

121.005 Legislative findings on electronic storage and retrieval of campaign finance information.

- (1) The General Assembly finds and declares that:
 - (a) The intent of disclosure of campaign finance information is to make that information about the role of money in politics accessible to the public;
 - (b) The volume of campaign finance reports submitted each year to the state renders it virtually impossible, without the help of computer technology, to derive meaningful conclusions from the records;
 - (c) Computer automation is a necessary and effective means of transmitting, organizing, storing, and retrieving vast amounts of data submitted by candidates in election campaigns; and
 - (d) Although candidates are currently permitted to file campaign finance reports electronically if they so choose, very few candidates have chosen to do so, and therefore access to campaign finance data through electronic or on-line technology is limited.
- (2) The General Assembly enacts this legislation to accomplish the following:
 - (a) To improve the existing system of electronic reporting and extend its usage to more candidates;
 - (b) To allow concerned persons easy, convenient, and timely access to campaign finance reports submitted to the state;
 - (c) To ease the burden on candidates and committees of tabulating, filing, and maintaining public records of financial activity;
 - (d) To strengthen both the disclosure and enforcement capabilities of the Registry of Election Finance;
 - (e) To cooperate in the standardization of reporting formats among states so that interstate as well as intrastate sources of political money can be known;
 - (f) To provide for a fully informed electorate; and
 - (g) To help restore public trust in the governmental and electoral institutions of this state.

Effective: July 14, 2000

History: Created 2000 Ky. Acts ch. 398, sec. 1, effective July 14, 2000.