

HOUSE BILL NO. 771

2/11 Introduced  
2/11 Referred to State Administration  
2/14 Hearing  
2/15 Adverse Committee Report  
2/18 Bill Killed

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 771  
2 INTRODUCED BY [Signature]

3  
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING AN ADDITIONAL  
5 DATE ON WHICH CANDIDATES FOR STATE DISTRICT OFFICES AND  
6 SUPPORTING OR OPPOSING POLITICAL COMMITTEES MUST FILE  
7 REPORTS TO THE COMMISSIONER OF CAMPAIGN PRACTICES; AMENDING  
8 SECTION 13-37-226, MCA."

9  
10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

11 Section 1. Section 13-37-226, MCA, is amended to read:

12 "13-37-226. Time for filing reports. (1) Candidates  
13 for a state office filled by a statewide vote of all the  
14 electors of Montana and political committees which are  
15 specifically organized to support or oppose a particular  
16 statewide candidate or issue shall file reports:

17 (a) on the 10th day of March and September in each  
18 year that an election is to be held and on the 15th and 5th  
19 days next preceding the date on which an election is held  
20 and within 24 hours after receiving a contribution of \$500  
21 or more if received between the 10th day before and the day  
22 of the election;

23 (b) not more than 20 days after the date of the  
24 election; and

25 (c) on the 10th day of March and September of each

1 year following an election until the candidate or political  
2 committee files a closing report as specified in  
3 13-37-228(3).

4 (2) Candidates for a state district office, including  
5 but not limited to candidates for the legislature, public  
6 service commission, or district court judge, and political  
7 committees which are specifically organized to support or  
8 oppose a particular state district candidate or issue shall  
9 file reports:

10 (a) on the 10th day next preceding the date on which  
11 an election is held and within 24 hours after receiving a  
12 contribution of \$100 or more if received between the 15th  
13 day before and the day of the election;

14 (b) not more than 20 days after the date of the  
15 election; and

16 (c) on the 5th day of October in each year that an  
17 election is to be held; and

18 ~~(e)~~(d) whenever a candidate or political committee  
19 files his or its closing report as specified in  
20 13-37-228(3).

21 (3) Candidates for any other public office and  
22 political committees which are specifically organized to  
23 support or oppose a particular local issue shall be required  
24 to file the reports specified in subsection (2) only if the  
25 total amount of contributions received or the total amount

1 of funds expended for all elections in a campaign, excluding  
2 the filing fee paid by the candidate, exceeds \$500, except  
3 as provided in 13-37-206.

4 (4) For the purposes of this subsection, a committee  
5 which is not specifically organized to support or oppose a  
6 particular candidate or ballot issue and which receives  
7 contributions and makes expenditures in conjunction with an  
8 election is an independent committee. For the purpose of  
9 reporting, a political party committee is an independent  
10 committee. An independent committee shall file reports:

11 (a) on the 10th day next preceding the date of an  
12 election in which it participates by making an expenditure;

13 (b) not more than 20 days after the date of the  
14 election in which it participates by making an expenditure;  
15 and

16 (c) a closing report at the close of each calendar  
17 year, on a date to be prescribed by the commissioner.

18 (5) The commissioner may promulgate rules regarding  
19 the extent to which organizations that are not primary  
20 political committees but are incidental political committees  
21 shall report their politically related activities in  
22 accordance with this chapter.

23 (6) All reports required by this section shall be  
24 complete as of the fifth day before the date of filing as  
25 specified in 13-37-225(2) and subsections (1) through (5) of

1 this section."

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