

Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB848

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: Simon

3. Committee: Privileges and Elections

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

5. Summary: Prohibits any person from converting any moneys, securities, or like intangible personal property that has been contributed to a candidate, a campaign committee, or a political committee to his personal use or the personal use of any other person. A contribution is considered to be converted to personal use if the contribution, in whole or in part, is used to fulfill any commitment, obligation, or expense not related to the ordinary and necessary expenses related to seeking, holding, or maintaining public office or carrying out the ordinary activities of the committee. The bill provides that a violation of the prohibition is a Class 1 misdemeanor. Current law prohibits such conversion of contributions to personal use specifically with regard to disbursement of surplus funds at the dissolution of a campaign or political committee. The bill also requires the State Board of Elections to provide, upon request, formal advisory opinions regarding the permitted and prohibited uses of contributions and publish such opinions on the Department of Elections website.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary; no state fiscal impact.

8. Fiscal Implications: The proposed legislation is not expected to have a state fiscal impact.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Elections.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 1/16/2020