



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 334

H.P. 228

House of Representatives, February 10, 2015

An Act To Improve the Maine Clean Election Act

Reference to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative DEVIN of Newcastle.
Cosponsored by Senator JOHNSON of Lincoln and
Representatives: CAMPBELL of Orrington, EVANGELOS of Friendship, TUELL of East
Machias.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1125, sub-§6-F** is enacted to read:

3 **6-F. Participation in political action committees.** A certified candidate, may not
4 establish a political action committee for which the certified candidate is a principal
5 officer, fund-raiser or decision maker except as provided by this subsection. A certified
6 candidate seeking election to the State Senate or State House of Representatives may
7 establish and serve as the principal officer and fund-raiser for a political action committee
8 established for the purpose of providing that certified candidate with professional
9 development, networking and educational opportunities related to functions that a person
10 may perform as a legislator. Expenses related to this purpose, including administrative
11 and travel costs, consultant fees and other relevant noncampaign-related costs, may be
12 paid for using funds raised by the political action committee. A certified candidate who
13 serves as the principal officer, fund-raiser or decision maker for a political action
14 committee established for the purpose of providing that certified candidate with
15 professional development, networking and educational opportunities as described in this
16 subsection shall limit the total amount raised for the political action committee, including
17 any funds carried over from a political action committee established during a previous
18 election, as follows:

19 A. Fifteen thousand dollars for candidates for the State Senate; and

20 B. Seven thousand five hundred dollars for candidates for the House of
21 Representatives.

22 **SUMMARY**

23 This bill prohibits a person certified as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate seeking
24 election to the State Senate or State House of Representatives from establishing a
25 political action committee or serving as a fund-raiser or principal decision maker for a
26 political action committee unless the political action committee is established to provide
27 the person with professional development, networking and educational opportunities
28 related to work that person may perform as a legislator. The bill also sets limits on how
29 much money may be raised for such a political action committee.