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## SENATE BILL 569

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1997

INTRODUCED BY

RI CHARD M. ROMERO

AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS; ENACTING THE CITIZENS' ELECTION ACT;
PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC FINANCING OF ELECTION CAMPAIGNS FOR THE
OFFICE OF STATE AUDITOR AS A PILOT PROJECT; CREATING A FUND;
IMPOSING A PENALTY; AMENDING AND ENACTING SECTIONS OF THE NMSA
1978; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. [NEW MATERIAL] SHORT TITLE.--Sections 1 through 8 of this act may be cited as the "Citizens' Election Act".

Section 2. [NEW MATERIAL] PURPOSE OF ACT.--The purpose of the Citizens' Election Act is to invest in good government by using public funds to reduce overall campaign expenditures, lessen the influence of contributions from private sources and encourage new political candidates. The Citizens' Election Act

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provides a public financing pilot project for the office of state auditor.

- Section 3. [NEW MATERIAL] DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Citizens' Election Act:
- A. "certified candidate" means a candidate running for the office of state auditor who is certified by the secretary as a Citizens' Election Act candidate;
- B. "contribution" means that term as defined in the Campaign Reporting Act;
- C. "election cycle" means the period beginning

  April 1 of the year of the election and ending three days after
  the general election;
  - D. "fund" means the citizens' election fund;
- E. "nonparticipating candidate" means a candidate running for the office of state auditor who does not choose to participate in the Citizens' Election Act public financing pilot project and who is not seeking to be certified as a Citizens' Election Act candidate;
- F. "participating candidate" means a candidate running for the office of state auditor who has filed a declaration of intent to participate in the Citizens' Election Act public financing pilot project and who is seeking to be certified as a Citizens' Election Act candidate;
- G. "qualifying contribution" means a donation of five dollars (\$5.00) in the form of a check or a money order

payable to the fund in support of a candidate;

- H. "qualifying period" means the period beginning on January 1 of the year of the election and ending on March 31 of the year of the election;
  - I. "secretary" means the secretary of state;
- J. "seed money" means a cash contribution of no more than one hundred dollars (\$100) per contributor per candidate, including a contribution from the candidate or a member of the candidate's family; and
- K. "task force" means the citizens' election task force.
- Section 4. [NEW MATERIAL] TERMS OF PARTICIPATION-DECLARATION OF INTENT--SEED MONEY--QUALIFYING CONTRIBUTIONS-FILING--CERTIFICATION--FUND DISTRIBUTION.--
- A. A person who chooses to participate in the Citizens' Election Act public financing pilot project shall file with the secretary a declaration of intent to be a participating candidate. The declaration of intent shall be filed with the secretary no more than fourteen days prior to or during the qualifying period, except as provided in Subsection N of this section, on forms and according to procedures developed by the secretary. A participating candidate shall submit a declaration of intent prior to collecting seed money or qualifying contributions. A candidate who files a declaration of intent shall swear or affirm that the candidate has complied with and

shall continue to comply with Citizens' Election Act contribution and expenditure limits and shall comply with all other requirements of that act.

- B. Subsequent to filing a declaration of intent, a participating candidate may not accept contributions except for seed money and qualifying contributions. A participating candidate shall limit seed money expenditures to no more than two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500). A candidate may collect and spend seed money contributions subsequent to filing a declaration of intent to participate with the secretary and throughout the qualifying period. A candidate may not collect or spend seed money after certification as a Citizens' Election Act candidate. Seed money may be used to enable a candidate to collect qualifying contributions.
- hundred fifty registered voters of this state are required in order for a participating candidate to become a certified candidate pursuant to provisions of the Citizens' Election Act.

  No payment, gift or anything of value may be given in exchange for a qualifying contribution. The secretary shall deposit all qualifying contributions into the fund. A qualifying contribution may only be made by a registered voter during the qualifying period and shall be acknowledged by a written receipt that includes the name and address of the donor. A qualifying contribution shall be submitted to the participating candidate

and filed with the secretary during the qualifying period.

- D. No later than three days after receipt of two hundred fifty qualifying contributions on behalf of a participating candidate, the secretary shall certify a participating candidate who has complied with requirements of this subsection. In order to be certified, candidates shall have:
- (1) filed a declaration of intent to participate in the Citizens' Election Act public financing pilot project;
- (2) submitted the appropriate number of qualifying contributions;
- (3) complied with seed money contribution and expenditure restrictions; and
- (4) otherwise met the requirements for participation in the Citizens' Election Act public financing pilot project.
- E. Upon certification, a certified candidate shall transmit to the secretary the balance of unspent seed money for deposit into the fund.
- F. Certified candidates shall limit campaign expenditures and debts to the amount of revenues distributed to the certified candidate from the fund. A certified candidate may accept up to a total of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) of in-kind contributions during the qualifying period and election

cycle. All revenues distributed from the fund to a certified candidate shall be used for campaign-related purposes.

- G. The secretary shall distribute to certified candidates the following amounts from the fund:
- $(1) \quad \text{within three days after certification,} \\$  seventeen thousand dollars (\$17,000) for primary elections; and
- (2) within three days after the primary, seventeen thousand dollars (\$17,000) for contested general elections. Money from the fund shall not be distributed for uncontested general elections.
- H. Money from the fund that is distributed prior to the primary election may be held over and used for the general election; however, all unspent money from the fund distributed to unsuccessful certified candidates in a primary shall be transmitted to the secretary for deposit into the fund within three days after the primary. Within three days after the general election, all unspent money distributed from the fund shall be transmitted to the secretary for deposit back into the fund.
- I. Certified candidates not enrolled in a party and certified candidates enrolled in parties that do not hold a primary are eligible for revenues from the fund in the same amounts, and at the same time, as certified candidates who are enrolled in a party and participate in the primary process.
  - J. If a certified candidate is opposed by a

nonparticipating candidate, then the expenditure limits on the certified candidate shall be waived, and the certified candidate shall receive additional money from the fund equal to the amount spent by the nonparticipating candidate above the expenditure limits for certified candidates, up to a limit of two times the amount distributed under Subsection G of this section.

- K. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, participating candidates and certified candidates shall report any money collected and all campaign expenditures, obligations and related activities to the secretary at least every thirty days and nonparticipating candidates shall report any money collected and all campaign expenditures, obligations and related activities to the secretary at least every seven days.
- L. No political committee or person, other than a nonparticipating candidate who contributes to his own campaign, shall make contributions that, in the aggregate, exceed five hundred dollars (\$500) to a candidate or his campaign committee with respect to an election covered by the Citizens' Election Act.
- M Candidates participating in the Citizens'
  Election Act public financing pilot project shall comply with
  all other applicable, nonconflicting election and campaign laws
  and regulations.
- N. The secretary may adopt regulations and reporting forms necessary to implement the provisions of the Citizens'

Election Act, including regulations regarding qualification, certification, disbursement of fund revenues and return of unspent fund revenues. The secretary shall adopt regulations for challenges to certification decisions, races involving special elections, recounts, vacancies, withdrawals or replacement candidates. In developing regulations and forms, the secretary shall use existing campaign reporting procedures and forms whenever practicable.

Section 5. [NEW MATERIAL] CITIZENS' ELECTION FUND

CREATED. --

A. The "citizens' election fund" is created as a revolving fund in the state treasury. The fund shall consist of appropriations, fees, seed money, qualifying contributions, gifts, grants, donations and interest earned on investment of money in the fund. Money in the fund is appropriated to the secretary and shall not revert at the end of the fiscal year.

- B. The purpose of the fund is to provide funds for election campaigns pursuant to the provisions of the Citizens' Election Act.
- C. The fund shall be administered by the secretary. Money in the fund shall be expended only on warrants drawn by the secretary of finance and administration pursuant to vouchers signed by the secretary or his authorized representative in accordance with the provisions of the Citizens' Election Act.

Section 6. [NEW MATERIAL] CITIZENS' ELECTION TASK FORCE--

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The "citizens' election task force" is created. The task force shall function from the date of its appointment until December 31, 1998.

- The task force shall be composed of nine members three members shall be appointed by the appointed as follows: governor; three members shall be appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate; and three members shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives. No elected official shall be eligible to be a task force member. Each task force member shall have a history of involvement with the political process in New Mexico, with nonprofit organizations concerned with the electoral process, or both, for a period of at least two years prior to appointment.
- The task force shall oversee and monitor the C. public financing pilot project pursuant to provisions of the Citizens' Election Act and, on completion of the pilot project, shall issue a report on its findings, conclusions and recommendations. In developing its report, the task force shall consider whether:
  - overall campaign expenditures were reduced;
- **(2)** the amount of private contributions and candidates' personal funds was significantly less; and
- (3) new and additional candidates participated in the campaigns.

Section 7. [NEW MATERIAL] EDUCATION AND VOLUNTARY

COMPLIANCE--INVESTIGATIONS--BINDING ARBITRATION--REFERRALS FOR

ENFORCEMENT. --

A. The secretary shall advise and seek to educate all persons required to perform duties pursuant to the provisions of the Citizens' Election Act about those duties. The secretary, in consultation with the attorney general, shall issue advisory opinions, when requested in writing to do so, on matters concerning that act. All prescribed forms prepared shall be clear and easy to complete.

- B. The secretary may initiate investigations to determine whether a provision of the Citizens' Election Act has been violated. Additionally, a person who believes that a provision of that act has been violated may file a written complaint with the secretary any time prior to ninety days after an election, except that no complaints from the public may be filed within eight days prior to an election. The secretary shall adopt procedures for issuing advisory opinions and processing complaints and notifications of violations.
- C. The secretary shall at all times seek to ensure voluntary compliance with the provisions of the Citizens' Election Act. If the secretary determines that a provision of that act for which a penalty may be imposed has been violated, the secretary shall by written notice set forth the violation and the fine imposed and inform the reporting person that he has

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ten working days from the date of the letter to correct the matter and to provide a written explanation, under penalty of perjury, stating any reason why the violation occurred. If a timely explanation is filed and the secretary determines that good cause exists to waive the fine imposed, the secretary may by a written notice of final action partially or fully waive any fine imposed for any late, incomplete or false report or statement of exception. A written notice of final action shall be sent by certified mail.

- Upon receipt of the notice of final action, the person against whom the penalty has been imposed may protest the secretary's determination, including an advisory opinion, by submitting on a prescribed form a written request for binding arbitration to the secretary within ten working days of the date of the notice of final action. Any fine imposed shall be due and payable within ten working days of the date of notice of final action. No additional fine shall accrue pending the issuance of the arbitration decision. Fines paid pursuant to a notice of final action that are subsequently reduced or dismissed shall be reimbursed with interest within ten working days after the filing of the arbitration decision with the secretary. Interest on the reduced or dismissed portion of the fine shall be the same as the rate of interest earned by the secretary's escrow account.
  - E. An arbitration hearing shall be conducted by a

single arbitrator selected by the person against whom the penalty has been imposed from a list of five arbitrators provided by the secretary. The secretary shall provide notice of the selection within fifteen days of receipt of the request for arbitration. Neither the secretary nor a person subject to the Campaign Reporting Act, Lobbyist Regulation Act, Financial Disclosure Act or Citizens' Election Act may serve as an arbitrator. Arbitrators selected by the secretary shall be considered to be independent contractors, not public officers or employees, and shall not be paid per diem and mileage.

- F. The arbitrator shall conduct the hearing within thirty days of the request for arbitration. The arbitrator may impose any penalty the secretary is authorized to impose. The arbitrator shall state the reasons for his decision in a written document that shall be a public record. The decision shall be final and binding. The decision shall be issued and filed with the secretary within thirty days of the conclusion of the hearing. Unless otherwise provided for in this section, or by rule or regulation adopted by the secretary, the procedures for the arbitration shall be governed by the Uniform Arbitration Act. No arbitrator shall be subject to liability for actions taken pursuant to this section.
- G. The secretary may refer a matter to the attorney general or a district attorney for a civil injunctive or other appropriate order or enforcement.

Section 8. [NEW MATERIAL] PENALTIES.--In addition to any other penalties that may be assessed, any person who knowingly and willfully violates any of the provisions of the Citizens' Election Act shall be punished by a fine of up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

Section 9. Section 1-19-29.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993, Chapter 46, Section 6, as amended) is amended to read:

"1-19-29. 1. CAMPAIGN FUNDS--LIMITATION ON USE. --

A. It is unlawful for any candidate or his agent to make an expenditure of contributions received, except for the following purposes or as otherwise provided in this section:

- (1) expenditures of the campaign;
- (2) expenditures of legislators that are reasonably related to performing the duties of the office held, including mail, telephone and travel expenditures to serve constituents, but excluding personal and legislative session living expenses;
  - (3) donations to the [state] general fund;
- (4) donations to an organization to which a federal income tax deduction would be permitted under Subparagraph (A) of Paragraph (1) of Subsection (b) of Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;
- (5) expenditures to eliminate the campaign debt of the candidate for the office sought or expenditures incurred by the candidate when seeking election to another public office

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covered by the Campaign Reporting Act, except the state auditor:

- (6) donations to a political party or to another candidate seeking election to public office, except the state auditor; or
- (7) disbursements to return unused funds pro rata to the contributors if no campaign debt exists.
- B. A judge subject to a nonpartisan retention election or a candidate for judicial office shall solicit or accept campaign funds and return unused funds in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Judicial Conduct.
- C. No contributions solicited for or received in a federal election campaign may be used in a state election campaign."

Section 10. Effective December 31, 1998, Section 1-19-29.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993, Chapter 46, Section 6, as amended and as further amended by Section 9 of this act) is amended to read:

# "1-19-29. 1. CAMPAIGN FUNDS--LIMITATION ON USE. --

- A. It is unlawful for any candidate or his agent to make an expenditure of contributions received, except for the following purposes or as otherwise provided in this section:
  - (1) expenditures of the campaign;
- (2) expenditures of legislators that are reasonably related to performing the duties of the office held, including mail, telephone and travel expenditures to serve

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constituents, but excluding personal and legislative session living expenses;

- (3) donations to the general fund;
- (4) donations to an organization to which a federal income tax deduction would be permitted under Subparagraph (A) of Paragraph (1) of Subsection (b) of Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;
- (5) expenditures to eliminate the campaign debt of the candidate for the office sought or expenditures incurred by the candidate when seeking election to another public office covered by the Campaign Reporting Act [except the state auditor]:
- (6) donations to a political party or to another candidate seeking election to public office [except the state auditor]; or
- (7) disbursements to return unused funds pro rata to the contributors if no campaign debt exists.
- B. A judge subject to a nonpartisan retention election or a candidate for judicial office shall solicit or accept campaign funds and return unused funds in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Judicial Conduct.
- C. No contributions solicited for or received in a federal election campaign may be used in a state election campaign."
  - Section 11. Section 2-11-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1977,

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Chapter 261, Section 3, as amended) is amended to read:

"2-11-3. REGISTRATION STATEMENT TO BE FILED--CONTENTS--MODIFICATION TO STATEMENT. --

In the month of January prior to each regular session or before any service covered by the Lobbyist Regulation Act commences, any individual who is initially employed or retained as a lobbyist shall register with the secretary of state by paying an annual filing fee of [twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) one hundred dollars (\$100) for each of the lobbyist's employers, seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) of which shall be <u>credited to the citizens' election fund</u>, and by filing a single registration statement under oath on a prescribed form showing:

- the lobbyist's full name, permanent (1) business address and business address while lobbying; and
- **(2)** the name and address of each of the lobbyist's employers.
- No registration fee shall be required of В. individuals receiving only reimbursement of personal expenses and no other compensation or salary for lobbying. expenditure statement required by Section 2-11-6 NMSA 1978 shall be required if the lobbyist anticipates making or incurring and makes or incurs no expenditures or political contributions under Section 2-11-6 NMSA 1978. The lobbyist shall indicate in his registration statement whether those circumstances apply to him.
  - C. For each employer listed in Paragraph (2) of

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Subsection A of this section, the lobbyist shall file the following information:

- (1) a full disclosure of the sources of funds used for lobbying;
- (2) a written statement from each of the lobbyist's employers authorizing him to lobby on the employer's behalf;
- (3) a brief description of the matters in reference to which the service is to be rendered; and
- (4) the name and address of the person, if other than the lobbyist or his employer, who will have custody of the accounts, bills, receipts, books, papers and documents required to be kept under the provisions of the Lobbyist Regulation Act.
- D. For each succeeding year that an individual is employed or retained as a lobbyist by the same employer, and for whom all the information disclosed in the initial registration statement remains substantially the same, the lobbyist shall file a simple annual registration renewal in January and pay the [twenty-five dollar (\$25.00)] one hundred dollar (\$100) filing fee for each of the lobbyist's employers together with a short, abbreviated prescribed form for renewal.
- E. Whenever there is a modification of the facts required to be set forth by this section or there is a termination of the lobbyist's employment as a lobbyist before

the end of the calendar year, the lobbyist shall notify the secretary of state within one month of such occurrence and shall furnish full information concerning the modification or termination. If the lobbyist's employment terminates at the end of a calendar year, no separate termination report need be filed."

Section 12. Effective December 31, 1998, Section 2-11-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1977, Chapter 261, Section 3, as amended and as further amended by Section 11 of this act) is amended to read:

# "2-11-3. REGISTRATION STATEMENT TO BE FILED--CONTENTS--MODIFICATION TO STATEMENT.--

A. In the month of January prior to each regular session or before any service covered by the Lobbyist Regulation Act commences, any individual who is initially employed or retained as a lobbyist shall register with the secretary of state by paying an annual filing fee of [one hundred dollars (\$100)] twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for each of the lobbyist's employers, [seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) of which shall be credited to the citizens' election fund] and by filing a single registration statement under oath on a prescribed form showing:

- (1) the lobbyist's full name, permanent business address and business address while lobbying; and
- $\mbox{(2) the name and address of each of the} \\ lobby is t's employers.$

and no other compensation or salary for lobbying. No expenditure statement required by Section 2-11-6 NMSA 1978 shall be required if the lobbyist anticipates making or incurring and makes or incurs no expenditures or political contributions under Section 2-11-6 NMSA 1978. The lobbyist shall indicate in his	B. No registration fee shall be required of
expenditure statement required by Section 2-11-6 NMSA 1978 shall be required if the lobbyist anticipates making or incurring and makes or incurs no expenditures or political contributions under Section 2-11-6 NMSA 1978. The lobbyist shall indicate in his	individuals receiving only reimbursement of personal expenses
be required if the lobbyist anticipates making or incurring and makes or incurs no expenditures or political contributions under Section 2-11-6 NMSA 1978. The lobbyist shall indicate in his	and no other compensation or salary for lobbying. No
makes or incurs no expenditures or political contributions under Section 2-11-6 NMSA 1978. The lobbyist shall indicate in his	expenditure statement required by Section 2-11-6 NMSA 1978 shall
Section 2-11-6 NMSA 1978. The lobbyist shall indicate in his	be required if the lobbyist anticipates making or incurring and
·	makes or incurs no expenditures or political contributions under
registration statement whether those circumstances apply to him.	Section 2-11-6 NMSA 1978. The lobbyist shall indicate in his
	$registration\ statement\ whether\ those\ circumstances\ apply\ to\ hi\text{m.}$

- C. For each employer listed in Paragraph (2) of Subsection A of this section, the lobbyist shall file the following information:
- (1) a full disclosure of the sources of funds used for lobbying;
- (2) a written statement from each of the lobbyist's employers authorizing him to lobby on the employer's behalf;
- (3) a brief description of the matters in reference to which the service is to be rendered; and
- (4) the name and address of the person, if other than the lobbyist or his employer, who will have custody of the accounts, bills, receipts, books, papers and documents required to be kept under the provisions of the Lobbyist Regulation Act.
- D. For each succeeding year that an individual is employed or retained as a lobbyist by the same employer, and for

whom all the information disclosed in the initial registration statement remains substantially the same, the lobbyist shall file a simple annual registration renewal in January and pay the [one hundred dollar (\$100)] twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) filing fee for each of the lobbyist's employers together with a short, abbreviated prescribed form for renewal.

E. Whenever there is a modification of the facts required to be set forth by this section or there is a termination of the lobbyist's employment as a lobbyist before the end of the calendar year, the lobbyist shall notify the secretary of state within one month of such occurrence and shall furnish full information concerning the modification or termination. If the lobbyist's employment terminates at the end of a calendar year, no separate termination report need be filed."

## Section 13. APPROPRIATION. --

A. Two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the citizens' election fund for expenditure in fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for the purpose of providing public funds for election campaigns covered by the Citizens' Election Act. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining in the fund at the end of fiscal year 1999 shall revert to the general fund.

B. One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the secretary of state for

expenditure in fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for the purpose of administering the Citizens' Election Act and providing for the costs of the citizens' election task force. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 1999 shall revert to the general fund.

Section 14. DELAYED REPEAL. -- Effective December 31, 1998 the Citizens' Election Act is repealed.

Section 15. APPLICATION OF ACT. -- The provisions of this act apply to elections for the office of state auditor through December 31, 1998.

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# FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE FIRST SESSION, 1997

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March 3, 1997

Mr. President:

Your **JUDICIARY COMMITTEE**, to whom has been referred

SENATE BILL 569

**DO PASS**, and thence referred to the **RULES COMMITTEE**.

has had it under consideration and reports same with recommendation that it **DO NOT PASS**, but that

# SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL 569

Respectfully submitted,

Fernando R. Macias, Chairman

	Adopted_		Not Adopted	
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6	The roll	call vote was <u>7</u> For	<u> </u>	
7	Yes:	7		
8	No:	None		
9	Excused:	Sanchez		
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# SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL 569

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1997

# AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS; ENACTING THE TAXPAYER FUNDED ELECTION

ACT; PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC FINANCING OF ELECTION CAMPAIGNS FOR

THE OFFICE OF STATE AUDITOR AS A PILOT PROJECT; CREATING A FUND;

IMPOSING A PENALTY; AMENDING AND ENACTING SECTIONS OF THE NMSA

1978; MAKING APPROPRIATIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. [NEW MATERIAL] SHORT TITLE.--Sections 1 through 8 of this act may be cited as the "Taxpayer Funded Election Act".

Section 2. [NEW MATERIAL] PURPOSE OF ACT. -- The Taxpayer Funded Election Act provides a public financing pilot project for the office of state auditor.

Section 3. [NEW MATERIAL] DEFINITIONS. -- As used in the Taxpayer Funded Election Act:

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- A. "certified candidate" means a candidate running for the office of state auditor who is certified by the secretary as a Taxpayer Funded Election Act candidate;
- B. "contribution" means that term as defined in the Campaign Reporting Act;
- C. "election cycle" means the period beginning

  April 1 of the year of the election and ending three days after the general election;
  - D. "fund" means the Taxpayer Funded election fund;
- E. "nonparticipating candidate" means a candidate running for the office of state auditor who does not choose to participate in the Taxpayer Funded Election Act public financing pilot project and who is not seeking to be certified as a Taxpayer Funded Election Act candidate;
- F. "participating candidate" means a candidate running for the office of state auditor who has filed a declaration of intent to participate in the Taxpayer Funded Election Act public financing pilot project and who is seeking to be certified as a Taxpayer Funded Election Act candidate;
- G. "qualifying contribution" means a donation of five dollars (\$5.00) in the form of a check or a money order payable to the fund in support of a candidate;
- H. "qualifying period" means the period beginning on January 1 of the year of the election and ending on March 31 of the year of the election;
  - I. "secretary" means the secretary of state;
- J. "seed money" means a contribution in the form of cash, check or money order of no more than one hundred dollars . 117737. 1

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(\$100) per contributor per candidate, including a contribution from the candidate or a member of the candidate's family; and

K. "task force" means the taxpayer funded election task force.

Section 4. [NEW MATERIAL] TERMS OF PARTICIPATION -DECLARATION OF INTENT -- SEED MONEY -- QUALIFYING CONTRIBUTIONS -FILING -- CERTIFICATION -- FUND DISTRIBUTION .--

A. A person who chooses to participate in the Taxpayer Funded Election Act public financing pilot project shall file with the secretary a declaration of intent to be a participating candidate. The declaration of intent shall be filed with the secretary no more than fourteen days prior to or during the qualifying period, except as provided in Subsection N of this section, on forms and according to procedures developed by the secretary. A participating candidate shall submit a declaration of intent prior to collecting seed money or qualifying contributions. A candidate who files a declaration of intent shall swear or affirm that the candidate has complied with and shall continue to comply with Taxpayer Funded Election Act contribution and expenditure limits and shall comply with all other requirements of that act.

B. Subsequent to filing a declaration of intent, a participating candidate may not accept contributions except for seed money and qualifying contributions. A participating candidate shall limit seed money contributions and expenditures to no more than two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500). A candidate may

collect and spend seed money contributions subsequent to filing a declaration of intent to participate with the secretary and throughout the qualifying period. A candidate may not collect or spend seed money after certification as a Taxpayer Funded Election Act candidate, and the balance of any unspent seed money shall be transmitted to the secretary of state for deposit into the fund. Seed money may be used to enable a candidate to collect qualifying contributions.

- C. Qualifying contributions from at least two hundred fifty registered voters of this state are required in order for a participating candidate to become a certified candidate pursuant to provisions of the Taxpayer Funded Election Act. No payment, gift or anything of value may be given in exchange for a qualifying contribution. The secretary shall deposit all qualifying contributions into the fund. A qualifying contribution may only be made by a registered voter during the qualifying period and shall be acknowledged by a written receipt that includes the name and address of the donor. A qualifying contribution shall be submitted to the participating candidate and filed with the secretary during the qualifying period.
- D. No later than three days after receipt of two hundred fifty qualifying contributions on behalf of a participating candidate, the secretary shall certify a participating candidate who has complied with requirements of this subsection. In order to be certified, candidates shall have:

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		(1)	filed a	decla	ration	of	intent	to	partic	i pate	i n
the	Taxpayer	Funded	Electi	on Act	publ i c	e fi	nanci ng	g pi	lot pr	oj ect;	;

- (2) submitted the appropriate number of qualifying contributions:
- (3) complied with seed money contribution and expenditure restrictions; and
- (4) otherwise met the requirements for participation in the Taxpayer Funded Election Act public financing pilot project.
- E. Upon certification, a certified candidate shall transmit to the secretary the balance of unspent seed money for deposit into the fund.
- F. Certified candidates shall limit campaign expenditures and debts to the amount of revenues distributed to the certified candidate from the fund. A certified candidate may accept up to a total of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) of in-kind contributions during the qualifying period and election cycle. All revenues distributed from the fund to a certified candidate shall be used for campaign-related purposes.
- G. The secretary shall distribute to certified candidates the following amounts from the fund:
- (1) within three days after certification,seventeen thousand dollars (\$17,000) for primary elections; and
- (2) within three days after the primary, seventeen thousand dollars (\$17,000) for contested general elections. Money from the fund shall not be distributed for .117737.1

uncontested primary or general elections.

- II. Money from the fund that is distributed prior to the primary election may be held over and used for the general election; however, all unspent money from the fund distributed to unsuccessful certified candidates in a primary, plus any accrued interest on such money, shall be transmitted to the secretary for deposit into the fund by 5:00 p.m. on the thirtieth day after the primary. All unspent money distributed from the fund, plus any accrued interest on such money shall be transmitted to the secretary for deposit back into the fund by 5:00 p.m. on the thirtieth day after the general election.
- I. Certified candidates without party affiliation and certified candidates enrolled in minor political parties are eligible for revenues from the fund in the same amounts, and at the same time, as certified candidates from major parties for general elections.
- J. If a certified candidate is opposed by a nonparticipating candidate in either the primary or general election, then the expenditure limits on the certified candidate shall be waived, and the certified candidate shall receive additional money from the fund equal to the amount spent by the nonparticipating candidate above the expenditure limits for certified candidates, up to a limit of two times the amount distributed under Subsection G of this section.
- K. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, .117737.1

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money collected and all campaign expenditures, obligations and 2 related activities to the secretary in accordance with the 3 provisions of Section 1-19-29 NMSA 1978. Nonparti ci pati ng 4 5 candidates shall report any money collected and all campaign 6 expenditures, obligations and related activities to the secretary 7 beginning at 5:00 p.m. on the first Friday in April of the election 8 year for the primary election and the first Friday in September for 9 the general election and 5:00 p.m. on every Friday thereafter 10 through the Friday before the election, for all expenditures made 11 or contributions received by 5:00 p.m. on the previous Tuesday. 12 Any expenditure or contribution in excess of one thousand dollars **13** (\$1,000) that is made or received after 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday 14 before the election shall be reported to the secretary of state in **15** a supplemental report within twenty-four hours. A final report of 16 expenditures and contributions is due by 5:00 p.m. on the thirtieth 17 day after the primary and general elections. 18 L.

participating candidates and certified candidates shall report any

L. No political committee or person, other than a nonparticipating candidate who contributes to his own campaign, shall make contributions that, in the aggregate, exceed five hundred dollars (\$500) to a candidate or his campaign committee with respect to an election covered by the Taxpayer Funded Election Act.

M Candidates participating in the Taxpayer Funded

Election Act public financing pilot project shall comply with all

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other applicable, nonconflicting election and campaign laws and regulations.

N. The secretary may adopt regulations and reporting forms necessary to implement the provisions of the Taxpayer Funded Election Act, including regulations regarding qualification, certification, disbursement of fund revenues and return of unspent fund revenues. The secretary shall adopt regulations for challenges to certification decisions, races involving special elections, recounts, vacancies, withdrawals or replacement candidates. In developing regulations and forms, the secretary shall use existing campaign reporting procedures and forms whenever practicable.

Section 5. [NEW MATERIAL] TAXPAYER FUNDED ELECTION FUND

CREATED. --

- A. The "taxpayer funded election fund" is created as a revolving fund in the state treasury. The fund shall consist of appropriations, fees, seed money, qualifying contributions, gifts, grants, donations and interest earned on investment of money in the fund. Money in the fund is appropriated to the secretary and shall not revert at the end of the fiscal year.
- B. The purpose of the fund is to provide funds for election campaigns pursuant to the provisions of the Taxpayer Funded Election Act.
- C. The fund shall be administered by the secretary.

  Money in the fund shall be expended only on warrants drawn by the

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secretary of finance and administration pursuant to vouchers signed by the secretary or his authorized representative in accordance with the provisions of the Taxpayer Funded Election Act.

Section 6. [NEW MATERIAL] TAXPAYER FUNDED ELECTION TASK
FORCE--CREATED--DUTIES.--

- A. The "taxpayer funded election task force" is created. The task force shall function from the date of its appointment until December 31, 1998.
- B. The task force shall be composed of nine members appointed as follows: three members shall be appointed by the governor; three members shall be appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate; and three members shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives. No elected official shall be eligible to be a task force member. Each task force member shall have a history of involvement with the political process in New Mexico, with nonprofit organizations concerned with the electoral process, or both, for a period of at least two years prior to appointment. Members shall be eligible to receive per diem and mileage pursuant to the provisions of the Per Diem and Mileage Act.
- C. The task force shall oversee and monitor the public financing pilot project pursuant to provisions of the Taxpayer Funded Election Act and, on completion of the pilot project, shall issue a report on its findings, conclusions and recommendations. In developing its report, the task force shall consider whether:

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- (1) overall campaign expenditures were reduced;
- (2) the amount of private contributions and candidates' personal funds was significantly less; and
- (3) new and additional candidates participated in the campaigns.
- Section 7. [NEW MATERIAL] EDUCATION AND VOLUNTARY

  COMPLIANCE--INVESTIGATIONS--BINDING ARBITRATION--REFERRALS FOR

  ENFORCEMENT.--
- A. The secretary shall advise and seek to educate all persons required to perform duties pursuant to the provisions of the Taxpayer Funded Election Act about those duties. The secretary, in consultation with the attorney general, shall issue advisory opinions, when requested in writing to do so, on matters concerning that act. All prescribed forms prepared shall be clear and easy to complete.
- B. The secretary may initiate investigations to determine whether a provision of the Taxpayer Funded Election Act has been violated. Additionally, a person who believes that a provision of that act has been violated may file a written complaint with the secretary any time prior to ninety days after an election, except that no complaints from the public may be filed within eight days prior to an election. The secretary shall adopt procedures for issuing advisory opinions and processing complaints and notifications of violations.
- C. The secretary shall at all times seek to ensure . 117737. 1

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Election Act. If the secretary determines that a provision of that act for which a penalty may be imposed has been violated, the secretary shall by written notice set forth the violation and the fine imposed and inform the reporting person that he has ten working days from the date of the letter to correct the matter and to provide a written explanation, under penalty of perjury, stating any reason why the violation occurred. If a timely explanation is filed and the secretary determines that good cause exists to waive the fine imposed, the secretary may by a written notice of final action partially or fully waive any fine imposed for any late, incomplete or false report or statement of exception. A written notice of final action shall be sent by certified mail.

D. Upon receipt of the notice of final action, the person against whom the penalty has been imposed may protest the secretary's determination, including an advisory opinion, by submitting on a prescribed form a written request for binding arbitration to the secretary within ten working days of the date of the notice of final action. Any fine imposed shall be due and payable within ten working days of the date of notice of final No additional fine shall accrue pending the issuance of the arbitration decision. Fines paid pursuant to a notice of final action that are subsequently reduced or dismissed shall be reimbursed with interest within ten working days after the filing of the arbitration decision with the secretary. Interest on the

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reduced or dismissed portion of the fine shall be the same as the rate of interest earned by the secretary's escrow account.

- E. An arbitration hearing shall be conducted by a single arbitrator selected by the person against whom the penalty has been imposed from a list of five arbitrators provided by the secretary. The secretary shall provide notice of the selection within fifteen days of receipt of the request for arbitration. Neither the secretary nor a person subject to the Campaign Reporting Act, Lobbyist Regulation Act, Financial Disclosure Act or Taxpayer Funded Election Act may serve as an arbitrator. Arbitrators selected by the secretary shall be considered to be independent contractors, not public officers or employees, and shall not be paid per diem and mileage.
- F. The arbitrator shall conduct the hearing within thirty days of the request for arbitration. The arbitrator may impose any penalty the secretary is authorized to impose. The arbitrator shall state the reasons for his decision in a written document that shall be a public record. The decision shall be final and binding. The decision shall be issued and filed with the secretary within thirty days of the conclusion of the hearing. Unless otherwise provided for in this section, or by rule or regulation adopted by the secretary, the procedures for the arbitration shall be governed by the Uniform Arbitration Act. No arbitrator shall be subject to liability for actions taken pursuant to this section.
- G. The secretary may refer a matter to the attorney .117737.1

general or a district attorney for a civil injunctive or other appropriate order or enforcement.

Section 8. [NEW MATERIAL] REPORTS AND STATEMENTS--LATE FILING PENALTY--FAILURE TO FILE. --

A. For certified candidates, the penalties shall be the same as those provided in Sections 1-19-34.6, 1-19-35 and 1-19-36 NMSA 1978.

# B. For nonparticipating candidates:

- (1) if a report of expenditures and contributions, except for a report required to be filed and delivered the Friday before the election and any supplemental report, as required in Subsection K of Section 4 of the Taxpayer Funded Election Act, that is due prior to the election, contains false or incomplete information or is filed after any deadline imposed by the Taxpayer Funded Election Act, the responsible nonparticipating candidate, in addition to any other penalties or remedies prescribed by the Election Code, shall be liable for and shall pay to the secretary of state fifty dollars (\$50.00) per day for each regular working day after the time required by the Taxpayer Funded Election Act for the filing of reports of expenditures and contributions until the complete or true statement or report is filed, up to a maximum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000);
- (2) if any nonparticipating candidate files a false, incomplete or late report of expenditures and contributions due on the Friday prior to the election, the candidate shall be liable and .117737.1

pay to the secretary of state five hundred dollars (\$500) for the first working day and fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each subsequent working day after the time required for the filing of the report until the true and complete report is filed, up to a maximum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000);

- (3) if a nonparticipating candidate fails to file or files a late supplemental report of expenditures and contributions as required in Subsection K of Section 4 of the Taxpayer Funded Election Act, the candidate shall be liable for and pay to the secretary of state a penalty equal to the amount of each contribution received or pledged after the Tuesday before the election that was not timely filed;
- (4) all sums collected for the penalty shall be deposited in the state general fund. A report shall be deemed timely filed only if it is received by the secretary of state by the date and time prescribed by law;
- (5) any nonparticipating candidate who fails or refuses to file a report of expenditures and contributions or to pay a penalty imposed by the secretary of state as required by the Taxpayer Funded Election Act shall not, in addition to any other penalties provided by law:
- (a) have his name printed upon the ballot if the violation occurs before and through the final date for the withdrawal of candidates; or
- (b) be issued a certificate of nomination or .117737.1

election, if the violation occurs after the final date for withdrawal of candidates or after the election, until the candidate satisfies all reporting requirements of the Taxpayer Funded Election Act and pays all penalties owed; and

election and who fails or refuses to file a report of expenditures and contributions or to pay a penalty imposed by the secretary of state as required by the Taxpayer Funded Election Act shall not be, in addition to any other penalties provided by law, permitted to file a declaration of candidacy or nominating petition for any future election until the candidate satisfies all reporting requirements of the Taxpayer Funded Election Act and pays all penalties owed.

Section 9. Section 1-19-29.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993, Chapter 46, Section 6, as amended) is amended to read:

## "1-19-29. 1. CAMPAIGN FUNDS--LIMITATION ON USE. --

A. It is unlawful for any candidate or his agent to make an expenditure of contributions received, except for the following purposes or as otherwise provided in this section:

- (1) expenditures of the campaign;
- (2) expenditures of legislators that are reasonably related to performing the duties of the office held, including mail, telephone and travel expenditures to serve constituents, but excluding personal and legislative session living expenses;
  - (3) donations to the [state] general fund;

(4) donations to an organization to which a federal
income tax deduction would be permitted under Subparagraph (A) of
Paragraph (1) of Subsection (b) of Section 170 of the Internal
Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;

- (5) expenditures to eliminate the campaign debt of the candidate for the office sought or expenditures incurred by the candidate when seeking election to another public office covered by the Campaign Reporting Act, except the state auditor;
- (6) donations to a political party or to another candidate seeking election to public office, except the state auditor; or
- (7) disbursements to return unused funds pro rata to the contributors if no campaign debt exists.
- B. A judge subject to a nonpartisan retention election or a candidate for judicial office shall solicit or accept campaign funds and return unused funds in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Judicial Conduct."

Section 10. Effective December 31, 1998, Section 1-19-29.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993, Chapter 46, Section 6, as amended and as further amended by Section 9 of this act) is amended to read:

### "1-19-29. 1. CAMPAIGN FUNDS--LIMITATION ON USE. --

A. It is unlawful for any candidate or his agent to make an expenditure of contributions received, except for the following purposes or as otherwise provided in this section:

(1) expenditures of the campaign;

- (2) expenditures of legislators that are reasonably related to performing the duties of the office held, including mail, telephone and travel expenditures to serve constituents, but excluding personal and legislative session living expenses;
  - (3) donations to the general fund;
- (4) donations to an organization to which a federal income tax deduction would be permitted under Subparagraph (A) of Paragraph (1) of Subsection (b) of Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;
- (5) expenditures to eliminate the campaign debt of the candidate for the office sought or expenditures incurred by the candidate when seeking election to another public office covered by the Campaign Reporting Act [except the state auditor];
- (6) donations to a political party or to another candidate seeking election to public office [except the state auditor]; or
- (7) disbursements to return unused funds pro rata to the contributors if no campaign debt exists.
- B. A judge subject to a nonpartisan retention election or a candidate for judicial office shall solicit or accept campaign funds and return unused funds in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Judicial Conduct."
- Section 11. Section 2-11-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1977, Chapter 261, Section 3, as amended) is amended to read:
- "2-11-3. REGISTRATION STATEMENT TO BE FILED--CONTENTS-. 117737. 1

#### MODIFICATION TO STATEMENT. --

A. In the month of January prior to each regular session or before any service covered by the Lobbyist Regulation Act commences, any individual who is initially employed or retained as a lobbyist shall register with the secretary of state by paying an annual filing fee of [twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)] one hundred dollars (\$100) for each of the lobbyist's employers, seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) of which shall be credited to the taxpayer funded election fund, and by filing a single registration statement under oath on a prescribed form showing:

- (1) the lobbyist's full name, permanent business address and business address while lobbying; and
- $\mbox{(2) the name and address of each of the lobby is t's} \label{eq:continuous}$  employers.
- B. No registration fee shall be required of individuals receiving only reimbursement of personal expenses and no other compensation or salary for lobbying. No expenditure statement required by Section 2-11-6 NMSA 1978 shall be required if the lobbyist anticipates making or incurring and makes or incurs no expenditures or political contributions under Section 2-11-6 NMSA 1978. The lobbyist shall indicate in his registration statement whether those circumstances apply to him.
- C. For each employer listed in Paragraph (2) of Subsection A of this section, the lobbyist shall file the following information:

- (1) a full disclosure of the sources of funds used for lobbying;
  - (2) a written statement from each of the lobbyist's employers authorizing him to lobby on the employer's behalf;
  - (3) a brief description of the matters in reference to which the service is to be rendered; and
  - (4) the name and address of the person, if other than the lobbyist or his employer, who will have custody of the accounts, bills, receipts, books, papers and documents required to be kept under the provisions of the Lobbyist Regulation Act.
  - D. For each succeeding year that an individual is employed or retained as a lobbyist by the same employer, and for whom all the information disclosed in the initial registration statement remains substantially the same, the lobbyist shall file a simple annual registration renewal in January and pay the [twenty-five dollar (\$25.00)] one hundred dollar (\$100) filing fee for each of the lobbyist's employers together with a short, abbreviated prescribed form for renewal.
  - E. Whenever there is a modification of the facts required to be set forth by this section or there is a termination of the lobbyist's employment as a lobbyist before the end of the calendar year, the lobbyist shall notify the secretary of state within one month of such occurrence and shall furnish full information concerning the modification or termination. If the lobbyist's employment terminates at the end of a calendar year, no separate

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termination report need be filed."

Section 12. Effective December 31, 1998, Section 2-11-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1977, Chapter 261, Section 3, as amended and as further amended by Section 11 of this act) is amended to read:

"2-11-3. REGISTRATION STATEMENT TO BE FILED--CONTENTS--MODIFICATION TO STATEMENT. - -

In the month of January prior to each regular session or before any service covered by the Lobbyist Regulation Act commences, any individual who is initially employed or retained as a lobbyist shall register with the secretary of state by paying an annual filing fee of [one hundred dollars (\$100)] twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for each of the lobbyist's employers, [seventyfive dollars (\$75.00) of which shall be credited to the taxpayer funded election fund and by filing a single registration statement under oath on a prescribed form showing:

- the lobbyist's full name, permanent business address and business address while lobbying; and
- **(2)** the name and address of each of the lobbyist's employers.
- No registration fee shall be required of individuals B. receiving only reimbursement of personal expenses and no other compensation or salary for lobbying. No expenditure statement required by Section 2-11-6 NMSA 1978 shall be required if the lobbyist anticipates making or incurring and makes or incurs no expenditures or political contributions under Section 2-11-6 NMSA . 117737. 1

1978. The lobbyist shall indicate in his registration statement whether those circumstances apply to him.

- C. For each employer listed in Paragraph (2) of Subsection A of this section, the lobbyist shall file the following information:
- (1) a full disclosure of the sources of funds used for lobbying;
- (2) a written statement from each of the lobbyist's employers authorizing him to lobby on the employer's behalf;
- (3) a brief description of the matters in reference to which the service is to be rendered; and
- (4) the name and address of the person, if other than the lobbyist or his employer, who will have custody of the accounts, bills, receipts, books, papers and documents required to be kept under the provisions of the Lobbyist Regulation Act.
- D. For each succeeding year that an individual is employed or retained as a lobbyist by the same employer, and for whom all the information disclosed in the initial registration statement remains substantially the same, the lobbyist shall file a simple annual registration renewal in January and pay the [one hundred dollar (\$100)] twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) filing fee for each of the lobbyist's employers together with a short, abbreviated prescribed form for renewal.
- E. Whenever there is a modification of the facts required to be set forth by this section or there is a termination of the .117737.1

lobbyist's employment as a lobbyist before the end of the calendar year, the lobbyist shall notify the secretary of state within one month of such occurrence and shall furnish full information concerning the modification or termination. If the lobbyist's employment terminates at the end of a calendar year, no separate termination report need be filed."

#### Section 13. APPROPRIATIONS. --

A. Two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the taxpayer funded election fund for expenditure in fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for the purpose of providing public funds for election campaigns covered by the Taxpayer Funded Election Act. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining in the fund at the end of fiscal year 1999 shall revert to the general fund.

B. One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the secretary of state for expenditure in fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for the purpose of administering the Taxpayer Funded Election Act, hiring an additional full-time-equivalent employee and providing for the costs of the taxpayer funded election task force. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 1999 shall revert to the general fund.

Section 14. DELAYED REPEAL. -- Effective December 31, 1998 the Taxpayer Funded Election Act is repealed.

Section 15. APPLICATION OF ACT.--The provisions of this act .117737.1

apply to elections for the office of state auditor through December 31, 1998.

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March 15, 1997

Mr. President:

Your **RULES COMMTTEE**, to whom has been referred

# SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL 569

has had it under consideration and reports same **WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION**, and thence referred to the **FINANCE COMMITTEE**.

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Gloria Howes, Chairman

<u>Underscored naterial = new</u>
[bracketed\_naterial] = delete

# FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

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3	KEYBOARD	(TYPE SLUGS)			Page 48
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5	Adopted_		Not Adopted		
6		(Chief Clerk)		(Chief Clerk)	
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9		<b>Date</b>		_	
10					
11					
12	The roll	call vote was <u>4</u> F	or <u>2</u> Against		
13	Yes:	4			
14	No:	Adair, Gorham			
15	Excused:	Aragon, Rodarte			
16	Absent:	None			
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