

Title 2, Chapter 2, Article 3 Campaign Contribution Limits - Redline

2-2.301 Purpose.

It is the intent of the City Council in enacting this article to place realistic and enforceable limits on the amounts persons may contribute to political campaigns in municipal elections. The City Council finds that the provisions of this article are necessary to prevent the actuality or appearance of corruption in the election process.

2-2.302 Definitions.

Unless otherwise defined in this chapter, words and phrases used hereinafter shall have the same meaning as defined in the Political Reform Act of 1974 which is codified in Title 9 of the California Government Code as it now exists or may hereafter be amended.

2-2.303 Campaign contribution limits: Candidates for City Council

For general municipal and runoff elections, no person shall make to any candidate for City Council or the controlled committee of such a candidate, and no such candidate or the candidate's controlled committee shall accept from any such person, a contribution or contributions totaling more than One Thousand Two Hundred dollars (~~\$4000~~1200.00) for the general municipal election and One Thousand Two Hundred dollars (~~\$4000~~1200.00) for the runoff election. The One Thousand Two Hundred dollar (~~\$4000~~1200.00) limit specified above shall be adjusted in June of every odd numbered year commencing in 2019 for changes in the consumer price index for the Los Angeles Area, CPI-U rounded upwards or downwards to the nearest \$50.00. Nothing herein shall be construed to restrict a candidate from contributing his or her own funds or assets to his or her campaign.

2-2.304 Campaign contribution limits: Candidates for City Clerk, City Attorney, City Treasurer, School Board Member and Mayor

For general municipal and runoff elections, no person shall make to any candidate for any of the office of City Clerk, City Attorney, City Treasurer, School Board Member or Mayor or the controlled committee of such a candidate, and no such candidate or the candidate's controlled committee shall accept from any such person, a contribution or contributions totaling more than Two Thousand, Five-Seven Hundred dollars (\$2,~~500~~700.00) for the general municipal election and Two Thousand, Five-Seven Hundred dollars (\$2,~~500~~700.00) for the runoff election. The Two Thousand, Five-Sever Hundred dollar (\$2,~~500~~700.00) limit specified above shall be adjusted in June of every odd numbered year commencing in 2019-2023 for changes in the consumer price index for the Los Angeles Area, CPI-U rounded upwards or downwards to the nearest \$50.00. Nothing herein shall be construed to restrict a candidate from contributing his or her own funds or assets to his or her campaign.

2-2.305 Loans.

(a) A loan shall be considered a contribution from the maker and the guarantor of the loan and shall be subject to the contribution limitations of this chapter.

(b) Every loan to a candidate's controlled committee shall be by written agreement.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a candidate for City Council shall not loan to his or her campaign, funds in excess of Fifteen Thousand and no/100ths (\$15,000.00) Dollars in a general municipal election and Fifteen Thousand and no/100ths (\$15,000.00) Dollars in a runoff election.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a candidate for Mayor shall not loan to his or her campaign, funds in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand and no/100ths (\$25,000.00) Dollars in a general municipal election and Twenty-Five Thousand and no/100ths (\$25,000.00) Dollars in a runoff election.

(e) Nothing herein shall be construed to restrict a candidate from contributing his or her own funds or assets to his or her campaign.

2-2.306 Prohibition on nonelection cycle contributions

No candidate or the controlled committee of such a person shall accept any contribution except during the election cycle in which the candidate or officeholder intends to run for or be a write-in candidate for the office for which the contribution is made. Election cycle means that period commencing with January 1 of the even numbered year immediately preceding the general municipal election for that office and ending ~~six-three~~ (63) months after the general municipal election. For a special election, the election cycle commences with the declaration of a vacancy in an elective office and ends ~~six-three~~ (63) months after the special election date.

2-2.307 Return of contributions.

A contribution will not be considered to be received or accepted if it is not negotiated or deposited, and in addition it is returned to the donor within fourteen (14) days of receipt.

2-2.308 Family contributions.

Contributions from spouses shall be treated as contributions by separate persons and shall not be aggregated. Contributions by children under the age of eighteen (18) years of age shall be treated as contributions by their parents (or legal guardians) and attributed one-half (1/2) to each parent (or legal guardian) or the total amount to a single parent (or legal guardian).

2-2.309 Violations; Misdemeanor

Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Each separate offense shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding Two Thousand and no/100ths (\$2,000.00) Dollars or imprisonment not exceeding six (6) months, or both.