Senate Candidate

Overview of Maine Clean Election Act

2016 Election Cycle

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Effective Date of New Law: Dec. 23, 2015
- Qualifying Period: Jan. 1, 2016 - April 20, 2016
- Last Date for Submitting Additional Qualifying Contributions: Oct. 18, 2016

IMPORTANT FACTS:

- Seed Money Rules: Senate candidates may accept up to $100 from any individual up to $3,000.

- Size of Qualifying Contributions: $5 per person; $10 per couple

- Qualifying Contributions needed to Qualify for Public Funding: Senate candidates need 175 Qualifying Contributions.

- Baseline Allocation of Funding for Qualified Senate Candidates: $20,000 (General Election)

- Amount of General Election Supplemental Funding Potentially Available for Senate Candidates: $40,000 (there is no supplemental funding for primaries)

- Number of Additional Qualifying Contributions Needed to Obtain Maximum Supplemental Funding: Senate candidates need to obtain 360 Additional Qualifying Contributions.

- Timing of supplemental funds distribution: 3 days after submitting Additional Qualifying Contributions.

Basic Distribution Amounts:

- Uncontested Primary Distribution Amount: Senate: $2,000
- Contested Primary Distribution Amount: Senate: $10,000
- Contested General Distribution Amount: Senate: $20,000

Supplemental Distributions (Senate):

- 45 additional Qualifying Contributions = $5,000
- Maximum Supplemental Distribution = $40,000 (eight separate distributions of $5,000, requiring a total of 360 Additional Qualifying Contributions)

As you make your decision about which type of funding to use, remember that to remain eligible for Clean Elections you may accept contributions only from individuals, not accept any contributions over $100, and not raise more than $3000 (the seed money cap).