



SENATE BILL 725: Prohibit Private Money in Elections Admin.

2021-2022 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate	Date:	June 9, 2021
Introduced by:	Sens. Hise, Daniel, Newton	Prepared by:	Jessica Sammons
Analysis of:	First Edition		Committee Counsel

OVERVIEW: *Senate Bill 725 would prohibit the State Board of Elections, county boards of elections, and county boards of commissioners from accepting private monetary donations, directly or indirectly, for conducting elections or employing individuals on a temporary basis.*

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: Senate Bill 725 would prohibit the State Board of Elections, county boards of elections, and county boards of commissioners from accepting private monetary donations, either directly or indirectly, for either of the following purposes:

- Conducting elections.
- Employing individuals on a temporary basis. For county boards of commissioners, the restriction would apply to employing individuals on a temporary basis for elections.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Effective July 1, 2021.

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