



STATE OF MAINE
COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS
AND ELECTION PRACTICES
135 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0135

Commission Meeting 10/26/2016
Agenda Item #10

To: Commissioners
From: Jonathan Wayne, Executive Director
Date: October 25, 2016
Re: Incomplete PAC Registration by Progressive Maine PAC

In its October 12, 2016 letter, the Maine Republican Party (“the Party”) requested that the Commission investigate whether the Progressive Maine PAC was required to register with the Commission as a committee in support of Questions 2 and 4 on the November 8, 2016 election ballot. During his presentation on behalf of the Party on October 20, 2016, the Party’s counsel raised this issue again. I have scheduled this for your consideration tomorrow.

On August 18, 2016, the Commission received a paper registration form from the PAC (attached). It is date-stamped August 18, 2016. As you can see from the second page of the form, the statement of support or opposition indicates that the PAC would be supporting candidate Jonathan Fulford. The PAC did not disclose that it would be supporting any ballot questions.

On October 19, 2016, in response to an email from me the previous day, the PAC amended its registration to disclose its support for Questions 2 and 4. That amended registration is attached.

Legal Requirements

Under 21-A M.R.S.A. § 1052-A(3)(A), organizations registering as a political action committee must provide, among other things, a statement indicating the specific

candidates, categories of candidates or campaigns that the committee expects to support or oppose. The term ‘campaign’ is defined to include ballot questions. (21-A M.R.S.A. § 1052(1)) The instructions on the Commission’s registration form direct PACs to disclose the specific candidates or citizen initiatives that the PAC supports or opposes.

PACs are required to amend their registration within 10 days of a change in the required information. (21-A M.R.S.A. § 1052-A(1)(B))

Organizations that fail to register or that fail to provide the information required by the Commission for registration may be assessed a fine of no more than \$2,500. (21-A M.R.S.A. § 1062-A(1)) In assessing a fine, the Commission must consider factors such as the whether the violation was intentional, or whether the committee intended to conceal its activity. (*Id.*)

Response by PAC

The PAC acknowledges that it should have disclosed its support of Questions 2 and 4 in its August 18, 2016 registration. It characterizes the omission as an “inadvertent oversight” that was “purely innocent.” It provides no further details, such as who made the oversight or why that person did not follow the clear instructions on the paper form.

Comments by Commission Staff

The Commission staff recommends that you find that the PAC violated 21-A M.R.S.A. § 1052-A(3)(A). If you wish, you could assess a civil penalty for the violation to underscore that PACs must disclose the specific elections that they intend to influence, if known at the time of registration. If you do decide to move forward with a civil penalty, we recommend not exceeding \$250. We can see no reason why the PAC would intentionally fail to disclose its intention to influence the ballot questions. We are inclined to accept the explanation that this was an oversight.

Most PACs register with the Commission because they will be influencing candidate elections. The registrations are sometimes filed months or years before the specific

expenditures are made to support or oppose candidates. At the time of registration, it may *not* be known which candidates will be supported or opposed. For that reason, the Commission regularly accepts statements of support that are general and not very informative, such as “supports progressive candidates” or “supports candidates that will develop Maine’s economy.” After the PACs begin to raise and spend money to support specific candidates, those expenditures are listed on Schedule B of the PAC’s campaign finance reports and in independent expenditure reports. In this context, the Commission staff does not actively police the accuracy of the statement of support or opposition. The Commission staff does have some concern that the accuracy and completeness of the Progressive Maine PAC’s registration is receiving greater scrutiny – as a result of the complaint by the Maine Republican Party.

On October 18, 2016, it became apparent to me that the registration then on file with the Commission was incomplete because it did not mention support of Questions 2 and 4. At that time, I was not sure whether the PAC’s original 8/18/2016 registration was erroneous or whether the PAC had changed its plans in late August after hiring personnel in Maine. In either case, without knowing the full facts, I sent an email to the PAC to encourage it to amend its registration.

In arguing for no penalty, the PAC relies on an adjective “routine” that I used in my October 18 email. By using that word, I did not mean to imply that any disclosure violation by the PAC was *de minimis*. Nor did I suggest that no financial penalty would result from the violation. What I was had in mind is that it is routine for PACs to amend their registration to update their officers or contact information. Given that a complaint had been filed, I should have been more careful in describing this particular amendment as routine. It is rare that PACs amend the statements of support or opposition.

On Friday, October 20, attorney Kate Knox telephoned me to inform me that she would be representing the PAC at the October 26 meeting. During that telephone conversation, I suggested that someone directly associated with the PAC should be available to participate by telephone in your meeting tomorrow. Having heard nothing by this

morning, at 10:10 am I sent an email to Ms. Knox, the PAC's treasurer (Neil Reiff), and counsel (David Mitrani) requesting that someone with personal knowledge of the filing PAC's registration be available to respond to any questions that you have. I have received no response.

Thank you for your consideration of this item on short notice.



Received
 AUG 18 2016
 COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS AND ELECTION PRACTICES
 Maine Ethics Commission

COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS AND ELECTION PRACTICES
 Mail: 135 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333
 Office: 45 Memorial Circle, 2nd floor, Augusta, Maine

Website: www.maine.gov/ethics
 Phone: 207-287-4179
 Fax: 207-287-6775

REGISTRATION: POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

A political action committee must register with the Commission within 7 days of making expenditures to initiate or influence a campaign or election, including unpaid obligations, that total more than:

- \$1,500 for an organization whose major purpose is to influence candidate or ballot question elections, or
- \$5,000 for organizations which participate in candidate elections but whose major purpose is something other than influencing candidate elections.

Registration is not complete until the following additional documents have been submitted:

- **Initial Campaign Finance Report.** All contributions received, whether cash or in-kind, and all expenditures made from the beginning of the calendar year must be reported. Be sure to include any expenditures associated with the collection of signatures, paid staff time, travel reimbursement, and fundraising.
- **Acknowledgement of Responsibilities.** The Treasurer, Principal Officer and any Decision-Makers must sign and return the statement within 10 days of the date of this registration.

Check here if this an amendment

COMMITTEE INFORMATION	
Committee Name: Progressive Maine	Acronym:
Mailing Address: 1904 Franklin St, Suite 725	Phone: 510/893-9200
City, State, Zip Code: Oakland, CA 94612	Fax:
E-mail: admin@progressivekick.org	Website: progressivekick.org
ALTERNATE E-MAIL ADDRESSES	
To receive filing reminders and important information from the Commission. These addresses will not be posted online.	
1. goodwin@sandlerreiff.com	2.
TREASURER INFORMATION	
Cannot be the same as the Principal Officer. See Acknowledgement of Responsibilities for duties of Treasurer.	
Name: Neil Reiff	Phone: 510/893-9200
Mailing Address: 1904 Franklin St, Suite 725	
City, State, Zip Code: Oakland, CA 94612	E-mail: admin@progressivekick.org
PRINCIPAL OFFICER INFORMATION	
Cannot be the same as the Treasurer. See Acknowledgement of Responsibilities for duties of Principal Officer.	
Name: Joshua Grossman	Phone: 510/893-9200
Mailing Address: 1904 Franklin St, Suite 725	
City, State, Zip Code: Oakland, CA 94612	E-mail: admin@progressivekick.org

DECISION-MAKERS

List all persons, other than the Treasurer or Principal Officer, primarily responsible for making decisions for the PAC.

There are no Decision-Makers other than the Treasurer and Principal Officer.

Name:

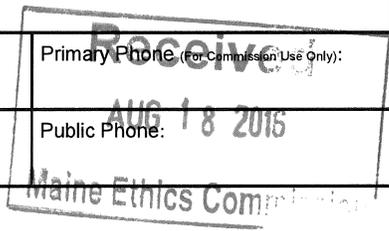
Primary Phone (For Commission Use Only):

Mailing Address:

Public Phone:

City, State, Zip Code:

E-mail:



Name:

Primary Phone (For Commission Use Only):

Mailing Address:

Public Phone:

City, State, Zip Code:

E-mail:

FUNDRAISERS

List all persons, other than the Treasurer or Principal Officer, primarily responsible for fundraising for the PAC.

There are no Primary Fundraisers other than the Treasurer and Principal Officer.

Name:

Phone:

Mailing Address:

City, State, Zip Code:

E-mail:

Name:

Phone:

Mailing Address:

City, State, Zip Code:

E-mail:

LEGISLATORS OR CANDIDATES WITH SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN PAC

List all Candidates or Legislators with a significant fundraising or decision-making role with the PAC.

No Candidates or Legislators have a significant fundraising or decision-making role with the PAC.

Name and office sought/held

Phone:

Mailing Address:

City, State, Zip Code:

E-mail:

Name and office sought/held

Phone:

Mailing Address:

City, State, Zip Code:

E-mail:

Received

AUG 18 2016

FORM OF ORGANIZATION

Name the form or structure of organization, i.e., for-profit or non-profit corporation, voluntary association, partnership, membership organization, etc.

Form of Organization:
527 Political Organization - Federal Independent Expenditure Committee

Date of Origin/Incorporation:
1/25/2011

Maine Ethics Commission

SPONSOR ORGANIZATIONS

List all for-profit or non-profit corporations or other organizations that formed this committee. Use additional sheets as necessary.

This committee was not formed by a for-profit or non-profit corporation or other organization.

Name:
Progressive Kick Independent Expenditures

Mailing Address (City, State, Zip Code):
1904 Franklin St, Suite 725, Oakland, CA 94612

Name:

Mailing Address (City, State, Zip Code):

CAMPAIGN ACCOUNT INFORMATION

For the account into which contributions will be deposited and from which expenditures will be made.

Name of Financial Institution:
Cooperative Center Federal Credit Union

Mailing Address (City, State, Zip Code):
2001 Ashby Ave., Berkeley, CA 94703

Name of Account:
Progressive Maine

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION

The committee must list the specific candidates or categories of candidates, referenda, initiated petitions, people's vetoes, or other campaigns that the committee supports or opposes. If the committee is formed to influence the election of a single candidate, the name of the candidate must be listed.

Support	Jonathan Fulford
Oppose:	

SIGNATURE OF PRINCIPAL OFFICER OR TREASURER

The Treasurer, Principal Officer and any Decision-Makers must submit a signed Acknowledgement of Responsibilities.

Signature: 

Title:
Treasurer

Print name:
Neil Reiff

Date:
August 16, 2016



Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices
Mail: 135 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333
Office: 45 Memorial Circle, Augusta, Maine
Website: www.maine.gov/ethics
Phone: 207-287-4179
Fax: 207-287-6775

2016 REGISTRATION: POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE INFORMATION	
Progressive Maine 1904 Franklin Street, Suite 725 Oakland, CA 94612 PAC TYPE: Regular	Phone: (510) 893-9200 Fax: Email: admin@progressivekick.org Web: www.progressivekick.org
TREASURER INFORMATION	
Neil Reiff 1904 Franklin Street, Suite 725 Oakland, CA 94612	Public: (510) 893-9200 Fax: Email: ADMIN@PROGRESSIVEKICK.ORG
PRINCIPAL OFFICER INFORMATION	
Joshua Grossman 1904 Franklin Street, Suite 725 Oakland, CA 94612	Public: (510) 893-9200 Email: ADMIN@PROGRESSIVEKICK.ORG
DECISION MAKERS AND FUNDRAISERS	
LEGISLATORS AND CANDIDATES WITH A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THIS PAC	
FORM OF ORGANIZATION	
527 POLITICAL ORGANIZATION	Date of origin / incorporation 01/25/2011
FOUNDING ORGANIZATIONS	
Progressive Kick Independent Expenditures 1904 Franklin Street, Suite 725 Oakland, CA 94703	Public: (510) 8939200
STATEMENT OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION	
SUPPORT	JONATHAN FULFORD
SUPPORT	BALLOT QUESTION 2
SUPPORT	BALLOT QUESTION 4
CERTIFICATION	
I, Neil Reiff, certify that the information in this registration is true, accurate, and complete.	
SIGNATURE	Date: October 19, 2016

Filed: 10/19/2016
Last Modified: 10/19/2016
Printed: 10/25/2016

PAC Registration

From: [Wayne, Jonathan](#)
To: [Kate Knox \(kknox@bernsteinshur.com\)](mailto:kknox@bernsteinshur.com)
Cc: [Neil P. Reiff](#); mitrani@sandlerreiff.com; [Lavin, Paul](#); [Brann, Lorrie](#)
Subject: RE: Scheduling for October 26 Meeting
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2016 10:10:25 AM

Thank you the response.

Kate: in case the Commissioners have questions concerning why the PAC inadvertently filed an incomplete registration, could someone with personal knowledge of the PAC's registration (as opposed to you as the PAC's legal representative) be available to receive a phone call from the Commissioners during the hour of 11:00 am to 12:00 pm to respond to questions?

Jonathan Wayne

From: David Mitrani [mailto:mitrani@sandlerreiff.com]
Sent: Monday, October 24, 2016 8:18 PM
To: Wayne, Jonathan
Cc: Kate Knox (kknox@bernsteinshur.com); Neil P. Reiff
Subject: Re: Scheduling for October 26 Meeting

Mr. Wayne,

Please find attached Progressive Maine's response to the Notice of Potential Finding of Violation and Fine sent on October 20, 2016.

Thanks,
David

October 24, 2016

State of Maine
Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices
Attn: Jonathan Wayne
135 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0135
By email to <jonathan.wayne@maine.gov>

Re: Progressive Maine (#9594) Notice of Potential Finding of Violation and Fine

Mr. Wayne,

I am writing in response to the Notice of Potential Finding of Violation and Fine (the “Notice”) sent to Progressive Maine, political action committee ID # 9594 on October 20, 2016, regarding the committee’s registration form. ***This letter formally requests that the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices (the “Commission”) waive any and all penalties associated with the Notice.***

Progressive Maine designates attorney Katherine Knox of the law firm Bernstein Shur as its designated representative for this determination.

While preparing its registration, Progressive Maine inadvertently and unintentionally excluded its support of Ballot Questions 2 and 4. However, the PAC’s public statements clearly disclosed its intentions to the public, and there was no intent to conceal its activities whatsoever. Progressive Maine has rectified any issues with its registration with an amendment, and has at all times acted in good faith when filing. Additionally, in correspondence you noted that this amendment would be viewed as routine, which placed the PAC on notice that there would be no violation found.

1. Factual Overview

Progressive Maine does not dispute any of the facts in the Notice. Progressive Maine filed its registration on August 18, 2016, noting that it supported Jonathan Fulford for State Senate. Subsequently, the PAC posted a hiring notice stating that it was to support ballot questions regarding education and the minimum wage, which correspond with Questions 2 and 4. In addition to its support for Fulford, the PAC is supporting Ballot Questions 2 and 4.

While the PAC does not dispute these two facts in the Notice, we believe that it bears repeating that Progressive Maine *in no way acted with any intent to conceal that it was supporting Questions 2 and 4*. The failure to include Questions 2 and 4 was an oversight, and nothing more.

2. The Commission should dismiss the Notice and waive any potential penalty.

Progressive Maine's failure to include its support of Questions 2 and 4 in its initial registration filing was an inadvertent oversight, and was purely innocent. Progressive Maine has rectified any potential issues by filing an amendment to its registration in good faith, disclosing its support of Questions 2 and 4.¹ On October 18, you sent an email to myself, Progressive Maine's counsel David Mitrani, Commission staff Paul Lavin, Benjamin Dyer, and Phyllis Gardiner, Fulford's counsel Kate Knox, and the Maine Republican Party's counsel Josh Tardy recommending that Progressive Maine amend its registration:

David Mitrani

From: Wayne, Jonathan <Jonathan.Wayne@maine.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 11:49 AM
To: David Mitrani
Cc: Neil P. Reiff; Lavin, Paul; Dyer, Benjamin P; josh@mitchelltardy.com; Kate Knox (kknox@bernsteinshur.com); Gardiner, Phyllis
Subject: Amendment of Registration

Mr. Mitrani,

Since the PAC is influencing the two ballot questions in Maine, the Ethics Commission staff recommends updating the registration statement that it filed with the Commission. When the PAC registered in August, the only election it mentioned expecting to influence was Senate District 11.

This will provide better disclosure to the public, and could narrow the issues before the Commission this Thursday.

The Commission staff would view this as a routine amendment. Thank you.

Jonathan Wayne
Maine Ethics Commission

Link to PAC Registration Requirement

<http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/21-A/title21-Asec1052-A.html>

¹ See 94-270 Code of Maine Rules Ch. 1, § 4(2)(B)(6) (consideration for “Good faith effort of the filer to remedy the matter.”).

Progressive Maine filed this amendment the very next day, on October 19, 2016. By stating that Commission staff viewed the amendment to add Questions 2 and 4 as “a routine amendment”, Progressive Maine believes that we were being informed that Commission staff *would not* recommend finding a violation for the amendment.

Progressive Maine also made no attempt to hide that it was supporting Questions 2 and 4 – by disseminating the job posting cited in the notice, the PAC clearly stated that it supported these two ballot questions as early as September 3, 2016. Progressive Maine’s Chairman Joshua Grossman also spoke with news outlets in Maine regarding the PAC’s activities, which reported that Progressive Maine was participating in ballot questions concerning the minimum wage and school funding.²

Additionally, Progressive Maine has been cooperative with the Commission and its staff, and has no record of serious campaign finance violations in the state.³ Given these factors, we would request that no penalty be assessed.

3. Request for Relief

The issue in the Commission’s Notice arose from Progressive Maine’s registration form filed on August 18, 2016. Besides this one inadvertent, isolated error, Progressive Maine has filed multiple reports without issue, and this sole issue has been rectified by amendment.

Given that Progressive Maine did not act to conceal that it was supporting Questions 2 and 4, and made public statements to that effect, we request that the Commission:

- A. Waive all fines associated with this Notice; and
- B. Take no further enforcement action against Progressive Maine under this Notice.

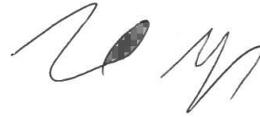
Thank you for your assistance with this matter. Progressive Maine is committed to compliance with Maine campaign finance laws, has fully cooperated with the Commission, and will continue to cooperate throughout this process.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our counsel, David Mitrani, Esq. of Sandler Reiff Lamb Rosenstein & Birkenstock, P.C., at 202-479-1111 or at mitrani@sandlerreiff.com.

² Attachment A, Marina Villeneuve, Portland Press Herald, “Super PACs make push in Maine legislative races” (September 30, 2016).

³ See 94-270 Code of Maine Rules Ch. 1, § 4(2)(B)(5) (consideration for “Previous record of the filer”).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil Reiff'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a dark oval shape in the middle.

Neil Reiff
Treasurer
Progressive Maine

Super PACs make push in Maine legislative races

www.pressherald.com/2016/09/30/super-pacs-make-push-in-state-legislative-races/

By MARINA VILLENEUVE Associated Press

AUGUSTA — Two new political groups are ready to spend tens of thousands of dollars on door-to-door canvassing and contributions ahead of this fall's statewide election.

Maine legislative candidates will vie for seats and control of the chambers this November. New political action committees include a California progressive group that supported independent Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders' presidential bid and a pro-tax reform group linked to Republican Gov. Paul LePage.

The new groups are popping up at a time when an increasing amount of out-of-state, often untraceable money is entering Maine politics.

State campaign finance records show that named out-of-state donors have contributed about \$7.7 million to Maine ballot question campaigns, PACs, parties and candidates so far this year – more than three times as much as all contributions reported by this point in 2008. The next deadline for Maine political groups to report fundraising and spending is Oct. 5.

'DARK MONEY' DECRIED

Progressive Maine, a California-based group that registered in Maine in August, has reported one contribution: \$50,000 from the pro-Sanders group Progressive Kick Independent Expenditures.

The Democratic candidate seeking to oust the Republican leader of Maine's Senate says that he doesn't want this out-of-state group's "dark money."

The Progressive Kick group is a super PAC, meaning it can raise unlimited amounts of money to support or oppose candidates.

Federal campaign finance records show its biggest donors are national and California nursing groups.

Progressive Maine plans to hire staff to organize volunteers to support Democratic state Senate candidate Jonathan Fulford. The group's job postings on social media also say it wants to campaign for ballot questions concerning the minimum wage and school funding.

Fulford, a publicly funded candidate, said that he has no control over anything they do under federal law and wishes "they weren't doing this."

"The amount of money in politics in Augusta is damaging our democracy," Fulford said. Progressive Maine representatives didn't respond to requests for comment.

Fulford is running against Republican Senate President Mike Thibodeau, whom he narrowly lost to in 2014.

Thibodeau criticized the California super PAC for "circumventing the intent of Maine law" by avoiding state disclosure requirements.

"This is kind of a new phenomenon: to have a California super PAC that will not disclose its donors coming into a state Senate race like this," Thibodeau said.

ICE PAC WANTS TO CUT TAXES

LePage is a registered member of a PAC that's raised \$130,000 to support candidates who want to lower Maine citizens' taxes.

LePage's 2011 reform removed about 70,000 low-income residents from the income tax rolls and reduced Maine's top income tax rate. ICE PAC reported spending \$115 to rent the governor's residence, the Blaine House, on July 27.

State campaign finance reports show ICE PAC has received \$50,000 in contributions from New Hampshire residents Gary and Robert Bahre. The two were the largest owners of the Oxford Casino before selling it to an out-of-state operator.

Another \$50,000 in contributions came from Maine residents Diana Bean and Linda Bean, the granddaughters of L.L. Bean's founder.

ICE PAC also reported \$30,000 from Paul Fortin, who owns a Maine land and timber company, and Tim Varney, who owns a Maine insurance company.

The PAC's officer is Michael Hersey, who until July served in the LePage administration as a director in the state Department of Economic and Community Development.

Hersey directed comment to PAC treasurer Holly Lusk, a Maine lawyer who's worked as a lobbyist and LePage policy adviser.

Lusk and LePage's representatives didn't respond to requests for comment.

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[Send questions/comments to the editors.](#)



21-A MRSA §1052-A. REGISTRATION

A political action committee shall register with the commission and amend its registration as required by this section. A registration is not timely filed unless it contains all the information required in this section. [2013, c. 334, §19 (NEW).]

1. Deadlines to file and amend registrations. A political action committee shall register and file amendments with the commission according to the following schedule.

A. A political action committee as defined under section 1052, subsection 5, paragraph A, subparagraph (1) or (4) that receives contributions or makes expenditures in the aggregate in excess of \$1,500 and a political action committee as defined under section 1052, subsection 5, paragraph A, subparagraph (5) that receives contributions or makes expenditures in the aggregate in excess of \$5,000 for the purpose of influencing the nomination or election of any candidate to political office shall register with the commission within 7 days of exceeding the applicable amount. [2015, c. 408, §2 (AMD).]

B. A committee shall amend the registration within 10 days of a change in the information that committees are required to disclose under this section. [2013, c. 334, §19 (NEW).]

C. A committee shall file an updated registration form between January 1st and March 1st of each year in which a general election is held. The commission may waive the updated registration requirement for a newly registered political action committee or other registered political action committee if the commission determines that the requirement would cause an administrative burden disproportionate to the public benefit of the updated information. [2013, c. 334, §19 (NEW).]

[2015, c. 408, §2 (AMD) .]

2. Disclosure of treasurer and officers. A committee must have a treasurer and a principal officer. The same individual may not serve in both positions. The committee's registration must contain the names and addresses of the following individuals:

A. The treasurer of the committee; [2013, c. 334, §19 (NEW).]

B. A principal officer of the committee; [2013, c. 334, §19 (NEW).]

C. Any other individuals who are primarily responsible for making decisions for the committee; [2013, c. 334, §19 (NEW).]

D. The individuals who are primarily responsible for raising contributions for the committee; and [2013, c. 334, §19 (NEW).]

E. The names of any other candidates or Legislators who have a significant role in fund-raising or decision-making for the committee. [2013, c. 334, §19 (NEW).]

[2013, c. 334, §19 (NEW) .]

3. Other disclosure requirements. A committee's registration must also include the following information:

A. A statement indicating the specific candidates, categories of candidates or campaigns that the committee expects to support or oppose; [2013, c. 334, §19 (NEW).]

B. If the committee is formed to influence the election of a single candidate, the name of that candidate; [2013, c. 334, §19 (NEW).]

C. The form or structure of the organization, such as a voluntary association, membership organization, corporation or any other structure by which the committee functions, and the date of origin or incorporation of the organization; [2013, c. 334, §19 (NEW).]

D. If the committee has been formed by one or more for-profit or nonprofit corporations or other organizations for the purpose of initiating or influencing a campaign, the names and addresses of the corporations or organizations; [2013, c. 334, §19 (NEW).]

E. The name of the account that the committee will use to deposit contributions and make expenditures pursuant to section 1054, and the name and address of the financial institution at which the account is established; and [2013, c. 334, §19 (NEW).]

F. Any additional information reasonably required by the commission to monitor the activities of political action committees in this State under this subchapter. [2013, c. 334, §19 (NEW).]

[2013, c. 334, §19 (NEW) .]

4. Acknowledgment of responsibilities. The treasurer, principal officer and any other individuals who are primarily responsible for making decisions for the committee shall submit a signed statement acknowledging their responsibilities on a form prescribed by the commission within 10 days of registering the committee. The signed acknowledgment statement serves as notification of the responsibilities of the committee to comply with the financial reporting, record-keeping and other requirements of this chapter and the potential personal liability of the treasurer and principal officer for civil penalties assessed against the committee. The commission shall notify the committee of any individual who has failed to submit the acknowledgment statement. Failure to return the acknowledgment statement is a violation of this subchapter for which a fine of \$100 may be assessed against the committee. This section also applies to individuals named in an updated or amended registration required by this

subsection who have not previously submitted an acknowledgment statement for the committee with the commission.

[2013, c. 334, §19 (NEW) .]

5. Resignation and removal. An individual who resigns as the treasurer, principal officer or primary decision-maker of a committee shall submit a written resignation statement to the commission. An individual's resignation is not effective until the commission receives the written resignation statement from the individual. If an individual is involuntarily removed from the position of treasurer, principal officer or primary decision-maker by the committee, the committee shall notify the commission in writing that the individual has been removed from the position. The commission may prescribe forms for these purposes.

[2013, c. 334, §19 (NEW) .]

SECTION HISTORY

2013, c. 334, §19 (NEW). 2013, c. 588, Pt. A, §23 (AMD). 2015, c. 408, §2 (AMD).