

## LEGISLATIVE BILL 581

Approved by the Governor April 28, 1999

Introduced by Janssen, 15; Schimek, 27

AN ACT relating to political accountability and disclosure; to amend sections 49-1401, 49-1465, and 49-14,134, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to campaign statements; to provide for digital and electronic filing of documents; to provide a penalty; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 49-1401, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

49-1401. Sections 49-1401 to 49-14,140 and section 3 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act. Any reference to sections 49-1401 to 49-14,138 shall be construed to include sections 49-1499.01 and 49-14,103.01 to 49-14,103.07. After August 25, 1989, any reference to sections 49-1401 to 49-14,138 shall be construed to include sections 49-14,123.01 and 49-14,140.

Sec. 2. Section 49-1465, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

49-1465. (1) A campaign statement filed by a committee shall:

(a) ~~Be signed by the committee treasurer; and notarized.~~ A

(b) Contain a verification statement ~~shall be part of the campaign statement and shall state which states~~ that the treasurer used all reasonable diligence in its preparation, ~~and~~ that to the treasurer's knowledge it is true and complete, ~~and if - If~~ the committee is a candidate committee, ~~the candidate shall also verify, in writing,~~ that to the best of the candidate's knowledge the statement is true and complete.

(2) The verification statement shall be signed by the treasurer and, in the case of a candidate committee, by the candidate.

(3) The verification statement shall be required to perfect the filing of the campaign statement. A campaign statement shall cover the period beginning the day after the closing date of the last campaign statement and end on the closing date as specified in ~~sections 49-1401 to 49-14,138~~ the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act.

Sec. 3. The commission may adopt procedures for the digital and electronic filing of any report or statement required by the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act. Any procedures for digital filing shall comply with the provisions of section 86-1701. The commission may adopt authentication procedures to be used as a verification process for statements or reports filed digitally or electronically. Compliance with authentication procedures adopted by the commission shall have the same validity as a signature on any report, statement, or verification statement.

Sec. 4. Section 49-14,134, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

49-14,134. In addition to penalties otherwise provided in ~~sections 49-1401 to 49-14,138~~ the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act, any person who files a statement or report required under ~~sections 49-1401 to 49-14,138~~ the act knowing that information contained ~~therein~~ in the statement or report is false or that the verification statement required on the document is false shall be guilty of a Class IV felony.

Sec. 5. Original sections 49-1401, 49-1465, and 49-14,134, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.