

By: Geren

H.B. No. 1533

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a restriction on the use of certain political contributions from a single source in the month before an election.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 253, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 253.044 to read as follows:

Sec. 253.044. USE OF CERTAIN CONTRIBUTIONS BEFORE ELECTION.

(a) This section applies only to a political contribution accepted by a candidate, a specific-purpose committee supporting or opposing a candidate, or a general-purpose committee that makes contributions or expenditures supporting or opposing a candidate, during the period beginning the 30th day before the date of an election in which the candidate is on the ballot and ending on that election day.

(b) A candidate or committee that, during the period described by Subsection (a), accepts from a single source a political contribution that when aggregated with all political contributions from the same source during that period exceeds \$5,000 may not spend the contribution until:

(1) the candidate or committee reports the contribution to the authority with whom the candidate or committee reports political contributions and expenditures; and

(2) if the candidate or committee files reports of political contributions and expenditures with the commission, the

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1 commission has posted on the commission's website the contribution  
2 reported under Subdivision (1).

3 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.