

By: Romero, Jr.

H.B. No. 2751

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the use of political contributions by a candidate or officeholder for child-care expenses.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 253.035(d), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(d) In this section, "personal use" means a use that primarily furthers individual or family purposes not connected with the performance of duties or activities as a candidate for or holder of a public office. The term does not include:

(1) payments made to defray ordinary and necessary expenses incurred in connection with activities as a candidate or in connection with the performance of duties or activities as a public officeholder, including payment of:

(A) rent, utility, and other reasonable housing or household expenses incurred in maintaining a residence in Travis County by members of the legislature who do not ordinarily reside in Travis County, but excluding payments prohibited under Section 253.038; or

(B) child-care expenses for a child of the candidate or officeholder made in accordance with Section 253.0352;

or

(2) payments of federal income taxes due on interest and other income earned on political contributions.

1 SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 253, Election Code, is
2 amended by adding Section 253.0352 to read as follows:

3 Sec. 253.0352. CHILD-CARE EXPENSES. A candidate or an
4 officeholder may use political contributions to pay for child-care
5 expenses incurred for a child of the candidate or officeholder,
6 including payment to a family member other than the child's parent,
7 legal guardian, or conservator.

8 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
9 payment of a child-care expense incurred by a candidate or
10 officeholder on or after the effective date of this Act. The
11 payment of a child-care expense incurred by a candidate or
12 officeholder before the effective date of this Act is governed by
13 the law in effect on the date the payment was made, and the former
14 law is continued in effect for that purpose.

15 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.