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Date: (Filing No. H-)

VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1087, L.D. 1698, “An Act to Eliminate Private Donations to the Maine Clean Election Fund”

Amend the bill by inserting after section 19 the following:

'Sec. 20. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§7-B, as enacted by IB 2015, c. 1, §23, is repealed.'

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 20 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 20. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§8-B, ¶B, as enacted by IB 2015, c. 1, §25, is amended to read:

B. For a contested primary election, the ~~amount~~ total distribution of revenues distributed is as follows: \$700,000 per candidate.

- ~~(1) The initial distribution of revenues is \$400,000 per candidate;~~
- ~~(2) For each increment of 800 additional qualifying contributions a candidate collects and submits pursuant to subsection 8-E, not to exceed a total of 3,200 additional qualifying contributions, the supplemental distribution of revenues to that candidate is \$150,000; and~~
- ~~(3) The total amount of revenues distributed for a contested primary election may not exceed \$1,000,000 per candidate.'~~

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 21 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 21. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§8-B, ¶D, as enacted by IB 2015, c. 1, §25, is amended to read:

D. For a contested general election, the ~~amount~~ total distribution of revenues distributed is as follows: \$1,300,000 per candidate.

- ~~(1) The initial distribution of revenues is \$600,000 per candidate;~~
- ~~(2) For each increment of 1,200 additional qualifying contributions a candidate collects and submits pursuant to subsection 8-E, not to exceed a total of 9,600~~

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 additional qualifying contributions, the supplemental distribution of revenues to
2 that candidate is \$175,000; and

3 (3) The total amount of revenues distributed for a contested general election may
4 not exceed \$2,000,000 per candidate.'

5 Amend the bill by striking out all of section 22 and inserting the following:

6 'Sec. 22. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§8-C, ¶D, as enacted by IB 2015, c. 1, §25, is
7 amended to read:

8 D. For a contested general election, the amount total distribution of revenues
9 distributed is as follows: \$40,000 per candidate.

10 (1) The initial distribution of revenues is \$20,000 per candidate;

11 (2) For each increment of 45 additional qualifying contributions a candidate
12 collects and submits pursuant to subsection 8-E, not to exceed a total of 360
13 additional qualifying contributions, the supplemental distribution of revenues to
14 that candidate is \$5,000; and

15 (3) The total amount of revenues distributed for a contested general election may
16 not exceed \$60,000 per candidate.'

17 Amend the bill by striking out all of section 23 and inserting the following:

18 'Sec. 23. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§8-D, ¶D, as enacted by IB 2015, c. 1, §25, is
19 amended to read:

20 D. For a contested general election, the amount total distribution of revenues
21 distributed is as follows: \$10,000 per candidate.

22 (1) The initial distribution of revenues is \$5,000 per candidate;

23 (2) For each increment of 15 additional qualifying contributions a candidate
24 collects and submits pursuant to subsection 8-E, not to exceed a total of 120
25 additional qualifying contributions, the supplemental distribution of revenues to
26 that candidate is \$1,250; and

27 (3) The total amount of revenues distributed for a contested general election may
28 not exceed \$15,000 per candidate.'

29 Amend the bill by inserting after section 28 the following:

30 'Sec. 29. 36 MRSA §5286, as enacted by IB 1995, c. 1, §18, is repealed.

31 **Sec. 30. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
32 allocations are made.

33 **ETHICS AND ELECTION PRACTICES, COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL**
34 **Governmental Ethics and Election Practices - Commission on 0414**

35 Initiative: Adjusts allocations to reflect changes to the timing and total amount of
36 supplemental distributions to candidates receiving funding through the Maine Clean
37 Election Act.

38	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2023-24	2024-25
39	All Other	\$865,025	(\$1,816,475)

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OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL \$865,025 (\$1,816,475)

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment removes the provision of the Maine Clean Election Act regarding timing of the supplemental distribution of funds. It also adjusts the total distribution amounts for candidates to remove the supplemental distribution amounts and instead provides a one-time distribution amount per candidate as follows:

1. Seven hundred thousand dollars for a contested gubernatorial primary election;
2. One million three hundred thousand dollars for a contested gubernatorial general election;
3. Forty thousand dollars for a contested State Senate general election; and
4. Ten thousand dollars for a contested State House of Representatives general election.

It also repeals the Maine Clean Election Fund voluntary tax form checkoff program.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)