

SF1996 - 0 - Campaign Finance Requirements Modified

Chief Author: **John Marty**
 Committee: **Elections**
 Date Completed: **3/8/2025 3:29:49 PM**
 Agency: **Campaign Finance Board**

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures	X	
Fee/Departmental Earnings		X
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology	X	
Local Fiscal Impact		X

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative.
 Reductions shown in the parentheses.

State Cost (Savings)		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
General Fund		-	-	-	-	-
	Total	-	-	-	-	-
	Biennial Total			-		-

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)	Biennium			Biennium	
	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
General Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

LBO Analyst's Comment

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

LBO Signature: Steve McDaniel **Date:** 3/8/2025 3:29:49 PM
Phone: 651-284-6437 **Email:** steve.mcdaniel@lbo.mn.gov

State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions are shown in parentheses.

*Transfers In/Out and Absorbed Costs are only displayed when reported.

State Cost (Savings) = 1-2		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
General Fund		-	-	-	-	-
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-
1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*						
General Fund						
Expenditures		-	9	-	-	-
Absorbed Costs		-	(9)	-	-	-
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-
2 - Revenues, Transfers In*						
General Fund						
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-

Bill Description

Sections 1,2,4,5 and 6 of the bill modify definitions and standards used to distinguish independent expenditures from coordinated disbursements. These sections change the standards used for enforcement of certain sections of Chapter 10A, but do not create new standards or responsibilities for the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board (the Board).

Section 3 of the bill standardizes the deadline for filing an economic interest statement with the Board when a candidate files for office.

Section 7 creates a new reporting responsibility for candidates that do not sign the public subsidy agreement. A candidate that did not sign the public subsidy agreement must report each personal contribution or loan from the candidate to their own committee that exceeds the contribution limit in section 10A.27, subd. 10. The report to the Board must occur by the end of the next business day following the date the contribution or loan was made.

Sections 8 and 9 modify the provisions related to electioneering communications. Section 8 changes the start of the electioneering communication period from 60 days before the general election and 30 days before the primary election for the office sought by the candidate to the start of the absentee ballot period before the primary election through the date of the general election for the office sought by the candidate. This changes the date range for electioneering communications but does not create a new reporting requirement for the Board to administer. Section 9 clarifies that electioneering communications need the disclaimer provided in Chapter 211B.

Sections 10 and 11 modify provisions of Chapter 211A. Chapter 211A is outside of the Board's jurisdiction.

Section 12 clarifies the requirement for a campaign disclaimer on a candidate or political committee website or social media page, and on audio or video media placed on a candidate or political committee website.

Section 13 clarifies the requirement for placing an independent expenditure disclaimer on audio or video media.

Section 14 creates a new disclaimer in Chapter 211B to be used on electioneering communications.

Section 15 clarifies when an electronic communication does not need the full campaign disclaimer, and provides an alternative method for providing the disclaimer if it is technologically infeasible to provide the disclaimer on the communication.

Section 16 establishes a new font size requirement for outdoor signs.

Section 17 repeals a subpart of Minnesota Rules part 4503.2000 that contradicts section 15 of the bill.

Assumptions

All costs are one-time events, and will occur in fiscal year 2026.

This note assumes that Board staff will need to update handbooks, reference materials, and training materials to reflect the statutory changes and new requirements provided in the bill. An estimate of staff time needed to accomplish the updates is provided in the However, updating Board materials to reflect statutory changes occurs after every legislative session, and is a specified task in the job description for legal analysts. No additional staff will be needed to update the materials; approximate staff time needed is detailed in the expenditure section, but the cost will be absorbed by the Board.

The new reporting requirement for candidates in section 7 will require modification to the online Campaign Finance Reporting application (CFRO). This Board has IT staff who developed and maintain CFRO, this note assumes that a vendor will not be needed to modify CFRO for the new reporting requirement, and that staff will also develop the Board's website to display the new statements when filed. The staff time needed for the reporting requirement is provided in expenditure section. Because additional staff will not be hired to complete the changes to CFRO the Board will absorb the costs.

Expenditure and/or Revenue Formula

Staff Member and Task	Hours Spent on Updating Training Material and Publications	Hourly Rate		Total Staff Cost
Legal Management Analysis - Writing	120	\$ 36.71		\$ 4,405.20
			Total Staff Cost	\$ 4,405.20
Staff Members and Tasks	Hours Spent Creating New CFRO Reporting Feature			Total Staff Cost
Information Technology 4 - Programing CFRO	40	\$ 59.61		\$ 2,384.40
Information Technology 3 - Develop Website Display	30	\$ 36.64		\$ 1,099.20
Legal Management Analysis - Testing changes to CFRO	40	\$ 36.71		\$ 1,468.40
			Total Staff Cost	\$ 4,952.00
			Total Staff Cost SF1996	\$ 9,357.20

Long-Term Fiscal Considerations

Local Fiscal Impact

References/Sources

Agency Contact: Jeff Sigurdson (651-539-1189)

Agency Fiscal Note Coordinator Signature: Jeff Sigurdson

Phone: 651-539-1189

Date: 3/7/2025 2:19:30 PM

Email: jeff.sigurdson@state.mn.us