

Proposed 2007 Session Legislation

Agency Name: **Commissioner of Political Practices** Agency No: **3202**

Priority Number: **2** Filename: **3202-01-002**

Short Title: **Revise Campaign Finance Reporting Requirements**

Agency Contact Person/Phone: **Gordon Higgins/444-2942**

1. Purpose:

Amend 13-37-225, MCA to allow the voluntary filing of campaign finance documents and reports with county election administrators.

2. Background:

Currently, candidates and political committees must file copies of required reports with the Commissioner's office and the election administrator in the county of residence. The agency anticipates an on-line campaign filing system to be fully operational before the 2008 primary election. If a candidate or committee files a report on-line, the public can access those filings through an Internet-based search function via a personal connection or by a public connection located in each county. Public access to information is enhanced and the need for filing two copies is eliminated.

3. Fiscal Impact by Fund Type: *This impact should be as specific as possible.*

No fiscal impact is anticipated.

4. Summary Checklist [Check & complete all that apply]--

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housekeeping Only | <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Requirement | <input type="checkbox"/> Audit Recommendation (Audit No.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Major Legislation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anticipated to be Controversial Legislation | <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Draft has been included in Legislation Submittal (if available) | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supports Submitted EPP Item Number: | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government Fiscal Impact | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Increases FTE, or | <input type="checkbox"/> Decreases FTE by | | |

List FTE amount and program

No impact on agency FTE

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Increases Existing Revenue | <input type="radio"/> Tax | <input type="radio"/> Fee | <input type="radio"/> Penalty [amount in #3] |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Decreases Existing Revenue | <input type="radio"/> Tax | <input type="radio"/> Fee | <input type="radio"/> Penalty [amount in #3] |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Establishes New Revenue | <input type="radio"/> Tax | <input type="radio"/> Fee | <input type="radio"/> Penalty [amount in #3] |

Leg. has been Submitted in Previous Legislative Sessions (list priority no, LC no, or bill no):

Legislation would affect other state agencies (list):

Special Interest Groups Affected (list):

Candidates, political committees, county election administrators.

Other:

The agency anticipates that this proposal may generate some opposition from county election administrators if electronic access to records is an issue in the county.