

By: Seliger, et al.
(Geren)

S.B. No. 346

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to reporting requirements of certain persons who do not meet the definition of political committee.

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

SECTION 1. Section 254.261, Election Code, is amended by adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(e) This section does not apply to a person to whom Subchapter K applies.

SECTION 2. Chapter 254, Election Code, is amended by adding Subchapter K to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER K. REPORTING BY CERTAIN PERSONS WHO DO NOT MEET THE

DEFINITION OF POLITICAL COMMITTEE

Sec. 254.281. APPLICABILITY OF SUBCHAPTER. (a) This subchapter applies only to a person or a group of persons that:

(1) does not meet the definition of political committee under Section 251.001(12);

(2) accepts political contributions as described by Subsection (c); and

(3) makes one or more political expenditures, excluding expenditures authorized by Section 253.098, 253.099, 253.100, or 253.104, that in the aggregate exceed \$25,000 during a calendar year.

(b) This subchapter does not apply to a labor organization or any subordinate entity or associated account of a labor

1 organization.

2 (c) A person or group of persons accepts political
3 contributions if its members or donors make a payment, including
4 dues, to the person or group of persons and, at the time of making
5 the payments, the members or donors have reason to know that their
6 payments may be used to make political contributions or political
7 expenditures or may be commingled with other funds used to make
8 political contributions or political expenditures.

9 Sec. 254.282. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS. (a) Except as
10 otherwise provided by this subchapter, a person or group of persons
11 shall comply with this chapter as if the person or group of persons
12 were the campaign treasurer of a general-purpose committee that
13 does not file monthly reports under Section 254.155.

14 (b) A person or group of persons is not required to file a
15 campaign treasurer appointment for making expenditures or
16 contributions for which reporting is required under this section
17 unless the person is otherwise required to file a campaign
18 treasurer appointment under this title.

19 (c) A person or group of persons is not required to file a
20 report under this subchapter if:

21 (1) the person or group of persons is required to
22 disclose the expenditure or contribution in another report required
23 under this title within the time applicable under this section for
24 reporting the expenditure or contribution; or

25 (2) no reportable activity occurs during the reporting
26 period.

27 Sec. 254.283. CONTENTS OF REPORT. (a) Itemization of a

1 contribution under Section 254.031(a)(1) is required only if the
2 contribution exceeds \$1,000 during the reporting period.

3 (b) The first report required to be filed in a calendar year
4 in which the \$25,000 threshold under Section 254.281(a)(3) is
5 exceeded must include all political contributions accepted and all
6 political expenditures made in that calendar year.

7 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
8 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
9 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
10 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
11 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.