

By: Berman

H.B. No. 2491

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to political expenditures made by a corporation to finance the establishment and administration of a political committee.

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

SECTION 1. Section 253.100, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(a) A corporation, acting alone or with one or more other corporations, may make one or more political expenditures to finance the establishment or administration of a general-purpose committee. In addition to any other expenditure that is considered permissible under this section, permissible expenditures include an expenditure:

(1) for the maintenance and operation of a general-purpose committee, such as:

(A) rent;

(B) office equipment;

(C) utilities; or

(D) secretarial or clerical assistance and professional services necessary for the proper administrative operation of the committee; and

(2) to support the regular functions of the committee, including conducting committee meetings to make decisions relating to the committee's support, recording committee decisions,

1 communicating committee decisions to contributors to the  
2 committee, and preparing and delivering committee contributions.

3 (d) In issuing an advisory opinion under Subchapter D,  
4 Chapter 571, Government Code, on the question of whether a  
5 political expenditure is for the establishment or administration of  
6 a general-purpose committee, the commission may consider relevant  
7 federal election laws and opinions for guidance.

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