

May 9, 2006

H 1846. CONTRIBUTION CHANGES. Filed 5/9/06. *TO LOWER THE THRESHOLD FROM ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS TO FIFTY DOLLARS FOR ACCEPTING A POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION IN CASH; TO REQUIRE THE REPORTING OF THE IDENTITY OF A CONTRIBUTOR WHO MAKES A CONTRIBUTION OF MORE THAN FIFTY DOLLARS BY MONEY ORDER; TO SPECIFY THE TIME PERIOD BY WHICH THE THRESHOLD FOR IDENTIFYING AN INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTOR'S IDENTITY IS MEASURED; TO ADD A PENALTY FOR ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS FROM CERTAIN NONLEGAL SOURCES; AND TO BAR PROSECUTION IF BEST EFFORTS ARE MADE TO ENSURE THAT A CONTRIBUTION IS FROM A LEGAL SOURCE, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS AND GOVERNMENTAL REFORM.* Amends GS 163-278.14(b) and GS 163-278.8(d) as title indicates. Amends GS 163-278.15(a) to also prohibit candidates, political committees, or political parties from accepting campaign contributions from any labor union, professional association, insurance company or noncorporate business entity (current law prohibits acceptance of contributions from corporations only). Adds new GS 163-278.15(b) to provide that if best efforts have been made to ensure that contributions are from lawful sources, acceptance of the contribution will not be the basis for civil or criminal penalties. Establishes standards for defining "best efforts." In the event it is found that a contribution was received from prohibited contributors despite the use of best efforts, the State Board of Elections is authorized to order that the contribution be paid to the State Board and deposited in the NC Civil Penalty and Forfeiture Fund. Applies to campaign contributions made and accepted on or after January 1, 2007.
Intro. by Hackney, Howard, Eddins, Ross. GS 163

June 6, 2006

H 1846. CONTRIBUTION CHANGES. Filed 5/9/06. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Amends GS 163-278.8(d) to make stylistic changes. Deletes proposed GS 163-278.15(b), which required that the State Board of Elections follow certain standards in determining whether "best efforts" have been made to ensure that campaign contributions are from legal contributors and authorized the Board to order that forfeited contributions be paid to the State Board and deposited in the NC Civil Penalty and Forfeiture Fund. Amends GS 163-278.11(c) to provide that if best efforts have been made to obtain, maintain, and submit the information required by Article 22A of GS Chapter 163, a treasurer's statement of campaign receipts and expenditures will not be the basis for civil or criminal penalties (a similar provision was contained in GS 163-278.15(b), except the provision concerned penalties for acceptance of contributions, not campaign reporting).

July 7, 2006

H 1846. 2006 CAMPAIGN FINANCE CHANGES (NEW). Filed 5/9/06. Senate committee substitute makes the following changes to 2nd edition. (1) Amends GS 163-278.14(b) to prohibit a contribution by check, draft, money order, credit card charge, debits or other noncash method unless the contribution contains a specific designation of the intended contributtee chosen by the contributor. Also makes stylistic changes. (2) Repeals GS 163-278.20, which authorized individuals and organizations to accept blank contributions. Makes repeal effective January 1, 2007, but provides that repeal is not retroactive. Makes conforming change to GS 163-278.19(b). (3) Amends GS 163-278.8(a) to require that political treasurers maintain contribution records that include the information required by the State Board of Elections on its forms. (4) Deletes GS 163-278.8(d) (providing that campaign treasurers are not required to report the identity of an individual resident who makes a contribution of \$100 or less) and enacts new GS 163-278.11(a1) to provide that treasurers are not required to report the name, address, or principal occupation of an individual resident who contributes \$50 or less to the treasurer's committee during an election. Directs the State Board of Elections to provide space on its reporting forms for reporting contributions below that threshold. (5) Sections 7 and 8 of act are identical to 2nd edition of H 1847, digested in 5/24/06 *Daily Bulletin*.

July 11, 2006

H 1846. 2006 CAMPAIGN FINANCE CHARGES. Filed 5/9/06. House amendment makes the following changes to 3rd edition. Amends GS 163-278.14(a) to prohibit anonymous contributions of any amount.

July 13, 2006

H 1846. 2006 CAMPAIGN FINANCE CHARGES. Filed 5/09/06. Senate amendment #2 makes the following changes to 3rd edition. Makes technical changes only to amendment #1.

August 4, 2006

SL 2006-195 (H 1846). 2006 CAMPAIGN FINANCE CHANGES. AN ACT TO LOWER THE THRESHOLD FROM ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS TO FIFTY DOLLARS FOR ACCEPTING A POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION IN CASH; TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF BLANK PAYEE CHECKS IN CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS; TO REQUIRE THE REPORTING OF THE IDENTITY OF A CONTRIBUTOR WHO MAKES A CONTRIBUTION OF MORE THAN FIFTY DOLLARS; TO SPECIFY THE TIME PERIOD BY WHICH THE THRESHOLD FOR IDENTIFYING AN INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTOR'S IDENTITY IS MEASURED; TO ADD A PENALTY FOR ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS FROM CERTAIN NONLEGAL SOURCES; TO BAR PROSECUTION IF BEST EFFORTS ARE MADE TO ENSURE THAT A CONTRIBUTION IS FROM A LEGAL SOURCE; AND TO STRENGTHEN POLITICAL COMMITTEE TREASURER TRAINING. Summarized in *Daily Bulletin* 5/9/06, 6/6/06, 7/7/06, 7/11/06, and 7/13/06. Enacted August 3, 2006. Sections 1–6 are effective January 1, 2007. The remainder is effective October 1, 2006.