



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

SCOTT HAGGERTY
SUPERVISOR, FIRST DISTRICT

July 20, 2012

Alameda County Board of Supervisors
County Administration Building
1221 Oak Street
Oakland, Ca 94612

SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt an amendment to Chapter 1.07 of Title 1 of the Administrative Code of Alameda County relating to campaign reform to increase the campaign contribution limit for county-wide elected offices from twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to forty thousand dollars (\$40,000).

DISCUSSION:

In an effort to create an equal playing field for all candidates for county elective offices, I authored an ordinance that imposed campaign contribution limits that prohibited any person or entity from making to any candidate for Alameda County office or elective officer, or a candidate's or elective County officer's controlled committee, a contribution or contributions totaling more than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for each election. The Board of Supervisors adopted the ordinance in 2010.

Since the passage of this ordinance it has been brought to my attention that this could hinder the ability of County officials who run in county-wide elections to raise the funds needed to organize and operate a county-wide campaign. The proposed amendment to the ordinance would increase campaign contribution limits for county-wide elected offices from twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to forty thousand dollars (\$40,000). The amendment leaves in place the \$20,000 contribution limit for offices elected by district, such as the office of Supervisor on the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

Your consideration and approval of this item is appreciated.

FINANCING:

There are no costs to the County associated with this action.

Sincerely,

Scott Haggerty
Supervisor, First District

C: County Administrator
County Counsel
Elected County Officials

ORDINANCE NO. _____

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1.07 OF TITLE 1
OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
RELATING TO THE ALAMEDA COUNTY CAMPAIGN REFORM ORDINANCE**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Alameda ordains as follows:

**SECTION I
Amendments**

Section 1.07.030 of Title 1 of the Administrative Code of the County of Alameda is amended to read:

- A. No person or entity shall make to any candidate for or elective county officer in a county office filled by district election, nor to any controlled committee of a candidate for or elective county officer in a county office filled by district election, a contribution or contributions totaling more than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) for each election. No controlled committee of such a candidate or elective county officer shall accept from any person or entity a contribution or contributions totaling more than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) for each election.
- B. No person or entity shall make to any candidate for or elective county officer in a county office filled by county-wide election, nor to any controlled committee of a candidate for or elective county officer in a county office filled by county-wide election, a contribution or contributions totaling more than forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00) for each election. No controlled committee of such a candidate or elective county officer shall accept from any person or entity a contribution or contributions totaling more than forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00) for each election.
- C. The board of supervisors shall by ordinance adjust the contribution limitations contained in subsections A and B of this section in January of odd-numbered years to reflect any cumulative increase or decrease in the Consumer Price Index of California as announced by the United States Department of Labor since the last adjustment. Such adjustments shall be rounded off to the nearest hundred dollars for the limitations on contributions.
- D. The provisions of this chapter do not apply to a candidate's on contributions of his or her personal funds to his or her own campaign or controlled committee.

Approved as to Form

DONNA R. ZIEGLER, County Counsel

By 

Print Name Donna R. Ziegler

Section 1.07.050 of Title 1 of the Administrative Code of the County of Alameda is amended to read:

- A. A candidate may carry over funds, without limit, from one controlled committee for county office of the candidate to a controlled committee for future election to the same county office.
- B. A candidate may transfer funds from one controlled committee for county office to a committee for election to a different county office of the same candidate. Contributions transferred pursuant to this subsection shall be attributed to specific contributors using a "last in, first out" or "first in, first out" accounting method, and these attributed contributions when aggregated with all other contributions from the same contributor may not exceed the limits set forth in Section 1.07.030, including any ordinance adopted pursuant to Section 1.07.030C.
- C. A candidate or committee controlled by that candidate shall not accept any contribution from a controlled committee of any other candidate for county office or from a committee controlled by another federal, state, or local candidate or officeholder in excess of the limits set forth in Section 1.07.030, including any ordinance adopted pursuant to Section 1.07.030C.

SECTION II
Effective Date

- A. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty (30) days from and after the date of passage.
- B. Before the expiration of fifteen (15) days after its passage, it shall be published once with the names of the members voting for and against the same in the Inter-City Express, a newspaper published in the County of Alameda.

Adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Alameda, State of California, on _____, 2012 by the following called vote:

AYES:
NOES:
EXCUSED: _____

NATE MILEY
President of the Board of Supervisors
County of Alameda, State of California