



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 814

H.P. 610

House of Representatives, March 3, 2011

An Act Relating to Political Action Committees in Maine

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Heather J.R. Priest'.

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative CAREY of Lewiston.
Cosponsored by Senator ALFOND of Cumberland and
Representatives: CAIN of Orono, DILL of Cape Elizabeth, MARTIN of Eagle Lake,
ROTUNDO of Lewiston, Senators: CRAVEN of Androscoggin, GOODALL of Sagadahoc,
HILL of York, PATRICK of Oxford.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1052 sub-§1-A** is enacted to read:

3 **1-A. Candidate political action committee.** "Candidate political action committee"
4 means a political action committee that makes contributions or expenditures for the
5 purpose of promoting, supporting, opposing or defeating the nomination or election of
6 any person to political office.

7 **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1056, sub-§3** is enacted to read:

8 **3. Candidate political action committees.** A committee may make contributions to
9 candidate political action committees as long as these contributions in the aggregate do
10 not exceed \$25,000 in any biennial election cycle.

11 **Sec. 3. 21-A MRSA §1056-C** is enacted to read:

12 **§1056-C. Contribution limits**

13 A contributor to a candidate political action committee shall comply with the
14 following contribution limits.

15 **1. One-thousand-dollar limit.** A person that is not a political action committee may
16 not contribute more than \$1,000 to any one candidate political action committee per
17 biennial election cycle.

18 **2. Ten-thousand-dollar limit.** A person that is not a political action committee may
19 not contribute more than a total of \$10,000 to candidate political action committees per
20 biennial election cycle.

21 **3. Twenty-five-thousand-dollar limit.** A political action committee may not
22 contribute more than a total of \$25,000 to candidate political action committees per
23 biennial election cycle.

24 This section may not be construed as establishing contribution limits on political
25 action committees or ballot question committees that do not make contributions or
26 independent expenditures as defined in section 1019-B, subsection 1 in candidate races.

27 **SUMMARY**

28 This bill limits the amount a person, other than a political action committee, may
29 contribute to a political action committee during a 2-year election cycle; limits the
30 aggregate amount that a person, other than a political action committee, may give to
31 candidate political action committees during a 2-year election cycle; and limits the
32 amount that political action committees may give to candidate political action committees
33 during a 2-year election cycle. The bill defines "candidate political action committee" as
34 a political action committee that makes contributions or expenditures for the purpose of
35 promoting, supporting, opposing or defeating the nomination or election of any person to
36 political office.

