



STAFF REPORT ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION

To: Mayor Gavin Buckley
From: David Jarrell, City Manager
Date: May 7, 2021
Subject: O-15-21: Elections – Independent Expenditure Report

This ordinance will modify Section 4.44.080, Election reports required, with stylistic changes, and also addresses what is required for a candidate report to be considered as “Final”.

The requirement for Independent Expenditure Reports, in accordance with the provisions of Title 13 of the Election Law Article of the Maryland Annotated Code, is also addressed.

Section 4.44.085, Independent Expenditure Report, is added to address this new requirement. Definitions are provided for words and terms that are applicable to candidate expenditures (e.g., campaign material, donation, e-mail blast, mass mailing, online platform, public communication, telephone bank, and text blast). The requirement for reporting expenditures greater than \$5,000 and \$10,000 is provided, along with the required content of the expenditure reports. The penalties for failure to file an expenditure report are provided, along with the effect of a failure to pay a late filing fee. Recordkeeping requirements for independent expenditure reporting are also provided.

Prepared by David Jarrell, City Manager