

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill by inserting after section 5 the following:

‘**Sec. 6. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§2, ¶¶B and C**, as enacted by IB 1995, c. 1, §17, are amended to read:

B. ~~One thousand five hundred~~Three thousand dollars for a candidate for the State Senate; or

C. ~~Five hundred~~One thousand dollars for a candidate for the State House of Representatives.

**Sec. 7. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§2-A, ¶C**, as amended by PL 2009, c. 302, §11 and affected by §24, is further amended to read:

C. Upon requesting certification, a participating candidate shall file a report of all seed money contributions and expenditures. ~~If the candidate is certified, any unspent seed money will be deducted from the amount distributed to the candidate as provided in subsection 8-A. Seed money unspent or obligated once a participating candidate is certified is subject to the same expenditure restrictions as distributions received from the fund.’~~

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 11 and inserting the following:

‘**Sec. 11. Resolve 2011, c. 89** is repealed.

**Sec. 12. Distributions for the 2012 and 2014 primary and general election cycles.**

Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 21-A, section 1125, subsection 8-A, the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices shall distribute the following amounts to candidates for the Legislature for the 2012 and 2014 election cycles certified as Maine Clean Election Act candidates under Title 21-A, chapter 14:

1. For a candidate for the State House of Representatives:

A. In an uncontested election during the primary election cycle, \$500;

B. In a contested election during the primary election cycle, \$1,500; and

C. During the general election cycle, \$5,865; and

2. For a candidate for the State Senate:

A. In an uncontested election during the primary election cycle, \$2,000;

B. In a contested election during the primary election cycle, \$8,000; and

C. During the general election cycle, \$27,296.

**Sec. 13. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**ETHICS AND ELECTION PRACTICES, COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL**

**Governmental Ethics and Election Practices - Commission on 0414**

Initiative: Allocates payments to candidates based upon repealing Resolve 2011, chapter 89, which reduces the amount distributed during the 2012 election cycle to 5% less than the amount distributed during the 2010 election cycle.

<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>
All Other	\$245,835	\$0
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b>	<b>\$245,835</b>	<b>\$0</b>

#### **Governmental Ethics and Election Practices - Commission on 0414**

Initiative: Reduces payments to candidates from eliminating matching funds.

<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>
All Other	(\$473,001)	(\$927,880)
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b>	<b>(\$473,001)</b>	<b>(\$927,880)</b>

#### **Governmental Ethics and Election Practices - Commission on 0414**

Initiative: Adjusts payments to candidates as a result of adjusting distributions during the 2012 and 2014 election cycles.

<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>
All Other	(\$100,985)	\$943,279
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b>	<b>(\$100,985)</b>	<b>\$943,279</b>

<b>ETHICS AND ELECTION PRACTICES, COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>(\$328,151)</b>	<b>\$15,399</b>
<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>(\$328,151)</b>	<b>\$15,399</b>

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

## **SUMMARY**

Under current law, the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices determines distribution amounts for candidates by looking at certain factors, including campaign expenditures from the Maine Clean Election Fund from the 2 previous election cycles. This amendment repeals the requirement that distributions during the 2012 election cycle must be reduced by 5% from the amounts distributed during the 2010 election cycle. This amendment provides a set amount for distributions for the 2012 and 2014 election cycles, which will be used when determining future distributions, and maintains the single distribution proposal included in the bill. This amendment doubles the amount of seed money contributions legislative candidates may receive. The amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**  
**(See attached)**