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THE STATE SENATE
Thursday, February 10, 2005

Senate Bill No. 257

As Amended

SENATE BILL NO. 257 - By: LEFTWICH and CORN of the Senate and LAMONS of the House.

[Rules of the Ethics Commission - campaign contributions - State Capitol building - effective date]

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Rule 257:10-1-3 of the Rules of the Ethics Commission (74 O.S. 2001, Ch. 62, App.), is amended to read as follows:

Section 257:10-1-3. (a) A person shall not use or authorize the use of public funds, property, or time, to participate or assist in the organization of or preparation for a fundraiser for a campaign or in any solicitation of funds for or against a candidate for state office or a ballot measure.

(b) A person shall not use or authorize the use of public funds, property, or time to produce, print, publish, broadcast, or otherwise disseminate material designed or timed to influence the results of an election for state office or a ballot measure, except political activities or statements inherent to or part of the function of a candidate or an elective officer or in the performance

(Bold face denotes Committee Amendments)

1 of a state officer's or state employee's duties or as allowed by
2 law, regardless of the lack of specific reference to the election.

3 (c) Subsections (a) and (b) shall not prevent:

4 (1) use of a meeting room, auditorium or similar space in a
5 public facility, provided that:

6 (A) if a fee is normally charged for use of the facility,
7 the fee is the same for all candidates for state
8 office, political parties or ballot measure committees
9 for such use;

10 (B) the facility is not required for public purposes
11 during the applicable time period;

12 (C) the same opportunity for use of the facility is given
13 to all candidates for a particular office who request
14 its use on a first-come-first-serve basis;

15 (D) the same opportunity for use of the facility is given
16 to all political parties which request its use on a
17 first-come-first-serve basis; and

18 (E) the same opportunity for use of the facility is given
19 to all ballot measure committees which request its use
20 on a first-come-first-serve basis;

21 (2) incidental use of public building sidewalks, common
22 grounds, parking lots and areas within public buildings;

1 (3) the handing out of leaflets, brochures, or partisan or
2 nonpartisan campaign materials on sidewalks, common grounds, or
3 parking lots and within public buildings which are not used for the
4 conduct of state government business; or

5 (4) any other activity the exercise of which is guaranteed by
6 the Oklahoma Constitution or the United States Constitution.

7 (d) A person shall not authorize the use of state officers or
8 state employees for the purposes set forth in Subsections (a) and
9 (b) while in a uniform that identifies him or her as a state officer
10 or state employee or during the hours that the state officer or
11 state employee is officially in work status for a governmental
12 entity.

13 (e) A person shall not print or distribute or cause to be
14 printed or distributed, at public expense, a newsletter or other
15 mass mailing of promotional material on behalf of an elective
16 officer from the day the officer files a declaration of candidacy
17 through the date of the election for the office.

18 (f) A person shall not solicit, verbally or in writing, in a
19 facility ordinarily used for the conduct of state government
20 business, a contribution from a state employee. A person shall not
21 accept a contribution from any person in the State Capitol building.
22 If a contribution is **knowingly** received in the State Capitol

1 building, it shall immediately be returned to the contributor
2 without being accepted.

3 (g) A person shall not distribute or post, or cause to be
4 distributed or posted, in a facility ordinarily used for the conduct
5 of state government business, a communication designed to influence
6 the outcome of an election for state office or a ballot measure.

7 (h) This section, except for Subsection (e), does not apply to:

8 (1) activities that are part of the ordinary conduct of the
9 governmental entity; and

10 (2) nonpartisan voter registration activities.

11 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2005.

12 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, dated 2-8-05 - DO PASS,
13 As Amended and Coauthored.