

1-1 By: Birdwell S.B. No. 2781
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 14, 2025; April 3, 2025, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs; May 5, 2025,
1-4 reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 10, Nays 0;
1-5 May 5, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-7	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14			X	
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			
1-18	X			

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the imposition of civil penalties for certain
1-22 violations with respect to political contributions and
1-23 expenditures made by certain persons who engage in lobbying
1-24 activities.

1-25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-26 SECTION 1. Section 253.006, Election Code, is amended to
1-27 read as follows:

1-28 Sec. 253.006. CERTAIN CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES BY
1-29 LOBBYISTS RESTRICTED. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of
1-30 law, a person required to register under Chapter 305, Government
1-31 Code, may not knowingly make or authorize a political contribution
1-32 or political expenditure that is a political contribution to
1-33 another candidate, officeholder, or political committee, or direct
1-34 campaign expenditure, from political contributions accepted by:

1-35 (1) the person as a candidate or officeholder;

1-36 (2) a specific-purpose committee for the purpose of
1-37 supporting the person as a candidate or assisting the person as an
1-38 officeholder; or

1-39 (3) a political committee that accepted a political
1-40 contribution from a source described by Subdivision (1) or (2)
1-41 during the two-year period immediately before the date the
1-42 political contribution or expenditure was made.

1-43 (b) A person who violates this section is subject to a civil
1-44 penalty in an amount not to exceed twice the amount of the political
1-45 contribution or political expenditure made or authorized in
1-46 violation of this section.

1-47 SECTION 2. Section 253.007, Election Code, is amended by
1-48 adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

1-49 (d) A person who violates this section is subject to a civil
1-50 penalty in an amount not to exceed twice the amount of all political
1-51 contributions or political expenditures described by Subsection
1-52 (b) made or authorized by the person in the two years preceding the
1-53 date on which the activities in violation of this section occurred.

1-54 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act to Chapter
1-55 253, Election Code, apply only to a violation that occurs on or
1-56 after the effective date of this Act. A violation that occurs
1-57 before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in
1-58 effect on the date the violation occurred, and the former law is
1-59 continued in effect for that purpose.

1-60 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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