

By: Branch, England

H.B. No. 89

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 89:

By: Berman

C.S.H.B. No. 89

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to an exemption for certain political committees from the
3 imposition of civil penalties for violating requirements for
4 reporting political contributions and expenditures.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 254, Election Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 254.164 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 254.164. CERTAIN COMMITTEES EXEMPT FROM CIVIL
9 PENALTIES. The commission may not impose a civil penalty on a
10 general-purpose committee for a violation of this chapter if the
11 committee did not accept political contributions totaling \$3,000 or
12 more or make or authorize political expenditures totaling \$3,000 or
13 more during:

14 (1) the reporting period covered by the report that is
15 the subject of the violation; or

16 (2) either of the two reporting periods preceding the
17 reporting period described by Subdivision (1).

18 SECTION 2. Section 254.164, Election Code, as added by this
19 Act, applies only to a violation of Chapter 254, Election Code,
20 relating to a report required to be filed under that chapter on or
21 after the effective date of this Act. A violation of Chapter 254,
22 Election Code, relating to a report required to be filed under that
23 chapter before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law
24 in effect when the violation occurred, and the former law is

1 continued in effect for that purpose.

2 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.