

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2021 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 292

BY SENATORS IHLENFELD, LINDSAY, WOELFEL, CAPUTO,

JEFFRIES, AND UNGER

[Introduced February 13, 2021; referred
to the Committee on the Judiciary]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §3-8-15 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
 2 to disclosure of fundraising contributions during a legislative session; and requiring
 3 disclosure of fundraising contributions by caucus campaign committees.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 8. REGULATION AND CONTROL OF ELECTIONS.

§3-8-15. Disclosure of contributions during legislative session.

1 (a) In addition to other reporting required under this article;

2 (1) Any member, or any candidate committee for a member of the Legislature who is a
 3 candidate for legislative office, who has a fund-raising event while the Legislature is in session,
 4 shall disclose the existence of the event and the receipt of all contributions, including the source
 5 and amounts, within five business days after the fundraising event; and

6 (2) Any caucus campaign committee shall disclose the receipt of all contributions,
 7 including the source and amounts, within five days of receipt of the contribution, whether the
 8 contributions occur during a regular legislative session, interim session, or special session.

9 (b) The reporting requirements under this section also apply to former candidates or
 10 candidate committees for legislative office who are still holding any legislative office and who use
 11 a fundraising event to retire or pay off debt of a campaign account while the Legislature is in
 12 session.

13 (c) The reporting requirements of this section do not relieve a candidate or candidate's
 14 committee from reporting contributions received and disclosed in conformity with this section from
 15 reporting them as required by the regular reporting requirements as contained in §3-8-5 of this
 16 code.

17 (d) The Secretary of State shall prepare a form for disclosure of these contributions and
 18 publish the information on the Secretary of State's website within 48 hours of the Secretary of
 19 State receiving the completed form: *Provided*, That as an alternative, the Secretary of State is
 20 ~~authorized to~~ may establish a means for electronic filing and disclosure.

21 (e) Pursuant to §29A-3-1 *et seq.* of this code, the Secretary of State may propose rules
22 and emergency rules for legislative approval relating to procedures and policies consistent with
23 this section.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require disclosure of fundraising contributions by caucus campaign committees, whether the contributions occur during a regular legislative session, interim session, or special session.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.