

HOUSE BILL NO. 253  
INTRODUCED BY D. HEDGES

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT INCLUDING INTERNET WEBSITES AS A FORM OF COMMUNICATION COVERED BY ELECTION LAW DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS; CLARIFYING THAT A CANDIDATE OR A CANDIDATE'S CAMPAIGN IS ALSO SUBJECT TO DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS; AND AMENDING SECTION 13-35-225, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 13-35-225, MCA, is amended to read:

**"13-35-225. Election materials not to be anonymous.** (1) ~~Whenever a person makes an expenditure for the purpose of financing~~ All communications advocating the success or defeat of a candidate, political party, or ballot issue through any broadcasting station, newspaper, magazine, outdoor advertising facility, direct mailing, poster, handbill, bumper sticker, internet website, or other form of general political advertising; ~~the communication must clearly and conspicuously state include the attribution "paid for by" followed by the name and address of the person who made or financed the expenditure for the communication;~~ including in When a candidate or a candidate's campaign finances the expenditure, the attribution must be the name and the address of the candidate or the candidate's campaign. In the case of a political committee, the attribution must be the name of the committee, the name of the committee treasurer, and the address of the committee or the committee treasurer.

(2) Communications in a partisan election financed by a candidate or a political committee organized on the candidate's behalf must state the candidate's party affiliation or include the party symbol.

~~(2)~~(3) If a document or other article of advertising is too small for the requirements of ~~subsection subsections~~ (1) and (2) to be conveniently included, the person financing the communication shall file a copy of the article with the commissioner of political practices, together with the required information, prior to its public distribution.

~~(3)~~(4) If information required in ~~subsection subsections~~ (1) and (2) is inadvertently omitted or not printed, upon discovering the omission, the person financing the communication shall file notification of the omission with the commissioner of political practices within 5 days and make every reasonable effort to bring the material into compliance with ~~subsection subsections~~ (1) and (2)."

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