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HOUSE BILL NO. 2010

House Amendments in [] — February 5, 1999

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 24.2-914.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to filing of campaign finance disclosure reports including electronic filings.*

Patrons—Van Landingham, Almand, Armstrong, Baskerville, Brink, Christian, Councill, Darner, Deeds, Dillard, Jones, J.C., Keating, Moran, Plum and Puller; Senator: Gartlan

Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 24.2-914.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 24.2-914.1. Standards and requirements for electronic preparation and transmittal of campaign finance disclosure reports; database.

A. By January 1, 1998, the State Board of Elections shall review or cause to be developed and shall approve standards for the preparation, production, and transmittal by computer or electronic means of the reports of contributions and expenditures required by this article (§ 24.2-914 et seq.). The State Board may prescribe the method of execution and certification of electronically filed statements and the procedures for receiving statements in the office of the State Board.

B. Prior to January 1, 1999, the State Board may accept, and on and after January 1, 1999, the State Board shall accept, any report of contributions and expenditures filed by candidates for the General Assembly, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General by computer or electronic means in accordance with the standards approved by the State Board and using software meeting standards approved by it. The State Board may provide software to filers without charge or at a reasonable cost.

C. On and after January 1, 1999, the State Board shall enter or cause to be entered into a campaign finance database, available to the public through the global information system known as the Internet, the information from required reports of contributions and expenditures filed by computer or electronic means by candidates for the General Assembly, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General and may enter or cause to be entered into that database information from required disclosure statements filed by those candidates by other methods. On and after January 1, 2001, the State Board shall enter or cause to be entered into a campaign finance database, available to the public through the global information system known as the Internet, the information from required reports of contributions and expenditures filed by computer, electronic, or other means by candidates for the General Assembly, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General.

D. ~~On and after January 1, 1999,~~ Candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General shall file by computer or electronic means in accordance with the standards approved by the State Board the reports required by this article. ~~On and after January 1, 1999,~~ Candidates for the General Assembly may file [*the reports required by this article*] *with the State Board and local electoral boards* by computer or electronic means in accordance with the standards approved by the State Board [~~the reports required by this article~~ *and subject to the ability of the local electoral board to receive such computer or electronic filings*]. This information shall be made available to the public promptly [*by the State Board*] through the global information system known as the Internet.

E. Other committee reports required by this chapter to be filed with the Board may be filed electronically on terms agreed to by the committee and Board.

ENGROSSED

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