

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4  
5 By: Representative Ray

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1598

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO ALLOW CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS TO BE  
9 TRANSFERRED FROM ONE CANDIDATE TO ANOTHER CANDIDATE;  
10 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING CAMPAIGN FINANCE; TO  
11 MODIFY THE USE OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS; TO AMEND ARKANSAS  
12 CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE 19, SECTION 28; TO AMEND  
13 PORTIONS OF INITIATED ACT 1 OF 1990 AND INITIATED ACT  
14 1 OF 1996; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

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18 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING CAMPAIGN  
19 FINANCE; TO AMEND ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION,  
20 ARTICLE 19, SECTION 28; AND TO AMEND  
21 PORTIONS OF INITIATED ACT 1 OF 1990 AND  
22 INITIATED ACT 1 OF 1996.

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24  
25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

26  
27 SECTION 1. Arkansas Constitution, Article 19, § 28(a)(1)(A),  
28 concerning contributions to campaigns, is amended to add an additional  
29 subdivision to read as follows:

30 (vii) A candidate.

31  
32 SECTION 2. Arkansas Constitution, Article 19, § 28(a)(1)(B),  
33 concerning contributions to campaigns, is amended to add an additional  
34 subdivision to read as follows:

35 (vii) A candidate.



1 SECTION 3. Arkansas Constitution, Article 19, § 28(a), concerning  
 2 contributions, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as  
 3 follows:

4 (3)(A) A candidate may use his or her own campaign funds to  
 5 contribute to another candidate in an amount up to the limit established by  
 6 rule of the Arkansas Ethics Commission.

7 (B) Any contributions made by a candidate under subsection  
 8 (a) of this section shall not be considered as using campaign funds as  
 9 personal income.

10  
 11 SECTION 4. Arkansas Constitution, Article 19, § 28(b), concerning  
 12 contributions, is amended to read as follows:

13 (b)(1) It is unlawful for an individual, a political party that meets  
 14 the definition of a political party under Arkansas Code § 7-1-101, a  
 15 political party that meets the requirements of Arkansas Code § 7-7-205, a  
 16 county political party committee, a legislative caucus committee, a  
 17 candidate, or an approved political action committee to make a contribution  
 18 to a candidate for public office, or to a person acting on the candidate's  
 19 behalf, that in the aggregate exceeds the maximum amount allowed by law.

20 (2) The following entities may make a contribution or  
 21 contributions up to the maximum amount allowed by law to a candidate, whether  
 22 opposed or unopposed, for each election:

23 (A) An individual;

24 (B) A political party that meets the definition of a  
 25 political party under Arkansas Code § 7-1-101;

26 (C) A political party that meets the requirements of  
 27 Arkansas Code § 7-7-205;

28 (D) A county political party committee;

29 (E) A legislative caucus committee; ~~or~~

30 (F) An approved political action committee; or

31 (G) A candidate.

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 33 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 7-6-203(a)(1)(A), concerning contributions,  
 34 limitations, acceptance or solicitation, use as personal income, and  
 35 disposition, effective January 1, 2023, and resulting from Initiated Act 1 of  
 36 1990 and Initiated Act 1 from 1996, is amended to add an additional

1 subdivision to read as follows:

2 (vii) A candidate.

3  
 4 SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 7-6-203(a)(1)(B), concerning contributions,  
 5 limitations, acceptance or solicitation, use as personal income, and  
 6 disposition, effective January 1, 2023, and resulting from Initiated Act 1 of  
 7 1990 and Initiated Act 1 from 1996, is amended to read as follows:

8 (B) It shall be unlawful for a candidate for a public  
 9 office or for any person acting on the candidate’s behalf to accept a  
 10 campaign contribution from a prospective contributor other than those under  
 11 subdivisions ~~(a)(1)(A)(i)-(vi)~~(a)(1)(A)(i)-(vii) of this section.

12  
 13 SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 7-6-203(a)(2), concerning contributions,  
 14 limitations, acceptance or solicitation, use as personal income, and  
 15 disposition, effective January 1, 2023, and resulting from Initiated Act 1 of  
 16 1990 and Initiated Act 1 from 1996, is amended to read as follows:

17 (2) A candidate may accept a campaign contribution or  
 18 contributions up to the maximum amount from any prospective contributor under  
 19 subdivisions ~~(a)(1)(A)(i)-(vi)~~(a)(1)(A)(i)-(vii) of this section for each  
 20 election, whether opposed or unopposed.

21  
 22 SECTION 8. Arkansas Code § 7-6-203(a), concerning contributions,  
 23 limitations, acceptance or solicitation, use as personal income, and  
 24 disposition, effective January 1, 2023, and resulting from Initiated Act 1 of  
 25 1990 and Initiated Act 1 from 1996, is amended to add an additional  
 26 subdivision to read as follows:

27 (3)(A) A candidate may use his or her own campaign funds to  
 28 contribute to another candidate in an amount up to the limit established by  
 29 rule of the Arkansas Ethics Commission under subdivision (i) of this section.

30 (B) Contributions made by a candidate under subsection (a)  
 31 of this section shall not be considered as using campaign funds as personal  
 32 income.