

## HB62 INTRODUCED



1 HB62  
2 Y9D4NNN-1  
3 By Representatives Hulsey, Faulkner  
4 RFD: Ethics and Campaign Finance  
5 First Read: 04-Feb-25  
6 PFD: 18-Nov-24



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SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, a candidate, public official, or principal campaign committee may use campaign contributions for certain enumerated election-related expenses, including for necessary and ordinary expenditures of a campaign and expenditures that are reasonably related to performing the duties of the office held.

This bill would allow candidates, public officials, and principal campaign committees to use campaign contributions for dependent care expenses for individuals for whom the candidate has caregiving responsibility.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to campaign expenditures; to amend Section 17-5-7, Code of Alabama 1975, to allow candidates for public office, public officials, and principal campaign committees to use campaign contributions for certain dependent care expenses.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:



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29 Section 1. Section 17-5-7, Code of Alabama 1975, is  
30 amended to read as follows:

31 "§17-5-7

32 (a) Except as provided in subsection (d) and in Section  
33 17-5-7.1, a candidate, public official, or treasurer of a  
34 principal campaign committee as defined in this chapter, may  
35 only use campaign contributions, and any proceeds from  
36 investing the contributions that are in excess of any amount  
37 necessary to defray expenditures of the candidate, public  
38 official, or principal campaign committee, for the following  
39 purposes:

40 (1) Necessary and ordinary expenditures of the  
41 campaign.

42 (2) Expenditures that are reasonably related to  
43 performing the duties of the office held. For purposes of this  
44 ~~section~~subdivision, "expenditures that are reasonably related  
45 to performing the duties of the office held" do not include  
46 personal and legislative living expenses, as defined in this  
47 chapter.

48 (3) Donations to the State General Fund, the Education  
49 Trust Fund, or equivalent county or municipal funds.

50 (4) Donations to an organization to which a federal  
51 income tax deduction is permitted under ~~subparagraph (A) of~~  
52 ~~paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Section 170 of the Internal~~  
53 ~~Revenue Code of 1986, as amended~~26 U.S.C. § 170(b)(1)(A), or  
54 any other charitable, educational, or eleemosynary cause of  
55 ~~Section 501 of Title 26 of the U. S. Code~~26 U.S.C. § 501.

56 (5) Inaugural or transitional expenses.



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57           (6) Donations to a legislative caucus organization  
58 registered under this chapter which does not operate as a  
59 political action committee.

60           (7) Legal fees and costs associated with any civil  
61 action, criminal prosecution, or investigation related to  
62 conduct reasonably related to performing the duties of the  
63 office held.

64           (8) Dependent care expenses. For purposes of this  
65 subdivision, "dependent care expenses" means expenses incurred  
66 as a direct result of caring for and supervising dependent  
67 children, a disabled individual, or other individual for whom  
68 the candidate has caregiving responsibility while the  
69 candidate or public official is engaged in campaign related  
70 activities or performing the duties of the office held.

71           (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law,  
72 including, but not limited to, Section 13A-10-61, a candidate,  
73 public official, or principal campaign committee may only  
74 accept, solicit, or receive contributions:

75           (1) To influence the outcome of an election.

76           (2) For a period of 12 months before an election in  
77 which the person intends to be a candidate. Provided, however,  
78 candidates for legislative and statewide office and their  
79 principal campaign committees may not accept, solicit, or  
80 receive contributions during the period when the Legislature  
81 is convened in session. For purposes of this section, the  
82 Legislature is convened in session at any time from the  
83 opening day of the special or regular session and continued  
84 through the day of adjournment sine die for that session.



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85 However, this subdivision shall not apply within 120 days of  
86 any primary, runoff, or general election, and shall not apply  
87 to the candidates or their principal campaign committees  
88 participating in any special election as called by the  
89 Governor. This subdivision shall not apply to a loan from a  
90 candidate to his or her own principal campaign committee.

91 (3) For a period of 120 days after the election in  
92 which the person was a candidate, but only to the extent of  
93 any campaign debt of the candidate or principal campaign  
94 committee of the candidate as indicated on the campaign  
95 financial disclosure form or to the extent of reaching the  
96 threshold that is required for qualification as a candidate  
97 for the office which he or she currently holds, or both.

98 (4) For the purpose of paying all expenses associated  
99 with an election challenge including, but not limited to, quo  
100 warranto challenges.

101 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law,  
102 including, but not limited to, Section 13A-10-61, a candidate,  
103 public official, or principal campaign committee shall not  
104 accept, solicit, or receive contributions for any of the  
105 following reasons:

106 (1) As a bribe, as defined by Sections 13A-10-60 to  
107 13A-10-63, inclusive.

108 (2) For the intention of corruptly influencing the  
109 official actions of the public official or candidate for  
110 public office.

111 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a  
112 principal campaign committee, during a two-year period



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113 commencing on the day after each regularly scheduled general  
114 election and ending on the day of the next regularly scheduled  
115 general election, may pay qualifying fees to a political party  
116 and in addition ~~thereto~~, during that period, may expend up to  
117 a cumulative total of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) of  
118 campaign contributions, and any proceeds from investing the  
119 contributions, for the following purposes:

- 120 (1) Tickets for political party dinners or functions.  
121 (2) State or local political party dues or similar  
122 expenses incurred by independent or write-in candidates."

123 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October  
124 1, 2025.