

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 279 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY WEBSTER, SIEGEL, MADDEN, HANBIDGE, KHAN,  
D. WILLIAMS AND CERRATO, MARCH 10, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 10, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), entitled  
2 "An act concerning elections, including general, municipal,  
3 special and primary elections, the nomination of candidates,  
4 primary and election expenses and election contests; creating  
5 and defining membership of county boards of elections;  
6 imposing duties upon the Secretary of the Commonwealth,  
7 courts, county boards of elections, county commissioners;  
8 imposing penalties for violation of the act, and codifying,  
9 revising and consolidating the laws relating thereto; and  
10 repealing certain acts and parts of acts relating to  
11 elections," in primary and election expenses, further  
12 providing for definitions and providing for limitations on  
13 campaign contributions.

14 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
15 hereby enacts as follows:

16 Section 1. Section 1621 of the act of June 3, 1937  
17 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, is  
18 amended by adding a subsection to read:

19 Section 1621. Definitions.--As used in this article, the  
20 following words have the following meanings:

21 \* \* \*

22 (n) The words "in-kind contribution" shall mean a  
23 contribution of goods, services, property or a valuable thing

1 offered for free or at less than the fair market value of the  
2 goods, services, property or valuable thing. The words "in-kind  
3 contribution" do not include legal or accounting services  
4 rendered to or on behalf of a political committee of a political  
5 party, an authorized committee of a candidate or another  
6 political committee, if the legal or accounting services are  
7 solely for the purpose of ensuring compliance with this article.  
8 The legal or accounting services shall be reported under section  
9 1626.

10 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

11 Section 1627.1. Limitations on Campaign Contributions.--  
12 Aggregate contribution limits, including in-kind contributions,  
13 for a candidate may not exceed the levels established under 52  
14 U.S.C. Ch. 301 (relating to Federal election campaigns) and  
15 regulations promulgated by the Federal Election Commission in  
16 accordance with 11 CFR 110 (relating to contribution and  
17 expenditure limitations and prohibitions).

18 Section 3. The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall certify  
19 the calculation of the levels determined under section 1627.1 of  
20 the act and shall transmit notice of the levels, including any  
21 changes to the levels, to the Legislative Reference Bureau for  
22 publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

23 Section 4. This act shall take effect January 1, 2024, or  
24 immediately, whichever is later.