

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
78R792 ESH-D

S.B. 244
By: West
State Affairs
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As Filed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Under current Texas law, statewide officeholders, legislators, and their campaigns are prohibited from receiving political contributions during the regular legislative session. Because this prohibition ends on the last day of the legislative session, the governor can receive and solicit contributions while considering whether to sign or veto legislation from the session. As proposed, S.B. 244 amends the Election Code to prohibit the governor or the governor's campaign from accepting contributions during the veto period.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 253.034, Election Code, as follows:

Sec. 253.034. New heading: RESTRICTIONS ON CONTRIBUTIONS DURING AND FOLLOWING REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION. (b) Prohibits a person, during certain periods, from knowingly making a political contribution to the governor or a specific-purpose committee for supporting, opposing, or assisting the governor.

(c) Makes a conforming change regarding relettering of subsections.

(d) Prohibits the governor or a specific-purpose committee for supporting, opposing, or assisting the governor from knowingly accepting a political contribution, and requires refusal of political contributions received, during the period prescribed by Subsection (b).

(e) Provides that the period referred to for accepting a political contribution is that period prescribed by Subsection (a) or (b). Makes a conforming change regarding relettering of subsections. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

(f) Redefines the person accepting a political contribution to be the person on whose behalf the contribution is accepted rather than the person accepting the contribution. Redesignated from existing Subsection (c). Makes nonsubstantive changes.

(g)-(h) Redesignated from existing Subsections (d)-(e).

SECTION 2. Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 3. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2003.

