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House BILL NO. 91

INTRODUCED BY M. Hansen, L. Smith, Curtiss Decker

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT EXTENDING THE TIME IN WHICH A CANDIDATE FOR A STATE DISTRICT OFFICE MUST REPORT A CONTRIBUTION OF \$100 OR MORE FROM 24 HOURS TO 48 HOURS; AND AMENDING SECTION 13-37-226, MCA."

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

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

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

(a) quarterly, due on the fifth day following a calendar quarter, beginning with the calendar quarter in which funds are received or expended during the year or years prior to the election year that the candidate expects to be on the ballot;

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

(c) not more than 20 days after the date of the election; and

(d) on the 10th day of March and September of each year following an election until the candidate or political committee files a closing report as specified in 13-37-228(3).

(2) Political committees organized to support or oppose a particular statewide ballot issue shall file reports:

(a) quarterly, due on the fifth day following a calendar quarter, beginning with the calendar quarter in which funds are received or expended during the year or years prior to the election year that an issue subject to a referendum is or is expected to be on the ballot;

(b) on the 10th day of March and on the 10th day of each subsequent month through September;

(c) on the 15th and 5th days preceding the date on which an election is held;

(d) within 24 hours after receiving a contribution of \$500 or more if received between the 10th

1 day before the election and the day of the election;

2 (e) within 20 days after the election; and

3 (f) on the 10th day of March and September of each year following an election until the political
4 committee files a closing report as specified in 13-37-228(3).

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

8 (a) on the 12th day preceding the date on which an election is held and within ~~24~~ 48 hours after
9 receiving a contribution of \$100 or more if received between the 17th day before and the day of the
10 election;

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

12 (c) whenever a candidate or political committee files a closing report as specified in 13-37-228(3).

13 (4) Candidates for any other public office and political committees that are specifically organized
14 to support or oppose a particular local issue shall file the reports specified in subsection (3) only if the total
15 amount of contributions received or the total amount of funds expended for all elections in a campaign,
16 excluding the filing fee paid by the candidate, exceeds \$500, except as provided in 13-37-206.

17 (5) For the purposes of this subsection, a committee that is not specifically organized to support
18 or oppose a particular candidate or ballot issue and that receives contributions and makes expenditures in
19 conjunction with an election is an independent committee. For the purpose of reporting, a political party
20 committee is an independent committee. An independent committee shall file ~~reports~~:

21 (a) a report on the 12th day preceding the date of an election in which it participates by making
22 an expenditure;

23 (b) a report not more than 20 days after the date of the election in which it participates by making
24 an expenditure; and

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

27 (6) The commissioner may promulgate rules regarding the extent to which organizations that are
28 not primary political committees but are incidental political committees shall report their politically related
29 activities in accordance with this chapter.

30 (7) All reports required by this section must be complete as of the fifth day before the date of filing

1 as specified in 13-37-225(2) and this section."

2 -END-

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 91

2 INTRODUCED BY M. HANSON, L. SMITH, CURTISS, DEVLIN

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10 election; THE REPORT UNDER THIS SUBSECTION (3)(A) MAY BE MADE BY TELEPHONE OR ELECTRONIC
11 COMMUNICATION TO THE CLERK AND RECORDER AND THE COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES.

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30 activities in accordance with this chapter.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Page 1 of 1
January 25, 1995

MR. PRESIDENT:

We, your committee on State Administration having had under consideration HB 91 (third reading copy -- blue), respectfully report that HB 91 be amended as follows and as so amended be concurred in.

Signed: Ethel M. Harding
Senator Ethel M. Harding, Chair

That such amendments read:

1. Title, line 4.

Strike: "REVISING THE METHOD BY"

Insert: "EXTENDING THE TIME IN"

2. Title, line 6.

Following: second "HOURS"

Insert: "FROM 24 HOURS TO 48 HOURS; ALLOWING REPORTS TO BE FILED
BY MAIL OR BY ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION"

3. Page 2, line 8.

Strike: "24"

Insert: "48"

4. Page 2, line 10.

Strike: "TELEPHONE OR"

Insert: "mail or by"

-END-

HB 91

PV
GF Amd. Coord.
Sec. of Senate

FOSTER
Senator Carrying Bill

SENATE
211342SC.SPV

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