

Bills proposed in the 125th Legislature to amend the Maine Clean Election Act which were not enacted

(A full legislative history on these bills is not included in this history. Rather, each bill is listed with its LD number, LD title, and LD summary information.)

LD 80 An Act Regarding Maine Clean Election Act Funds for a Candidate Without a Primary Opponent

This bill provides that the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices may not make a distribution of Maine Clean Election Act funds to a candidate in an uncontested legislative or gubernatorial primary election.

LD 120 An Act To End Taxpayer-funded Campaigns For Gubernatorial Candidates

This bill eliminates Maine Clean Election Act funding for gubernatorial candidates.

LD 196 An Act Regarding Unenrolled Candidates Under the Maine Clean Election Act

This bill directs the Secretary of State to develop a system that allows voters to choose among unenrolled candidates for the Legislature and for the office of Governor to determine which unenrolled candidate should receive public financing under the Maine Clean Election Act.

LD 659 An Act To Repeal the Maine Clean Elections Laws

This bill repeals the Maine Clean Election Act.

LD 820 An Act To Alter the Distribution of Maine Clean Election Act Funding

This bill does the following.

1. It decreases from 3,250 to 750 the number of qualifying contributions required for a gubernatorial candidate to be certified as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate.
2. It provides that a Maine Clean Election Act gubernatorial candidate may continue to collect \$5 contributions from registered voters in the State after certification as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate.
3. It allows a voter who provides a \$5 qualifying contribution to a gubernatorial candidate in a contested primary to provide an additional \$5 contribution to that candidate after certification.
4. It provides that each \$5 qualifying contribution and each \$5 additional contribution must be matched by a distribution of \$55 from the Maine Clean Election Fund.

5. It decreases the distribution limits for gubernatorial primary elections from \$400,000 to \$350,000 and increases the distribution limits for gubernatorial general elections from \$600,000 to \$750,000.

LD 843 An Act To Modernize the Maine Clean Election Act by Allowing for Private Contributions

This bill replaces the existing matching funds distribution system under the Maine Clean Election Act. This bill permits a participating candidate to accept private contributions. Such contributions are subject to the same limits and reporting requirements as those of traditionally funded candidates. When a participating candidate has an opponent who spends more than the candidate's initial distribution from the Maine Clean Election Fund, the candidate is authorized to spend the private contributions up to the amount of the initial distribution received from the fund, which will be matched dollar for dollar by the fund.

LD 968 An Act To Require Participating Candidates Who Are Principal Officers of Political Action Committees To Give a Percentage of Funds To the Maine Clean Election Fund

This bill requires a candidate for the Senate or House who is a participating candidate in the Maine Clean Election Act and a principal officer of a political action committee established for the purpose of promoting the election or defeat of another candidate to deposit a percentage of the contributions received by the political action committee to the Maine Clean Election Fund. Deposits to the fund are capped at \$5,000 for Senate candidates and \$1,000 for House candidates.

LD 1054 An Act To Revise the Maine Clean Election Act Regarding Legislative Leadership Positions

This bill prohibits a participating candidate under the Maine Clean Election Act from soliciting contributions from or accepting contributions for the establishment of a political action committee to influence or support the election of that participating candidate to a legislative leadership position.

LD 1523 An Act To Improve the Maine Clean Election Act

This bill amends the Maine Clean Election Act by replacing the seed money provisions with provisions for allowable contributions, which are contributions of no more than \$100 from an individual. The bill allows participating and certified candidates to raise allowable contributions, sets limits and other requirements on allowable contributions and provides for matching funds for allowable contributions in the amount of \$3 for every \$1 of allowable contributions.