

98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2013 and 2014 HB3327

by Rep. Jim Durkin

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

5 ILCS 430/5-57 new 10 ILCS 5/9-8.7 new

Amends the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act and the Election Code. Provides that any member of a board or commission whose appointment requires the advice and consent of the Senate and who is (i) confirmed by the Senate, (ii) holds office by a temporary appointment made under Section 9 of Article V of the Illinois Constitution, or (iii) is appointed by the Governor as an acting member must divest or freeze the funds in any candidate political committee and political action committee that he or she maintains or controls and may not establish a candidate political committee or political action committee for the duration of his or her term on the board or commission. Provides that the failure to divest or freeze those funds will result in their forfeiture. Provides that an appointed member of a board or commission who establishes a candidate political committee or political action committee during his or her term on the board or commission shall be subject to a \$5,000 fine. Provides that a member may maintain his or her committee for the purpose of paying any debt owed by that member's committee if the debt was incurred by the committee prior to the member's appointment. Provides that the committee may make payments on the committee's outstanding debt, pay reasonable costs of maintaining the account or preparing reports, and accept certain contributions from the member and the member's spouse, parent, sibling, or child. Effective immediately.

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1 AN ACT concerning government.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

- Section 5. The State Officials and Employees Ethics Act is amended by adding Section 5-57 as follows:
- 6 (5 ILCS 430/5-57 new)

members of the General Assembly.

- Sec. 5-57. Divesting or freezing of election funds of State

 board and commission members.
- 9 (a) This Section applies to an appointed member of a board
 10 or commission whose appointment requires the advice and consent
 11 of the Senate and who is (i) confirmed by the Senate, (ii)
 12 holds office by a temporary appointment under Section 9 of
 13 Article V of the Illinois Constitution, or (iii) is appointed
 14 by the Governor pursuant to any statute to serve as an acting
 15 member of a board or commission. This Section does not apply to
 - (b) A member to whom this Section applies and who maintains or controls a candidate political committee or political action committee must divest or freeze the funds in his or her candidate political committee and political action committee as provided in Section 9-8.7 of the Election Code.
- 22 <u>(c) A member to whom this Section applies may not establish</u>
 23 a candidate political committee or political action committee

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1	ior	the	duration	ΟĪ	his	or	ner	term	on	the	board	or	commission.

- 2 Section 10. The Election Code is amended by adding Section
- 3 9-8.7 as follows:

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4 (10 ILCS 5/9-8.7 new)

member of a board or commission.

- 5 Sec. 9-8.7. Divesting or freezing of election funds of 6 State board and commission members.
- 7 (a) This Section applies to an appointed member of a board 8 or commission whose appointment requires the advice and consent 9 of the Senate and who is (i) confirmed by the Senate, (ii) 10 holds office by a temporary appointment made under Section 9 of Article V of the Illinois Constitution, or (iii) is appointed 11 12 by the Governor pursuant to any statute to serve as an acting
 - (b) A member to whom this Section applies and who maintains or controls a candidate political committee or political action committee must divest or freeze the funds in his or her candidate political committee and political action committee.
 - (c) A member to whom this Section applies may not establish a candidate political committee or political action committee for the duration of his or her term on the board or commission.
 - (d) A member to whom this Section applies must:
- 22 (1) divest himself or herself of any funds in the 23 candidate political committee and political action 24 committee by (A) a direct return of funds to contributors

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amounts not to exceed his or her individual contributions; (B) a transfer of funds to a charitable organization or organizations; or (C) a combination of items (A) and (B); or

(2) freeze the funds in the candidate political committee and political action committee by placing the funds in an account that is frozen for the duration of his or her term as a member of the board or commission; for the purposes of this paragraph (2), an account is deemed frozen if the only activity in the account is related to covering the reasonable costs of maintaining the account or preparing reports required by this Code; "reasonable costs" shall be defined by the Board by rule.

If the member's committee has outstanding debt, then the member may maintain his or her committee for the purpose of paying any debt owed by that member's committee only if the debt was incurred by the committee prior to the member's appointment. During the member's term on the board or commission, the committee may make payments on the committee's outstanding debt, may pay reasonable costs of maintaining the account or preparing reports required by this Code, and may accept contributions from the member and the member's spouse, parent, sibling, or child as provided by this Code. "Reasonable costs" shall be defined by the Board by rule.

A member to whom this Section applies whose term of office begins on or after the effective date of this amendatory Act of

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within 15 days after he or she is confirmed by the Senate or, if the member holds office by a temporary appointment or as an acting member, within 15 days after he or she is appointed. A member to whom this Section applies and who is serving on a board or commission on the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly must divest or freeze those funds within 60 days after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly.

(e) A member to whom this Section applies and who maintains or controls a candidate political committee or political action committee must submit an affidavit to the State Board of Elections which states that the member maintains or controls such a committee, the committee has been divested or frozen, and the member will not establish such a committee for the duration of his or her term on the board or commission. Each other member must submit an affidavit to the State Board of Elections that states that the member does not maintain or control a candidate political committee or political action committee and will not establish such a committee for the duration of his or her term on the board or commission. A member to whom this Section applies and whose term of office begins on or after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly must submit an affidavit under this subsection (e) within 15 days after he or she is confirmed by the Senate or, if the member holds office by a temporary

- 1 appointment or as an acting member, within 15 days after he or
- 2 she is appointed. A member to whom this Section applies and who
- 3 is serving on a board or commission on the effective date of
- 4 this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly must submit an
- 5 affidavit under this subsection (e) within 60 days after the
- 6 effective date of this amendatory Act of the 98th General
- 7 Assembly.
- 8 <u>(f) Failure to divest or freeze an account in accordance</u>
- 9 with this Section shall result in forfeiture of all funds
- 10 maintained in the candidate political committee and political
- 11 action committee accounts. Forfeited funds shall be deposited
- into the General Revenue Fund. A member to whom this Section
- applies and who establishes a candidate political committee or
- 14 political action committee during his or her term on the board
- or commission is subject to a \$5,000 fine.
- 16 (g) Nothing in this Section prevents the spouse or
- immediate family members of a member to whom this Section
- 18 applies from seeking elected office or establishing or
- 19 maintaining a candidate political committee or political
- 20 action committee.
- 21 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
- 22 becoming law.