

By: Hilderbran

H.B. No. 3167

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 Section 254.1531 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 254.1531. ANNUAL REPORTING FOR CERTAIN COMMITTEES.

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

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

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

1 period covered by the last report required to be filed under this  
2 subchapter, as applicable, and continuing through December 31.

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

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

17 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.