HLS 22RS-269 **ENGROSSED**

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 254

1

BY REPRESENTATIVE GREEN

CAMPAIGN FINANCE: Increases campaign contribution limit for certain contributions.

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact R.S. 18:1505.2(H)(1)(a) and (2)(a) and (b) and to repeal R.S.
3	18:1505.2(H)(2)(c), relative to campaign finance; to provide relative to campaign
4	contribution limits; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.
5	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
6	Section 1. R.S. 18:1505.2(H)(1)(a) and (2)(a) and (b) is hereby amended and
7	reenacted to read as follows:
8	§1505.2. Contributions; expenditures; certain prohibitions and limitations
9	* * *
0	H.(1)(a) The contribution limit The following contribution limits are
1	established for contributions made to candidates or the principal campaign
12	committee and any subsidiary committee of a candidate for any office is five
13	thousand dollars. the following offices:
14	(i) Major office - five thousand dollars.
15	(ii) District office - two thousand five hundred dollars.
16	(iii) Other office - one thousand dollars.
17	* * *
18	(2)(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection,
9	the contribution limit following contribution limits are established for contributions

Page 1 of 4

1 by political committees supporting or opposing a candidate for any office is five 2 thousand dollars. the following offices: 3 (i) Major office - five thousand dollars. 4 (ii) District office - two thousand five hundred dollars. 5 (iii) Other office - one thousand dollars. 6 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (1) and Subparagraph (2)(a) 7 of this Subsection, the contribution limit following campaign contribution limits are established for contributions by political committees supporting or opposing a 8 9 candidate for any office the following offices, if the membership of which the 10 political committee exceeds two hundred and fifty members as of the December 11 thirty-first of the preceding calendar year, and additionally provided that at least two 12 hundred and fifty of the members have each contributed at least fifty dollars to the 13 political committee during the preceding one-year period, is ten thousand dollars. 14 (i) Major office - ten thousand dollars. (ii) District office - five thousand dollars. 15 16 (iii) Other office - two thousand dollars. 17 No contribution in excess of the limits contained in Subparagraph (2)(a) of 18 this Subsection shall be made by any political committee until such membership 19 certification is made on the statement of organization form required by this Chapter 20 and timely submitted to the supervisory committee by the applicable due date. Any 21 political committee certified under this Paragraph Subparagraph shall notify the 22 supported candidate in writing at the time any contribution is made under this 23 Paragraph Subparagraph. 24 25 Section 2. R.S. 18:1505.2(H)(2)(c) is hereby repealed in its entirety. 26 Section 3. The provisions of this Act shall be prospective in nature only and shall 27 apply to contributions made to candidates in elections occurring after January 1, 2023. Any 28 contribution to a candidate made for an election occurring prior to January 1, 2023, shall be 29 subject to the contribution limits established in R.S. 18:1505.2(H) as of May 17, 2022. 30 Section 4. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2023.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 254 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

Green

Abstract: Removes differences in campaign contribution limits based on the office sought by the candidate after Jan. 1, 2023.

<u>Present law</u>, applicable to contributions made by persons or political committees other than large political committees, provides that the contribution limit for contributions to candidates or the principal campaign committee and any subsidiary committee of a candidate are as follows:

- (1) Major office \$5,000.
- (2) District office \$2,000.
- (3) Other office \$1,000.

<u>Proposed law</u> changes this contribution limit to \$5,000 regardless of the office sought by the candidate.

<u>Present law</u>, applicable to political committees which have more than 250 members and to which more than 250 members have contributed at least \$50, provides that the contribution limits are as follows:

- (1) Major office \$10,000.
- (2) District office \$5,000.
- (3) Other office \$2,000.

<u>Proposed law</u> changes this contribution limit to \$10,000 regardless of the office sought by the candidate.

Further provides that the change to the contribution limits in <u>proposed law</u> shall prospective only and apply to contributions made to candidates in elections occurring after Jan. 1, 2023. Specify that any contribution to a candidate made for an election occurring prior to Jan. 1, 2023, shall be subject to the contribution limits in present law.

Effective Jan. 1, 2023.

(Amends R.S. 18:1505.2(H)(1)(a) and (2)(a) and (b); Repeals R.S. 18:1505.2(H)(2)(c))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on House and</u> Governmental Affairs to the original bill:

1. Change the effective date from signature of governor to Jan. 1, 2023.

2. Make <u>proposed law</u> prospective and applicable to contributions made to candidates in elections occurring after Jan. 1, 2023, and provide that the limits applicable on May 17, 2022, apply to contributions to candidates in elections occurring prior to Jan. 1, 2023.