

Department of Planning and Budget 2011 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB2098

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/>	In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Enrolled

2. Patron: Jones

3. Committee: Privileges and Elections

4. Title: Campaign Finance Disclosure Act; conversion of contributions to personal use.

5. Summary: Enacts a separate provision to make it unlawful for any person to convert to his personal use, at any time, money and like intangibles that have been contributed to a candidate, campaign committee, or other type of political committee.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Indeterminate – See Item 8

8. Fiscal Implications: The passage of this legislation would require the State Board of Elections (SBE) to carefully monitor and ensure that each candidate or committee does not convert any funds for personal use. The staff time associated with these tasks as well as any potential dissemination of materials or reports would result in a cost to SBE. Similarly, there may also be a resource drain on the Attorney General's office, who would be responsible for rewriting the explanation of the provisions of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act that prohibit the "personal use" of campaign funds. The Attorney General's Office has indicated the fiscal impact to be minimal.

Violation of this provision would also result in a civil penalty or a Class 1 misdemeanor, the implications of which is a potential increase in the jail population since Class 1 misdemeanor outcomes result in sentences of up to 12 months in jail (and a fine up to \$2,500). Any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: State Board of Elections (SBE), Attorney General's Office, Compensation Board

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None

Date: 1/19/2011