

Chapter 655

(House Bill 1503)

AN ACT concerning

Election Law – Campaign Finance Activities – State Treasurer

FOR the purpose of prohibiting the State Treasurer and a person acting on behalf of the State Treasurer from participating in certain campaign finance activities during a regular session of the General Assembly; and generally relating to the campaign finance activities of the State Treasurer.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Election Law
Section 13–235(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Election Law
Section 13–235(b), (c), (e), and (f)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Election Law

13–235.

(a) This section applies to the following officials:

- (1) the Governor;
- (2) the Lieutenant Governor;
- (3) the Attorney General;
- (4) the Comptroller; [and]

(5) THE STATE TREASURER; AND

[(5)] (6) a member of the General Assembly.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c), (d), or (e) of this section, during a regular session of the General Assembly an official described in subsection (a) of this section, or a person acting on behalf of the official, may not, as to a candidate for federal, State, or local office, or a campaign finance entity of the candidate or any other campaign finance entity organized under this title and operated in coordination with a candidate:

- (1) receive a contribution;
- (2) conduct a fund-raising event;
- (3) solicit a contribution; or
- (4) deposit or use any contribution of money that was not deposited prior to the session.

(c) An official described in subsection (a) of this section, or a person acting on behalf of the official, is not subject to this section when engaged in activities solely related to the official's election to an elective federal or local office for which the official is a filed candidate.

(e) An official described in subsection (a) of this section, or a person acting on behalf of the official, may deposit a contribution during the legislative session if the contribution was made electronically before the start of the session.

(f) (1) As to a violation of this section, the campaign finance entity of the official in violation is liable for a civil penalty as provided in § 13–604.1 of this title.

(2) A civil penalty imposed under this subsection shall be distributed to the Fair Campaign Financing Fund established under § 15–103 of this article.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2024.

Approved by the Governor, May 9, 2024.