



MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION

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Julie A. Allen

Executive Director

August 2, 2010

[Committee Name]

[Address 1]

[Address 2]

[City State Zip]

Letter to Congressional
District/State Party Political
Party Ctees (no action
required), 2 pages

RE: Effective August 28, 2010
Senate Bill 844 provisions

Your committee is currently organized as a political party campaign finance committee formed with the Missouri Ethics Commission (Commission). Senate Bill 844, passed by the legislature and signed by the governor, contains specific changes to Chapter 130 RSMo related to campaign finance committees that become effective **August 28, 2010**.

***Political party campaign finance committees** will exist only at the congressional and state levels. Your political party campaign finance committee can continue to operate under the provisions of SB 844.*

Enclosed is a summary of other provisions in Senate Bill 844. We ask you take the time to review and especially note the following:

- **Continuing committees** will now be known as political action committees.
- **Political action committees** can only receive contributions from:
 - Individuals;
 - Unions;
 - Federal political action committees;
 - Corporations, associations, and partnerships formed under Chapters 347-360, RSMo
- **Political action committees** cannot receive contributions from other:
 - Political action committees;
 - Candidate committees;
 - Political party committees;
 - Campaign committees;
 - Exploratory committees;
 - Debt service committees.

However, they may receive contributions from the:

- state House political action committee for each political party as designated by the majority floor leader and minority floor leader of the House of Representatives;
 - state Senate political action committee for each political party as designated by the majority floor leader and minority floor leader; and
 - chair of a state party if the party does not have a majority or minority party status in the House or Senate.
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- **Candidates** will not be able to file for office or take office until their committees or any committee they served as a treasurer or deputy treasurer of have paid any fees assessed by the Commission. This is in addition to the current law requiring all campaign finance reports from prior elections to be filed before a candidate can file for an office.
 - **Treasurers and deputy treasurers** are no longer required to reside in the district or county in which a committee sits (must still be a Missouri resident).
 - **New committees cannot be formed by any person, candidate, treasurer, or deputy treasurer** if they have outstanding campaign finance reports due or unpaid fees due to the Commission. Deputy treasurers may not serve on a new committee if in the past he/she served on a committee that is not in compliance (late fees/fines and/or reports due).
 - **Disqualified candidates** cannot be selected by a party nominating committee for the same office in the same primary or general election.
 - Campaign finance reports filed with the Commission that are **late will be assessed a fee of \$50.00 per day (up from \$10.00)**. This includes late fees for limited activity reports.
 - **All committees** required by law to file their campaign finance reports with the Commission must do so electronically after **January 1, 2011**.

Continue to check our website for updated information about SB844 at www.mec.mo.gov. Should you have any questions, email the MEC at helpdesk@mec.mo.gov or contact our office at 1-800-392-8660.