

Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices Mail: 135 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333 Office: 45 Memorial Circle, Augusta ME, 04333

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

## Notice to a Major Contributor

Please refer to the last page for instructions and filing schedule.

Your organization is receiving this notice because it has contributed to this committee more than \$100,000 in the aggregate for the purpose of initiating or influencing a direct initiative or people's veto referendum campaign. 21-A M.R.S. § 1060-A. Your organization must complete and file a Major Contributor Report with the Maine Ethics Commission by the applicable date, which is

based on the date your organization receives this notice (please see the filing chart below). Your organization may obtain the report at the following website (www.maine.gov/ethics), or by contacting the Maine Ethics Commission directly at (207) 287-4179. Maine election law provides for civil penalties for failing to comply with the major contributor reporting law. Please contact the Maine Ethics Commission directly if you have questions regarding your reporting obligations.

MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR ORGANIZATION INFORMATION			
(Completed by Recipient PAC/BQC)			
MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR ORGANIZATION NAME			
RECIPIENT COMMITTEE NAME			
BALLOT QUESTION SUPPORTED/OPPOSED			
DATE OF FIRST CONTRIBUTION TO RECIPIENT COMMITTEE		DATE CONTRIBUTION(S) RECEIVED EXCEEDED \$100,000	
DATE NOTICE MAILED			
Regular Reporting Deadlines			
Name of Report	Filing Deadline		If the Notice is received between:
April Quarterly Report	April 11, 2022		January 1 – March 31, 2022
11-Day Pre-Primary Report	June 3, 2022		April 1 – May 31, 2022
42-Day Post-Primary Report	July 26, 2022		June 1 – July 19, 2022
October Quarterly Report	October 5, 2022		July 20 - September 30, 2022
11-Day Pre-General Report	October 28, 2022		October 1 – October 25, 2022
42-Day Post-General Report	December 20, 2022		October 26 – December 13, 2022
January Quarterly Report	January 17, 2023		December 14 – December 31, 2022
Deadline - Last 13 Days before an Election			
Name of Report:	If the Notice is received between:		The Report is due on or before:
2-Day Election Report	During the last 13 days before an election		Within 2 business days of receiving notice.
NOTE: if the Notice is receiving during the last 13 days before a primary, general, or special election then the Report is due within 2 business days and <u>not</u> by the due date of a Regular Finance Report.			

## Instructions and Definitions for providing Notice to a Major Contributor

*Major Contributor, defined.* A Major Contributor is a person (a business, organization, association, etc., but not an individual) that gives more than \$100,000 in the aggregate to a political action committee or ballot question committee for the purpose of initiating or influencing a people's veto or citizen initiative.

*Contribution, defined.* Funds or anything of value that is given to a committee to initiate or influence a people's veto or citizen initiative.

Single Filing. The obligation to provide Notice to a Major Contributor and their obligation to file a Major Contributor Report occurs only once per ballot question. For example, if the Major Contributor had previously filed a report because it exceeded the \$100,000 threshold and then subsequently provided an additional \$100,001 to the recipient committee for the same initiative, a second notice/report is not required.

*Ballot Questions.* The \$100,000 threshold applies per ballot question. A Major Contributor could give the same recipient committee \$75,000 for one ballot question and an additional \$75,000 for a different ballot question without being required to file a Major Contributor Report. If, however, the Major Contributor was required to file a report for one ballot question and then contributes over \$100,000 for another ballot question, then the recipient committee must provide notice to the Major Contributor a second time.

*Timing of Notice*. The recipient committee must notify the Major Contributor within 5 days of having received contributions from the Major Contributor exceeding the \$100,000 threshold. If the threshold is exceeded within 13 days before an election, then the committee must notify the Major Contributor in writing within 24 hours.

*Service*. The recipient committee may send the Notice by mail, email, or fax to the Major Contributor. A copy of the Notice and proof of service should be retained by the Recipient Committee. The Commission staff recommends that if the Notice is mailed, the committee use certified rather than regular mail.

*Providing a Copy to the Commission.* The recipient committee is also required to deliver a copy of the notice to the Commission.

*Penalties.* If the recipient committee fails to provide timely notice to the Major Contributor, then the recipient committee may be liable for a penalty of 10% of the total contributions from the Contributor up to a maximum of \$50,000.