

House Bill 1402

By: Representatives Barr of the 103rd, Dunahoo of the 30th, Mathis of the 144th, Smith of the 18th, Wade of the 9th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 elections and primaries generally, so as to prohibit solicitation and acceptance of private
3 donations by state and local governmental entities for election purposes; to provide for
4 exceptions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elections and
8 primaries generally, is amended in Code Section 21-2-71, relating to payment by county or
9 municipality of superintendent's expenses and study and report on acceptance and equitable
10 distribution of donations, by adding a new subsection to read as follows:

11 "(b.1)(1) No state department or agency, county, municipality, consolidated government,
12 state-wide or local authority, or other state or local government entity, nor any officer,
13 agent, employee, or elected official of any such entity shall take, solicit, or accept any
14 donations, funding, grants, or gifts from any private individual or nongovernmental entity
15 for any purpose related to elections, including preparing for, administering, or conducting
16 an election; registering voters; and voter education.

17 (2) This subsection shall not prohibit the operation of a polling place as authorized by
18 Code Sections 21-2-266, 21-2-267, and 21-2-269."

19 **SECTION 2.**

20 Said chapter is further amended in Code Section 21-2-212, relating to county registrars,
21 appointment, certification, term of service, vacancies, compensation and expenses of chief
22 registrar, registrars, and other officers and employees, and budget estimates, by adding a new
23 subsection to read as follows:

24 "(g)(1) No state department or agency, county, municipality, consolidated government,
25 state-wide or local authority, or other state or local government entity, nor any officer,
26 agent, employee, or elected official of any such entity shall take, solicit, or accept any
27 donations, funding, grants, or gifts from any private individual or nongovernmental entity
28 for any purpose related to elections, including preparing for, administering, or conducting
29 an election; registering voters; and voter education.

30 (2) This subsection shall not prohibit the operation of a polling place as authorized by
31 Code Sections 21-2-266, 21-2-267, and 21-2-269."

32 **SECTION 3.**

33 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.