

March 14, 2005

S 539. PUBLIC CAMPAIGN FUND AMENDMENTS. TO AMEND THE LAWS CONCERNING THE NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC CAMPAIGN FUND. Amends GS 84-34 effective January 1, 2006, to require that active members of the NC State Bar pay an annual surcharge of \$50 for the implementation of the NC Public Campaign Fund. Deletes GS 105-41(a)(1), which made contribution a voluntary portion of attorney licensing fee. Amends Article 22D of GS Chapter 163 to change name of Public Campaign Financing Fund to Public Campaign Fund. Amends GS 163-278.64 to provide that from the filing of the declaration of intent through the end of the qualifying period, a candidate may expend only qualifying contributions from NC registered voters that are under \$10 (in addition to personal family contributions allowed under section). Also clarifies that \$1,000 limitation on candidate's contribution includes debt incurred by the candidate. Enacts new GS 163-278.64A to establish procedures for candidates in plurality elections to participate in NC Public Campaign Fund. Clarifies that if Fund is insufficient to fully fund all certified candidates, a candidate may make up the difference through private contributions in an amount up to candidate's Fund eligibility amount. Requires that entities making expenditures in support of noncertified candidates shall report the total funds spent to the Board of Elections once amount exceeds \$5,000 (was, exceeds \$3,000 and 50% of trigger for rescue funds). Amends GS 105-159.2 to require that Fund allocations made by individual taxpayers during annual tax filings be credited to Fund on a quarterly basis (was, monthly). Also amends section to modify tax form description of Fund. Makes technical corrections and conforming changes.

Intro. by Clodfelter.

Ref. to

GS 84, 105, 163