

Senate Bill 107

By: Senators Millar of the 40th, Shafer of the 48th, Cowser of the 46th, McKoon of the 29th and Kirk of the 13th

AS PASSED SENATE

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 5 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to ethics
2 in government, so as to revise the dates for the filing of campaign financial disclosure
3 reports; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

5 **SECTION 1.**

6 Chapter 5 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to ethics in
7 government, is amended by revising subsections (c) and (e) of Code Section 21-5-34, relating
8 to disclosure reports, as follows:

9 "(c) Candidates or campaign committees which accept contributions, make expenditures
10 designed to bring about the nomination or election of a candidate, or have filed a
11 declaration of intention to accept campaign contributions pursuant to subsection (g) of
12 Code Section 21-5-30 shall file campaign contribution disclosure reports in compliance
13 with the following schedule:

14 (1) In each nonelection year on January 31 and June 30;

15 (2) In each election year:

16 (A) On January 31, March 31, May 10, June 30, September 30, and October 25, ~~and~~
17 ~~December 31~~;

18 (B) Six days before any run-off primary or election in which the candidate is listed on
19 the ballot; and

20 (C) During the period of time between the last report due prior to the date of any
21 election for which the candidate is qualified and the date of such election, all
22 contributions of \$1,000.00 or more shall be reported within two business days of receipt
23 and also reported on the next succeeding regularly scheduled campaign contribution
24 disclosure report;

25 (3) If the candidate is a candidate in a special primary or special primary runoff, 15 days
26 prior to the special primary and six days prior to the special primary runoff; and

27 (4) If the candidate is a candidate in a special election or special election runoff, 15 days
 28 prior to the special election and six days prior to the special election runoff.

29 All persons or entities required to file reports shall have a five-day grace period in filing
 30 the required reports, except that the grace period shall be two days for required reports
 31 prior to run-off primaries or run-off elections, and no grace period shall apply to
 32 contributions required to be reported within two business days. Reports required to be filed
 33 within two business days of a contribution shall be reported by facsimile or electronic
 34 transmission. Any facsimile filing shall also have an identical electronic filing within five
 35 business days following the transmission of such facsimile filing. Each report required in
 36 the election year shall contain cumulative totals of all contributions which have been
 37 received and all expenditures which have been made in support of the campaign in question
 38 and which are required, or previously have been required, to be reported."

39 "(e) Any person or political action committee, as defined in paragraph (20) of Code
 40 Section 21-5-3, who makes contributions to, accepts contributions for, or makes
 41 expenditures on behalf of candidates, and any independent committee, shall file a
 42 registration in the same manner as is required of campaign committees prior to accepting
 43 or making contributions or expenditures. Such persons and political action committees,
 44 other than independent committees, shall also file campaign contribution disclosure reports
 45 at the same times as required of the candidates they are supporting, and shall also file a
 46 final annual campaign contribution disclosure report on December 31. The following
 47 persons and political action committees shall be exempt from the foregoing registration and
 48 reporting requirements:

49 (1) Individuals making aggregate contributions of \$25,000.00 or less directly to
 50 candidates or the candidates' campaign committees in one calendar year;

51 (2) ~~Persons other than individuals~~ Political action committees making aggregate
 52 contributions and expenditures to or on behalf of candidates of \$25,000.00 or less in one
 53 calendar year; and

54 (3) Contributors who make contributions to only one candidate during one calendar
 55 year."

56 SECTION 2.

57 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.