

By: Harper-Brown, et al.

H.B. No. 1664

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1664:

By: Hughes

C.S.H.B. No. 1664

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the reporting of political contributions and  
3 expenditures by certain political committees.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 254, Election Code, is  
6 amended by adding Sections 254.1531 and 254.1541 to read as  
7 follows:

8 Sec. 254.1531. ANNUAL REPORTING FOR CERTAIN COMMITTEES.

9 (a) The campaign treasurer of a general-purpose committee may file  
10 an annual report under this section if the committee does not intend  
11 to accept political contributions in a calendar year that in the  
12 aggregate exceed \$10,000 or to make political expenditures in a  
13 calendar year that in the aggregate exceed \$10,000.

14 (b) To be entitled to file reports under this section, the  
15 campaign treasurer of a general-purpose committee must file with  
16 the commission a written declaration of intent not to exceed  
17 \$10,000 in political contributions or political expenditures in a  
18 calendar year. The declaration of intent must contain a statement  
19 that the committee understands that if the \$10,000 maximum for  
20 contributions and expenditures is exceeded, the committee is  
21 required to file reports under Sections 254.153 and 254.154.

22 (c) A report filed under this section shall be filed not  
23 later than January 15. The report covers the period beginning  
24 January 1 of the preceding calendar year, the day the committee's

1 campaign treasurer appointment is filed, or the first day after the  
2 period covered by the last report required to be filed under this  
3 subchapter, as applicable, and continuing through December 31.

4 (d) If the committee exceeds \$10,000 in political  
5 contributions or political expenditures before June 30, the  
6 committee shall file semiannual reports as required by Section  
7 254.153.

8 (e) If the committee exceeds \$10,000 in political  
9 contributions or political expenditures after June 30, the  
10 committee shall file a report not later than the later of July 15 or  
11 48 hours after the maximum is exceeded. A report filed under this  
12 subsection covers the period beginning the first day of the  
13 reporting period, as determined under Subsection (c), and  
14 continuing through the day the maximum is exceeded. The reporting  
15 period for the next report filed by the committee begins on the day  
16 after the last day of the period covered by the report filed under  
17 this subsection.

18 Sec. 254.1541. ALTERNATE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR  
19 CERTAIN COMMITTEES. (a) This section applies only to a  
20 general-purpose committee with less than \$20,000 in one or more  
21 accounts maintained by the committee in which political  
22 contributions are deposited, as of the last day of the preceding  
23 reporting period for which the committee was required to file a  
24 report.

25 (b) A report by a campaign treasurer of a general-purpose  
26 committee to which this section applies may include, instead of the  
27 information required under Sections 254.031(a)(1) and (5) and

1 Section 254.151(6):

2 (1) the amount of political contributions from each  
3 person that in the aggregate exceed \$100 and that are accepted  
4 during the reporting period by the committee, the full name and  
5 address of the person making the contributions, the person's  
6 principal occupation, and the dates of the contributions; and

7 (2) the total amount or a specific listing of the  
8 political contributions of \$100 or less accepted and the total  
9 amount or a specific listing of the political expenditures of \$100  
10 or less made during the reporting period.

11 SECTION 2. Section 254.156, Election Code, is amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 Sec. 254.156. CONTENTS OF MONTHLY REPORTS. Each monthly  
14 report filed under this subchapter must comply with Sections  
15 254.031 and 254.151 except that the maximum amount of a political  
16 contribution, expenditure, or loan that is not required to be  
17 individually reported is:

18 (1) \$10 in the aggregate; or

19 (2) \$20 in the aggregate for a contribution accepted  
20 by a general-purpose committee to which Section 254.1541 applies.

21 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by Section 254.1541,  
22 Election Code, as added by this Act, and Section 254.156, Election  
23 Code, as amended by this Act, apply only to a report of political  
24 contributions and expenditures that is required to be filed on or  
25 after September 1, 2005. A report of contributions and  
26 expenditures that is required to be filed before September 1, 2005,  
27 is governed by the law in effect on the date the report is required

1 to be filed, and the former law is continued in effect for that  
2 purpose.

3 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.