

**ADOPTED**

1 Senators Hooks of the 14th, Starr of the 44th, Gillis of the 20th, Harp of the 16th, Moody of  
2 the 27th, Smith of the 25th and others offered the following amendment:

3 Amend the Senate Ethics Committee substitute to SB 517 by inserting after the ";" on line  
4 24 of page 1 the following:

5 "to provide for candidates for the General Assembly who file a declaration of intent to  
6 accept campaign contributions to receive and choose to sign a pledge to engage in ethical  
7 campaigning;".

8 By inserting between lines 4 and 5 of page 38 a new section to read as follows:

**"SECTION 20.1.**

10 Said chapter is further amended by adding a new article to the end of the chapter to read as  
11 follows:

**'ARTICLE 4A**

13 21-5-80.

14 Any candidate for the General Assembly who files a declaration of intent to accept  
15 campaign contributions pursuant to subsection (g) of Code Section 21-5-30 shall be issued  
16 a pledge to engage in ethical campaigning by the Secretary of State as set forth in Code  
17 Section 21-5-81.

18 21-5-81.

19 The text of the pledge shall read as follows:

**PLEDGE TO ENGAGE IN ETHICAL CAMPAIGNING**

21 Realizing that the principles of morality, honesty, and civility are essential to the integrity  
22 of the democratic process, I pledge to conduct a campaign consistent with these  
23 principles. I will refrain from campaign practices that in any way detract from the  
24 honorable pursuit of elective office. I shall not use or permit the use of character  
25 defamation, libel, slander, or scurrilous attacks on any candidate or his or her personal  
26 or family life, nor shall I use or permit on my behalf misleading or untrue advertisements.

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28 Name of Candidate

\_\_\_\_\_ Name of Witness

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Notary public's signature and seal

21-5-82.

Each candidate for the General Assembly who has filed the intention to accept campaign contributions shall acknowledge receipt of the pledge set forth in Code Section 21-5-81 either by returning the pledge with his or her signature which has been witnessed and notarized or by returning a signed affidavit stating that he or she has received the pledge. The pledge shall be in effect for two years from the date of signing unless a candidate writes to the Secretary of State's office and requests that his or her pledge be revoked.

21-5-83.

The Secretary of State's office shall maintain on its website a list of candidates which indicates candidates who have signed the pledge or acknowledged the pledge in accordance with Code Section 21-5-82 or who have neither signed nor acknowledged the pledge.

21-5-84.

A registered voter may initiate a complaint pursuant to Code Section 21-5-7 against a candidate who is running for the General Assembly in his or her district for alleged violations of Code Section 21-5-82. The commission may issue an order after appropriate proceedings as provided for by this chapter and penalize the person who violates Code Section 21-5-82 by making public its conclusion as set forth in paragraph (15) of subsection (b) of Code Section 21-5-6."