



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 726

S.P. 284

In Senate, February 16, 2023

**An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Political Action Committees
Relating to Union, Business and Nonprofit Organizations**

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.

Cosponsored by Senator: FARRIN of Somerset, Representative: MORRIS of Turner.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1015, sub-§2, ¶A,** as amended by PL 2021, c. 607, §1 and
3 affected by §5, is further amended to read:

4 A. A party committee under section 1013-A, subsection 3, a ballot question committee,
5 a leadership political action committee, a separate segregated fund committee, a caucus
6 political action committee and any other political action committee may make
7 contributions to a candidate in support of the candidacy of one person aggregating no
8 more than the amount that an individual may contribute to that candidate under
9 subsection 1, ~~except that the committee may not make any monetary contributions to a~~
10 ~~candidate using funds that derive, in whole or in part, from a business entity.~~ Nothing
11 in this paragraph prohibits a separate segregated fund committee that receives
12 nonmonetary contributions from a business entity under section 1056-D, subsection 2,
13 paragraph A from making monetary contributions to a candidate within the limits
14 described in this paragraph.

15 **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1056-C, sub-§2, ¶A,** as amended by PL 2021, c. 607, §2
16 and affected by §5, is further amended to read:

17 A. A party committee under section 1013-A, subsection 3, a ballot question committee,
18 a leadership political action committee, a separate segregated fund committee, a caucus
19 political action committee and any other political action committee may make
20 contributions to a leadership political action committee aggregating no more in a
21 calendar year than the amount that the committee may contribute to a legislative
22 candidate in any election under section 1015, subsection 2, paragraph A, ~~except that~~
23 ~~the committee may not make any monetary contributions to a leadership political action~~
24 ~~committee using funds that derive, in whole or in part, from a business entity.~~ Nothing
25 in this paragraph prohibits a separate segregated fund committee that receives
26 nonmonetary contributions from a business entity under section 1056-D, subsection 2,
27 paragraph A from making monetary contributions to a candidate within the limits
28 described in this paragraph.

29 **SUMMARY**

30 This bill removes the provision of law stating that monetary contributions from party
31 committees, ballot question committees and political action committees to candidates and
32 leadership political action committees may not be derived, in whole or in part, from a
33 business entity. Under current law, a business entity includes a firm, partnership,
34 corporation, incorporated association, labor organization or other organization, whether
35 organized as a for-profit or a nonprofit entity.