

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-0696
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7491

BILL NUMBER: SB 473

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 16, 2009

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Campaign Finance Disclosures.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Miller

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 1st House

FUNDS AFFECTED: GENERAL
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill provides that certain communications relating to the approval or defeat of a clearly identified public question must contain disclosures similar to disclosures required for communications relating to the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate. The bill provides that the disclosures are not required for communications by an individual or association of individuals who act independently of candidates and committees and who spend no more than \$500 from the individual's or association's own resources.

Effective Date: July 1, 2009.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues: *Summary-* The bill would require more persons to disclose the funding source of a campaign communication. (Currently, a person does not have to make a disclosure on a communication for or against a public question.)

Penalty Provision: Under current law, a person not providing a campaign disclosure commits a Class A misdemeanor. If additional court cases occur and fines are collected, revenue to both the Common School Fund (from fines) and the state General Fund (from court fees) would increase. The maximum fine for a Class A misdemeanor is \$5,000. However, any additional revenue would likely be small.

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Penalty Provision:* A Class A misdemeanor is punishable by up to one year in jail.

Explanation of Local Revenues: *Penalty Provision:* If additional court actions occur and a guilty verdict is entered, local governments would receive revenue from court fees. However, any change in revenue would likely be small.

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Chris Baker, 317-232-9851.