

1 AN ACT relating to elections and declaring an emergency.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 121.180 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) (a) Any candidate, slate of candidates, or political issues committee shall be
5 exempt from filing any campaign finance reports required by subsections (3)
6 and (4) of this section if the candidate, slate of candidates, or political issues
7 committee chair files a form prescribed and furnished by the registry stating
8 that currently no contributions have been received and that contributions will
9 not be accepted or expended in excess of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) in
10 any one (1) election. A separate form shall be required for each primary,
11 regular, or special election in which the candidate or slate of candidates
12 participates or in which the public question appears on the ballot, unless the
13 candidate, slate of candidates, or political issues committee chair indicates on
14 a request for exemption that the request will be applicable to more than one
15 (1) election. The form shall be filed with the same office with which a
16 candidate or slate of candidates files nomination papers or, in the case of a
17 political issues committee, with the registry.

18 (b) For a primary, a candidate or slate of candidates shall file a request for
19 exemption not later than the deadline for filing nomination papers and, except
20 as provided in subparagraph 2. of paragraph (c) of this subsection, shall be
21 bound by its terms unless it is rescinded in writing not later than thirty (30)
22 days preceding the primary. For a regular election, a candidate or slate of
23 candidates shall file or rescind in writing a request for exemption not later
24 than sixty (60) days preceding the regular election, except as provided in
25 subparagraph 2. of paragraph (c) of this subsection. For a special election, a
26 candidate or slate of candidates shall file a request for exemption not later
27 than ten (10) days after the candidate or slate of candidates is nominated for a

1 special election and shall be bound by its terms unless it is rescinded in
2 writing not later than thirty (30) days preceding the special election. A
3 political issues committee chair shall file a request for exemption when the
4 committee registers with the registry and shall be bound by its terms unless it
5 is rescinded in writing not later than thirty (30) days preceding the date the
6 issue appears on the ballot.

7 (c) 1. A candidate or slate of candidates that revokes a request for exemption
8 in a timely manner shall file all reports required of a candidate intending
9 to raise or spend in excess of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) in an
10 election. To revoke the request for an exemption, the candidate or slate
11 of candidates shall file the appropriate form with the registry not later
12 than the deadline for filing a revocation.

13 2. A candidate or slate of candidates that is exempted from campaign
14 finance reporting requirements pursuant to paragraph (a) of this
15 subsection but who accepts contributions or makes expenditures in
16 excess of the exempted amount in an election, shall file all applicable
17 reports required for the remainder of that election, based upon the
18 amount of contributions or expenditures the candidate or slate of
19 candidates accepts or receives in that election. The filing of applicable
20 required reports by a candidate or slate of candidates after the exempted
21 amount is exceeded shall serve as notice to the registry that the initial
22 exemption has been rescinded. No further notice to the registry shall be
23 required and no penalty for exceeding the initial exempted amount shall
24 be imposed against the candidate or slate of candidates, except for
25 failure to file applicable reports required after the exempted amount is
26 exceeded.

27 (d) Any candidate or slate of candidates that is subject to a June or August filing

1 deadline and that intends to execute a request for exemption shall file the
2 appropriate request for exemption not later than the filing deadline and, except
3 as provided in subparagraph 2. of paragraph (c) of this subsection, shall be
4 bound by its terms unless it is rescinded in writing not later than sixty (60)
5 days preceding the regular election. A candidate or slate of candidates that is
6 covered by this paragraph shall have the same reversion rights as those
7 provided in subparagraph 1. of paragraph (c) of this subsection.

8 (e) Any candidate or slate of candidates that will appear on the ballot in a regular
9 election that has signed a request for exemption for that election may exercise
10 the reversion rights provided in subparagraph 1. of paragraph (c) of this
11 subsection if a candidate or slate of candidates that is subject to a June or
12 August filing deadline subsequently files in opposition to the candidate or
13 slate of candidates. Except as provided in subparagraph 2. of paragraph (c) of
14 this subsection, a candidate or slate of candidates covered by this paragraph
15 shall comply with the deadline for rescission provided in subparagraph 1. of
16 paragraph (c) of this subsection.

17 (f) Except as provided in subparagraph 2. of paragraph (c) of this subsection, any
18 candidate or slate of candidates that has filed a request for exemption for a
19 regular election that later is opposed by a person who has filed a declaration of
20 intent to receive write-in votes may rescind the request for exemption and
21 exercise the reversion rights provided in subparagraph 1. of paragraph (c) of
22 this subsection.

23 (g) Any candidate or slate of candidates that has filed a request for exemption
24 may petition the registry to determine whether another person is campaigning
25 as a write-in candidate prior to having filed a declaration of intent to receive
26 write-in votes, and, if the registry determines upon a preponderance of the
27 evidence that a person who may later be a write-in candidate is conducting a

1 campaign, the candidate or slate of candidates, except as provided in
2 subparagraph 2. of paragraph (c) of this subsection, may petition the registry
3 to permit the candidate or slate of candidates to exercise the reversion rights
4 provided in subparagraph 1. of paragraph (c) of this subsection.

5 (h) If the opponent of a candidate or slate of candidates is replaced due to his or
6 her withdrawal because of death, disability, or disqualification, the candidate
7 or slate of candidates, except as provided in subparagraph 2. of paragraph (c)
8 of this subsection, may exercise the reversion rights provided in subparagraph
9 1. of paragraph (c) of this subsection not later than fifteen (15) days after the
10 party executive committee nominates a replacement for the withdrawn
11 candidate or slate of candidates.

12 (i) A person intending to be a write-in candidate for any office in a regular or
13 special election may execute a request for exemption under paragraph (a) of
14 this subsection and shall be bound by its terms unless it is rescinded in writing
15 not later than fifteen (15) days preceding the regular or special election. A
16 person intending to be a write-in candidate who revokes a request for
17 exemption in a timely manner shall file all reports required of a candidate
18 intending to raise or spend in excess of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) in an
19 election. Except as provided in subparagraph 2. of paragraph (c) of this
20 subsection, a person intending to be a write-in candidate who revokes a
21 request for exemption shall file the appropriate form with the registry.

22 (j) Except as provided in subparagraph 2. of paragraph (c) of this subsection, the
23 campaign committee of any candidate or slate of candidates that has filed a
24 request for exemption or a political issues committee whose chair has filed a
25 request for exemption shall be bound by its terms unless it is rescinded in a
26 timely manner.

27 (k) 1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2. of paragraph (c) of this

1 subsection, any candidate, slate of candidates, or political issues
2 committee that is exempt from filing campaign finance reports pursuant
3 to paragraph (a), (d), or (i) of this subsection that accepts contributions
4 or makes expenditures, or whose campaign treasurer accepts
5 contributions or makes expenditures, in excess of the applicable limit in
6 any one (1) election without rescinding the request for exemption in a
7 timely manner shall comply with all applicable reporting requirements
8 and, in lieu of other penalties prescribed by law, pay a fine of not less
9 than five hundred dollars (\$500).

10 2. Except as provided in subparagraph 2. of paragraph (c) of this
11 subsection, a candidate, slate of candidates, campaign committee, or
12 political issues committee that is exempt from filing campaign finance
13 reports pursuant to paragraph (a), (d), or (i) of this subsection that
14 knowingly accepts contributions or makes expenditures in excess of the
15 applicable spending limit in any one (1) election without rescinding the
16 request for exemption in a timely manner shall comply with all
17 applicable reporting requirements and shall be guilty of a Class D
18 felony.

19 (2) (a) State and county executive committees, and caucus campaign committees
20 shall make a full report, upon a prescribed form, to the registry, of all money,
21 loans, or other things of value, received from any source, and expenditures
22 authorized, incurred, or made, since the date of the last report, including:

23 1. For each contribution of any amount made by a permanent committee,
24 the name and business address of the permanent committee, the date of
25 the contribution, the amount contributed, and a description of the major
26 business, social, or political interest represented by the permanent
27 committee;

- 1 2. For other contributions in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100), the full
2 name, address, age if less than the legal voting age, the date of the
3 contribution, the amount of the contribution, and the employer and
4 occupation of each contributor. If the contributor is self-employed, the
5 name under which he or she is doing business shall be listed;
- 6 3. The total amount of cash contributions received during the reporting
7 period; and
- 8 4. A complete statement of expenditures authorized, incurred, or made.
9 The complete statement of expenditures shall include the name and
10 address of each person to whom an expenditure is made in excess of
11 twenty-five dollars (\$25), and the amount, date, and purpose of each
12 expenditure.
- 13 (b) In addition to the reporting requirements in paragraph (a) of this subsection,
14 the state executive committee of a political party that has established a
15 building fund account under KRS 121.172 shall make a full report, upon a
16 prescribed form, to the registry, of all contributions received from any source,
17 and expenditures authorized, incurred, or made, since the date of the last
18 report for the separate building fund account, including:
 - 19 1. For each contribution of any amount made by a corporation, the name
20 and business address of the corporation, the date of the contribution, the
21 amount contributed, and a description of the major business conducted
22 by the corporation;
 - 23 2. For other contributions in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100), the full
24 name and address of the contributor, the date of the contribution, the
25 amount of the contribution, and the employer and occupation of each
26 contributor. If the contributor is self-employed, the name under which he
27 or she is doing business shall be listed;

1 3. The total amount of cash contributions received during the reporting
2 period; and

3 4. A complete statement of expenditures authorized, incurred, or made.
4 The complete statement of expenditures shall include the name and
5 address of each person to whom an expenditure is made in excess of
6 twenty-five dollars (\$25), and the amount, date, and purpose of each
7 expenditure.

8 (c) The report required by paragraph (a) of this subsection shall be made on a
9 semiannual basis and shall be received by the registry by January 31 and by
10 July 31. The January report shall cover the period from July 1 to December
11 31. The July report shall cover the period from January 1 to June 30. If an
12 individual gives a reportable contribution to a caucus campaign committee or
13 to a state or county executive committee with the intention that the
14 contribution or a portion of the contribution go to a candidate or slate of
15 candidates, the name of the contributor and the sum shall be indicated on the
16 committee report. The report required by paragraph (b) of this subsection
17 relating to a state executive committee's building fund account shall be
18 received by the registry within two (2) business days after the close of each
19 calendar quarter. The receipts and expenditures of funds remitted to each
20 political party under KRS 141.071 to 141.073 shall be separately accounted
21 for and reported to the registry in the manner required by KRS 121.230. The
22 separate report may be made a separate section within the report required by
23 this subsection to be received by the registry by January 31.

24 (3) (a) Except for candidates or slates of candidates, campaign committees, or
25 political issues committees exempted from reporting requirements pursuant to
26 subsection (1) of this section, each campaign treasurer of a candidate, slate of
27 candidates, campaign committee, or political issues committee who accepts

1 contributions or expends, expects to accept contributions or expend, or
2 contracts to expend more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000) in any one (1)
3 election, and each fundraiser who secures contributions in excess of three
4 thousand dollars (\$3,000) in any one (1) election, shall make a full report to
5 the registry, on a form provided or using a format approved by the registry, of
6 all money, loans, or other things of value, received from any source, and
7 expenditures authorized, incurred, and made, since the date of the last report,
8 including:

- 9 1. For each contribution of any amount made by a permanent committee,
10 the name and business address of the permanent committee, the date of
11 the contribution, the amount contributed, and a description of the major
12 business, social, or political interest represented by the permanent
13 committee;
- 14 2. For each contribution in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100) made to a
15 candidate or slate of candidates for a statewide-elected state office, or to
16 a campaign committee for a candidate or slate of candidates for a
17 statewide-elected state office, the date, name, address, occupation, and
18 employer of each contributor and the spouse of the contributor or, if the
19 contributor or spouse of the contributor is self-employed, the name
20 under which he or she is doing business, and the amount contributed by
21 each contributor;
- 22 3. For each contribution in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100) made to
23 any candidate or campaign committee other than those specified in
24 subparagraph 2. of this paragraph or a political issues committee, the full
25 name, address, age if less than the legal voting age, the date of the
26 contribution, the amount of the contribution, and the employer and
27 occupation of each other contributor. If the contributor is self-employed,

1 the name under which he or she is doing business shall be listed;

2 4. The total amount of cash contributions received during the reporting
3 period; and

4 5. A complete statement of all expenditures authorized, incurred, or made.
5 The complete statement of expenditures shall include the name, address,
6 and occupation of each person to whom an expenditure is made in
7 excess of twenty-five dollars (\$25), and the amount, date, and purpose of
8 each expenditure.

9 (b) Reports of all candidates, slates of candidates, campaign committees, political
10 issues committees, and registered fundraisers shall be made as follows:

11 1. Candidates as defined in KRS 121.015(8), slates of candidates,
12 candidate-authorized and unauthorized campaign committees, political
13 issues committees, and fundraisers which register in the year before the
14 year an election in which the candidate, a slate of candidates, or public
15 question shall appear on the ballot, shall file financial reports with the
16 registry at the end of the first calendar quarter after persons become
17 candidates or slates of candidates, or following registration of the
18 committee or fundraiser, and each calendar quarter thereafter, ending
19 with the last calendar quarter of that year. Candidates, slates of
20 candidates, committees, and registered fundraisers shall make all reports
21 required by this section during the year in which the election takes place;

22 2. All candidates, slates of candidates, candidate-authorized and
23 unauthorized campaign committees, political issues committees, and
24 registered fundraisers shall make reports on the sixtieth day preceding a
25 regular election, including all previous contributions and expenditures;

26 3. All candidates, slates of candidates, candidate-authorized and
27 unauthorized campaign committees, political issues committees, and

1 registered fundraisers shall make reports on the thirtieth day preceding
2 an election, including all previous contributions and expenditures;

3 4. All candidates, slates of candidates, candidate-authorized and
4 unauthorized campaign committees, political issues committees, and
5 registered fundraisers shall make reports on the fifteenth day preceding
6 the date of the election; and

7 5. All reports to the registry shall cover campaign activity during the entire
8 reporting period and must be received by the registry within two (2)
9 business days after the date the reporting period ends to be deemed
10 timely filed.

11 (4) Except for candidates, slates of candidates, and political issues committees,
12 exempted pursuant to subsection (1)(a) of this section, all candidates, regardless of
13 funds received or expended, candidate-authorized and unauthorized campaign
14 committees, political issues committees, and registered fundraisers shall make post-
15 election reports within thirty (30) days after the election. All post-election reports to
16 the registry shall cover campaign activity during the entire reporting period and
17 must be received by the registry within two (2) business days after the date the
18 reporting period ends to be deemed timely filed.

19 (5) In making the preceding reports, the total gross receipts from each of the following
20 categories shall be listed: proceeds from the sale of tickets for events such as
21 testimonial affairs, dinners, luncheons, rallies, and similar fundraising events, mass
22 collections made at the events, and sales of items such as campaign pins, buttons,
23 hats, ties, literature, and similar materials. When any individual purchase or the
24 aggregate purchases of any item enumerated above from a candidate or slate of
25 candidates for a statewide-elected state office or a campaign committee for a
26 candidate or slate of candidates for a statewide-elected state office exceeds one
27 hundred dollars (\$100), the purchaser shall be identified by name, address, age, if

1 less than the legal voting age, occupation, and employer and the employer of the
2 spouse of the purchaser or, if the purchaser or the spouse of the purchaser is self-
3 employed, the name under which he or she is doing business, and the amount of the
4 purchase. When any individual purchase or the aggregate purchases of any item
5 enumerated above from any candidate or campaign committee other than a
6 candidate or slate of candidates for a statewide-elected state office or campaign
7 committee for a candidate or slate of candidates for a statewide-elected state office
8 exceeds one hundred dollars (\$100), the purchaser shall be identified by name,
9 address, age if less than the legal voting age, occupation, and employer, or if the
10 purchaser is self-employed, the name under which he or she is doing business, and
11 the amount of the purchase. The lists shall be maintained by the campaign treasurer,
12 political issues committee treasurer, registered fundraiser, or other sponsor for
13 inspection by the registry for six (6) years following the date of the election.

14 (6) Each permanent committee, except a federally registered permanent committee,
15 inaugural committee, or contributing organization shall make a full report to the
16 registry, on a form provided or using a format approved by the registry, of all
17 money, loans, or other things of value, received by it from any source, and all
18 expenditures authorized, incurred, or made, since the date of the last report,
19 including:

20 (a) For each contribution of any amount made by a permanent committee, the
21 name and business address of the permanent committee, the date of the
22 contribution, the amount contributed, and a description of the major business,
23 social, or political interest represented by the permanent committee;

24 (b) For other contributions in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100), the full name,
25 address, age if under the legal voting age, the date of the contribution, the
26 amount of the contribution, and the employer and occupation of each
27 contributor. If the contributor is self-employed, the name under which he or

- 1 she is doing business shall be listed;
- 2 (c) An aggregate amount of cash contributions, the amount contributed by each
3 contributor, and the date of each contribution; and
- 4 (d) A complete statement of all expenditures authorized, incurred, or made,
5 including independent expenditures. This report shall be made by a permanent
6 committee, inaugural committee, or contributing organization to the registry
7 on the last day of the first calendar quarter following the registration of the
8 committee with the registry and on the last day of each succeeding calendar
9 quarter until such time as the committee terminates. A contributing
10 organization shall file a report of contributions received and expenditures on a
11 form provided or using a format approved by the registry not later than the last
12 day of each calendar quarter in which contributions are received or
13 expenditures are made. All reports to the registry shall be received on or
14 before each filing deadline, and any report received by the registry within two
15 (2) business days after each filing deadline shall be deemed timely filed.
- 16 (7) If the final statement of a candidate, campaign committee, or political issues
17 committee shows an unexpended balance of contributions, continuing debts and
18 obligations, or an expenditure deficit, the campaign treasurer shall file with the
19 registry a supplemental statement of contributions and expenditures not more than
20 thirty (30) days after the deadline for filing the final statement. Subsequent
21 supplemental statements shall be filed annually, to be received by the registry by
22 December 1 of each year, until the account shows no unexpended balance,
23 continuing debts and obligations, expenditures, or deficit, or until the year before
24 the candidate or a slate of candidates seeks to appear on the ballot for the same
25 office for which the funds in the campaign account were originally contributed, in
26 which case the candidate or a slate of candidates shall file the supplemental annual
27 report by December 1 of that year or at the end of the first calendar quarter of that

1 year after the candidate or slate of candidates files nomination papers for the next
2 year's primary or regular election. All post-election reports to the registry shall
3 cover campaign activity during the entire reporting period and must be received by
4 the registry within two (2) business days after the date the reporting period ends to
5 be deemed timely filed. All contributions shall be subject to KRS 121.150 as of the
6 date of the election in which the candidate appeared on the ballot.

7 (8) All reports filed under the provisions of this chapter shall be a matter of public
8 record open to inspection by any member of the public immediately upon receipt of
9 the report by the registry.

10 (9) A candidate or slate of candidates is relieved of the duty personally to file reports
11 and keep records of receipts and expenditures if the candidate or slate states in
12 writing or on forms provided by the registry that:

13 (a) Within five (5) business days after personally receiving any contributions, the
14 candidate or slate of candidates shall surrender possession of the contributions
15 to the treasurer of their principal campaign committee without expending any
16 of the proceeds thereof. No contributions shall be commingled with the
17 candidate's or slated candidates' personal funds or accounts. Contributions
18 received by check, money order, or other written instrument shall be endorsed
19 directly to the campaign committee and shall not be cashed or redeemed by
20 the candidate;

21 (b) The candidate or slate of candidates shall not make any unreimbursed
22 expenditure for the campaign, except that this paragraph does not preclude a
23 candidate or slate from making an expenditure from personal funds to the
24 designated principal campaign committee, which shall be reported by the
25 committee as a contribution received; and

26 (c) The waiver shall continue in effect as long as the candidate or slate of
27 candidates complies with the conditions under which it was granted.

- 1 (10) (a) No candidate, slate of candidates, campaign committee, political issues
 2 committee, or contributing organization shall use or permit the use of
 3 contributions or funds solicited or received for the person or in support of or
 4 opposition to a public issue which will appear on the ballot to:
- 5 1. Further the candidacy of the person for a different public office;~~[,] to~~
 - 6 2. Support or oppose a different public issue;~~[,] or~~~~to~~
 - 7 3. Further the candidacy of any other person for public office;~~[,] except that~~
- 8 (b) Nothing in this subsection shall be deemed to prohibit:
- 9 1. A candidate or slate of candidates from using funds in a~~the~~ campaign
 10 account to purchase admission tickets for any fundraising event or
 11 testimonial affair for another candidate or slate of candidates if the
 12 amount of the purchase does not exceed two hundred dollars (\$200) per
 13 event or affair; or
 - 14 2. *A candidate, whose district number is altered pursuant to an enacted*
 15 *plan of redistricting or reapportionment, from using funds contained*
 16 *in his or her existing campaign account for an election to the*
 17 *subsequent district where the candidate is then properly filed.*
- 18 (c) Any funds or contributions solicited or received by or on behalf of a
 19 candidate, slate of candidates, or any committee, which has been organized in
 20 whole or in part to further any candidacy for the same person or to support or
 21 oppose the same public issue, shall be deemed to have been solicited or
 22 received for the current candidacy or for the election on the public issue if the
 23 funds or contributions are solicited or received at any time prior to the regular
 24 election for which the candidate, slate of candidates, or public issue is on the
 25 ballot.
- 26 (d) Any unexpended balance of funds not otherwise obligated for the payment of
 27 expenses incurred to further a political issue or the candidacy of a person

1 shall, in whole or in part, at the election of the candidate or committee; ~~[-,]~~

2 1. Escheat to the State Treasury; ~~[-,]~~

3 2. Be returned pro rata to all contributors; ~~[-, or,]~~

4 3. In the case of a partisan candidate, be transferred to:

5 a. A caucus campaign committee; ~~[-,]~~ or ~~[- to]~~

6 b. The state or county executive committee of the political party of
7 which the candidate is a member; ~~[- except that a candidate,~~
8 ~~committee, or an official may]~~

9 4. **Be retained** ~~[- retain the funds]~~ to further the same public issue or to seek
10 election to the same office; ~~or [- may]~~

11 5. **Be donated** ~~[- Donate the funds]~~ to any charitable, nonprofit, or
12 educational institution recognized under Section 501(c)(3) of the United
13 States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and any successor
14 thereto.

15 (11) If adequate and appropriate agency funds are available to implement this subsection,
16 electronic reporting shall be made available by the registry to all candidates, slates
17 of candidates, committees, contributing organizations, registered fundraisers, and
18 persons making independent expenditures. The electronic report submitted to the
19 registry shall be the official campaign finance report for audit and other legal
20 purposes, whether mandated or filed by choice.

21 (12) ~~[- Filers not required to file reports electronically, as set forth in this section, are~~
22 ~~strongly encouraged to do so voluntarily.]~~

23 ~~[- (13) -]~~ The date that an electronic or on-line report shall be deemed to have been filed
24 with the registry shall be the date on which it is received by the registry.

25 ~~[- (13) -]~~ ~~[- (14) -]~~ All electronic or online filers shall affirm, under penalty of perjury, that the
26 report filed with the registry is complete and accurate.

27 ~~[- (14) -]~~ ~~[- (15) -]~~ Filers who submit electronic campaign finance reports which are not readable,

1 or cannot be copied, or are not accompanied by any requisite paper copy shall be
2 deemed to not be in compliance with the requirements set forth in this section.

3 ~~(15)~~~~(16)~~ Beginning with the primary scheduled in calendar year 2020, and for each
4 subsequent election scheduled thereafter, reports required to be submitted to the
5 registry involving candidates, slates of candidates, committees, contributing
6 organizations, and independent expenditures shall be reported electronically.

7 ~~(16)~~~~(17)~~ (a) On each ~~paper and electronic~~ form that the registry supplies for the
8 reports required under subsections (2), (3), and (6) of this section, the registry
9 shall include an entry reading, "No change since last report."

10 (b) If a person or entity that is required to report under subsection (2), (3), or (6)
11 of this section has received no money, loans, or other things of value from any
12 source since the date of its last report and has not authorized, incurred, or
13 made any expenditures since that date, the person or entity may check or
14 otherwise designate the entry that reads, "No change since last report." A
15 person or entity designating this entry in a report shall state the balance carried
16 forward from the last report but need not specify receipts or expenditures in
17 further detail.

18 ➔Section 2. The amendments to Section 1 of this Act shall be retroactive to
19 November 3, 2021.

20 ➔Section 3. Whereas districts of candidates are subject to change due to certain
21 statutory and constitutional deadlines which will have an effect on a candidate's access to
22 his or her campaign account, and in order to advance the principles of a free and fair
23 election where elected office can be obtained by any qualified person with the financial
24 assistance of his or her campaign account, an emergency is declared to exist, and this Act
25 takes effect upon its passage and approval by the Governor or upon its otherwise
26 becoming a law.