

By: Branch

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 during
11 the two preceding reporting periods the committee did not accept
12 political contributions totaling \$3,000 or more or make or
13 authorize political expenditures totaling \$3,000 or more.

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

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