

S.F. No. 828 – Working Group on Local Candidate Campaign Finance Reporting (1st Engrossment)

Author: Senator Liz Boldon

Prepared by: Alexis C. Stangl, Director (alexis.stangl@mnsenate.gov)

Date: February 24, 2025

Section 1 [Working group on local candidate campaign finance reporting] establishes the working group on local candidate campaign finance reporting.

Subdivision 1 [Definitions] establishes definitions for the section.

Subdivision 2 [Establishment] requires the working group to examine whether local candidate campaign finance reports should be filed with the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board (Board) instead of with a local filing officer.

Subdivision 3 [Membership] provides that the working group is made up of members of the Board, members appointed by various local government associations, and legislators.

Subdivision 4 [Chairs; meetings] requires the executive director of the Board to convene the first meeting of the working group no later than 4 weeks after the effective date of the act. At the first meeting, the members must elect a chair from amongst the members. The working group is subject to the Open Meeting Law.

Subdivision 5 [Administrative support] requires the Legislative Coordinating Commission to provide administrative support and meeting space for the working group.

Subdivision 6 [Duties] establishes the duties of the working group. At a minimum, the working group must:

- 1) examine and make recommendations on whether local candidate campaign finance reports should be filed with the Board instead of local filing officers;
- 2) assess the extent to which local filing officers are able to provide support to local candidates and the public related to campaign finance reports;
- 3) review local candidate reporting requirements and changes that should be made if reports were to be filed with the Board;
- 4) study the potential budgetary and staffing impact of the potential increase of reports being made to the Board and the ability of the Board to support local candidates in filing reports;
- 5) study local campaign finance reporting requirements and make any recommendations to changes on the laws; and

6) propose draft legislation to implement any of the working group's recommendations.

Subdivision 7 [Report] requires the working group to submit a report to the legislature by January 15, 2026.

Subdivision 8 [Expiration] provides that the working group expires upon submission of its report to the legislature or January 16, 2026, whichever is later.

Section 2 [Appropriation] includes a blank appropriation to the Legislative Coordinating Commission for the working group established in section 1. The appropriation does not cancel but is available until June 30, 2026.

Section 3 [Effective Date] provides an immediate effective date for this act.