

# HOUSE BILL 567

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HB 208/19 – W&M

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By: **Delegate Reilly**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2020

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Campaign Finance – Death of Elected Official – Transfer of Funds to Slate**  
3 **Account**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the authorized candidate campaign committee of an elected  
5 official who dies in office to transfer a certain cumulative amount from the remaining  
6 balance in the account of the authorized candidate campaign committee to one or  
7 more slates of which the deceased official was a member at the time of the official's  
8 death; making a conforming change; providing for a delayed effective date; and  
9 generally relating to transferring funds from the authorized candidate campaign  
10 committee of a deceased elected official.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
12 Article – Election Law  
13 Section 1–101(o)  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
17 Article – Election Law  
18 Section 13–247  
19 Annotated Code of Maryland  
20 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

21 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
22 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

23 **Article – Election Law**

24 1–101.

25 (oo) “Slate” means a political committee of two or more candidates who join

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 together to conduct and pay for joint campaign activities.

2 13–247.

3       **(A) [After] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, AFTER** all  
4 campaign expenditures have been made and before filing a final campaign finance report  
5 under Subtitle 3 of this title, any remaining balance in the account of a campaign finance  
6 entity shall be returned pro rata to the contributors or paid to:

7           (1) if the campaign finance entity is a political committee formed to support  
8 a candidate or act for a political party:

9                   (i) the State central committee of the political party:

10                           1. of which the candidate is a member; or

11                           2. for which the political committee is acting;

12                   (ii) the local central committee of the political party:

13                           1. of which the candidate is a member in a county in which  
14 the candidate resides or which the candidate seeks to represent; or

15                           2. for which the political committee is acting;

16                   (iii) the legislative party caucus committee of the political party:

17                           1. of which the candidate is a member; or

18                           2. for which the political committee is acting; or

19                   (iv) the board of education of a county in which the candidate resides  
20 or which the candidate seeks to represent;

21           (2) a nonprofit organization that provides services or funds for the benefit  
22 of pupils or teachers;

23           (3) a charitable organization registered or exempt from registration under  
24 the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act;

25           (4) the Fair Campaign Financing Fund established under § 15–103 of this  
26 article; or

27           (5) a public or private institution of higher education in the State if:

28                   (i) that institution possesses a certificate of approval from the  
29 Maryland Higher Education Commission; and

1                   (ii) the payment is designated for use by the institution solely to  
2 award scholarships, grants, or loans to students attending the institution.

3           **(B) IF AN ELECTED OFFICIAL DIES IN OFFICE, THE DECEASED OFFICIAL'S**  
4 **AUTHORIZED CANDIDATE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE MAY TRANSFER A CUMULATIVE**  
5 **AMOUNT OF UP TO \$6,000 FROM THE REMAINING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT OF THE**  
6 **AUTHORIZED CANDIDATE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE AFTER ALL CAMPAIGN**  
7 **EXPENDITURES HAVE BEEN MADE TO ONE OR MORE SLATES OF WHICH THE**  
8 **DECEASED OFFICIAL WAS A MEMBER AT THE TIME OF THE OFFICIAL'S DEATH.**

9           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
10 January 1, 2021.