiving
15 grants from the fund under sections 9-700 to 9-716, inclusive.

16 (2) Expenditures for childcare services made by the qualified
17 candidate committee of a participating candidate shall be deemed
18 permissible if such expenditures (A) are, in the aggregate, not more than
19 the amount of qualifying contributions permitted under section 9-704,
20 and (B) otherwise comply with all other regulations adopted pursuant
21 to subdivision (1) of this subsection.

22 Sec. 3. Subsection (c) of section 9-710 of the general statutes is
23 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
24 *2020*):

25 (c) A candidate who intends to participate in the Citizens' Election
26 Program may provide personal funds for such candidate's campaign for
27 nomination or election in an amount not exceeding: (1) For a candidate
28 for the office of Governor, twenty thousand dollars; (2) for a candidate
29 for the office of Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State
30 Comptroller, State Treasurer or Secretary of the State, ten thousand
31 dollars; (3) for a candidate for the office of state senator, two thousand
32 dollars; or (4) for a candidate for the office of state representative, one
33 thousand dollars. Such personal funds shall not constitute a qualifying
34 contribution under section 9-704. For the purposes of this section,
35 expenditures for childcare services made directly from any such
36 candidate's personal funds and for which such candidate does not seek
37 reimbursement from his or her candidate committee, as provided in
38 subsection (k) of section 9-607, shall not count toward the amounts
39 provided in subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, as applicable, of this
40 subsection.

41 Sec. 4. Subdivision (2) of subsection (g) of section 9-607 of the general
42 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof

43 (Effective July 1, 2020):

44 (2) Unless otherwise provided by this chapter, any treasurer, in
45 accomplishing the lawful purposes of the committee, may pay the
46 expenses of: (A) Advertising in electronic and print media; (B) any other
47 form of printed advertising or communications including "thank you"
48 advertising after the election; (C) campaign items, including, but not
49 limited to, brochures, leaflets, flyers, invitations, stationery, envelopes,
50 reply cards, return envelopes, campaign business cards, direct mailings,
51 postcards, palm cards, "thank you" notes, sample ballots and other
52 similar items; (D) political banners and billboards; (E) political
53 paraphernalia, which is customarily given or sold to supporters
54 including, but not limited to, campaign buttons, stickers, pins, pencils,
55 pens, matchbooks, balloons, pads, calendars, magnets, key chains, hats,
56 tee shirts, sweatshirts, frisbees, pot holders, jar openers and other
57 similar items; (F) purchasing office supplies for campaign or political
58 purposes, campaign photographs, raffle or other fund-raising permits
59 required by law, fund-raiser prizes, postage, express mail delivery
60 services, bulk mail permits, and computer supplies and services; (G)
61 banking service charges to maintain campaign and political accounts;
62 (H) subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals which enhance the
63 candidacy of the candidate or party; (I) lease or rental of office space for
64 campaign or political purposes and expenses in connection therewith
65 including, but not limited to, furniture, parking, storage space, utilities
66 and maintenance, provided a party committee or political committee
67 organized for ongoing political activities may purchase such office
68 space; (J) lease or rental of vehicles for campaign use only; (K) lease,
69 rental or use charges of any ordinary and necessary campaign office
70 equipment including, but not limited to, copy machines, telephones,
71 postage meters, facsimile machines, computer hardware, software and
72 printers, provided a party committee or political committee organized
73 for ongoing political activities may purchase office equipment, and
74 provided further that a candidate committee or a political committee,
75 other than a political committee formed for ongoing political activities
76 or an exploratory committee, may purchase computer equipment; (L)

77 compensation for campaign or committee staff, fringe benefits, [and]
 78 payroll taxes and childcare services, provided (i) the candidate and any
 79 member of his immediate family shall not receive compensation, and (ii)
 80 compensation for childcare services is reasonable and customary for the
 81 services rendered; (M) travel, meals and lodging expenses of speakers,
 82 campaign or committee workers, the candidate and the candidate's
 83 spouse for political and campaign purposes; (N) fund raising; (O)
 84 reimbursements to candidates and campaign or committee workers
 85 made in accordance with the provisions of this section for campaign-
 86 related expenses for which a receipt is received by the treasurer; (P)
 87 campaign or committee services of attorneys, accountants, consultants
 88 or other professional persons for campaign activities, obtaining or
 89 contesting ballot status, nomination, or election, and compliance with
 90 this chapter; (Q) purchasing campaign finance reports; (R) repaying
 91 permissible campaign loans made to the committee that are properly
 92 reported and refunding contributions received from an impermissible
 93 source or in excess of the limitations set forth in this chapter; (S)
 94 conducting polls concerning any political party, issue, candidate or
 95 individual; (T) gifts to campaign or committee workers or purchasing
 96 flowers or other commemorative items for political purposes not to
 97 exceed one hundred dollars to any one recipient in a calendar year or
 98 for the campaign, as the case may be; (U) purchasing tickets or
 99 advertising from charities, inaugural committees, or other civic
 100 organizations if for a political purpose, for any candidate, a candidate's
 101 spouse, a member of a candidate's campaign staff, or members of
 102 committees; (V) the inauguration of an elected candidate by that
 103 candidate's candidate committee; (W) hiring of halls, rooms, music and
 104 other entertainment for political meetings and events; (X) reasonable
 105 compensation for public speakers hired by the committee; (Y)
 106 transporting electors to the polls and other get-out-the-vote activities on
 107 election day; and (Z) any other necessary campaign or political expense.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2020</i>	9-601

Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2020</i>	9-706(e)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2020</i>	9-710(c)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2020</i>	9-607(g)(2)

Statement of Purpose:

To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

[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.]