



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 619

H.P. 432

House of Representatives, March 3, 2015

**An Act To Limit the Participation of Candidates and Legislators in
Political Action Committees and Nonprofit Entities Conducting
Political Activities**

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 CHENETTE of Saco.
Cosponsored by Senator VALENTINO of York and
Representatives: BATES of Westbrook, HANINGTON of Lincoln, KINNEY of Limington,
MAKER of Calais, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, MONAGHAN of Cape Elizabeth, TURNER
of Burlington.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1013-A, sub-§6** is enacted to read:

3 **6. Candidate and Legislator participation in organizations active in candidate**
4 **campaigns prohibited.** A candidate or Legislator may not solicit donations or play any
5 other role for any nonprofit entity that is active in campaigns in the State unless the
6 nonprofit entity limits its political activities to ballot questions for the duration of the
7 election cycle. For purposes of this subsection, "nonprofit entity" includes any tax-
8 exempt organization under 26 United States Code, Section 501. Nothing in this
9 subsection prohibits a candidate from raising funds for a state, district, county or
10 municipal political committee or for an organization exempt from taxation under 26
11 United States Code, Section 501(c)(3). The commission may establish by routine
12 technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A forms and procedures
13 for ensuring compliance with this subsection.

14 **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1052-A, sub-§6** is enacted to read:

15 **6. Candidate and Legislator participation in political action committees active**
16 **in candidate campaigns prohibited.** A candidate or Legislator may not solicit
17 contributions for or play any other role in a political action committee registered under
18 this section or an out-of-state political action committee registered under section 1053-B
19 unless the committee agrees to make expenditures only with regard to ballot questions for
20 the duration of the election cycle. Nothing in this subsection prohibits candidate
21 involvement in a candidate's own campaign registered under section 1013-A, subsection
22 1, paragraph A or B or in a state, district, county or municipal political committee. The
23 commission may establish by routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375,
24 subchapter 2-A forms and procedures for ensuring compliance with this subsection.

25 **SUMMARY**

26 This bill prohibits a candidate or current Legislator from soliciting contributions for
27 or playing any role in a political action committee or a nonprofit entity unless the
28 organization limits its activities to ballot questions for the duration of the election cycle.