



HOUSE BILL 766: No Soliciting Certain Funds/Elections Boards.

2021-2022 General Assembly

Committee:	House Election Law and Campaign Finance Reform. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	May 4, 2021
Introduced by:	Reps. Johnson, Szoka, Davis, Zachary	Prepared by:	Hillary Woodard Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	First Edition		

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 766 would prohibit the solicitation, taking, or acceptance of private funds for election purposes and would require elections to be publicly funded.*

CURRENT LAW: Generally, State and local government entities involved in administering elections receive funding from public sources. However, nothing prohibits State and local entities from seeking grants or otherwise accepting funds from private sources for the purpose of conducting elections.

Each county board of elections has supervisory authority over the conduct of elections within the county. Specifically, the county boards of commissioners are responsible for appropriating "reasonable and adequate funds necessary for the legal functions of the county board of elections." G.S. 163-37. With respect to municipal elections conducted by the county board of elections, "[e]ach municipality and special district shall reimburse the county board of elections for the actual cost involved in the administration" of that election. G.S. 163-284.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 766 would prohibit all of the following from soliciting, taking, or otherwise accepting any contribution, donation, or anything else of value from any person, however created or formed, for purposes of funding any State or local election:

- The State Board of Elections.
- All county boards of elections.
- All county board of commissioners.
- All elected municipal officials.

A violation would be a Class I felony. A Class I felony is punishable by an absolute minimum of 3 months community punishment and an absolute maximum of 25 months active punishment, depending on the prior record level.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Effective when it becomes law.

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