

HOUSE BILL NO. 5520

February 22, 2024, Introduced by Reps. Wegela, Tsernoglou, McFall, Arbit, Morgan, Dievendorf, Byrnes, Rheingans, Hood, Martus, Paiz, Edwards, McKinney, Brabec and Aiyash and referred to the Committee on Government Operations.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 388, entitled
"Michigan campaign finance act,"
(MCL 169.201 to 169.282) by adding section 30a.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 **Sec. 30a. (1) A committee, 501(c)(4) organization, 527**
2 **organization, or separate segregated fund connected to an electric**
3 **utility or natural gas utility shall not make a donation or**
4 **contribution to any of the following:**
5 **(a) A 501(c)(4) organization or a 527 organization that is**

1 controlled or directed by any of the following:

2 (i) A candidate for state elective office.

3 (ii) An elected state official.

4 (iii) A former elected state official.

5 (iv) An appointed state official.

6 (v) A state or local party committee.

7 (vi) A 501(c)(4) organization or 527 organization in which a
8 state or local candidate, appointed official, or elected official
9 controls or sits on the board of that organization.

10 (b) A 501(c)(4) organization or a 527 organization in which a
11 candidate for state elective office, appointed state official,
12 elected state official, former elected state official, or affiliate
13 is employed by or sits on the board of that organization.

14 (c) A candidate committee.

15 (d) A political party committee.

16 (e) A political committee.

17 (f) An independent committee.

18 (g) A separate segregated fund.

19 (2) An electric utility or natural gas utility that violates
20 this section is subject to a civil fine of not more than 10 times
21 the amount of the contribution. The attorney general may bring an
22 action to collect the fine.

23 (3) As used in this section:

24 (a) "Affiliate" means any family member, employee, contract
25 employee, or staff member of any of the following:

26 (i) An elected state official.

27 (ii) A candidate for state elective office.

28 (iii) A former elected state official.

29 (iv) An appointed state official.

1 (b) "Connected to an electric utility or natural gas utility"
2 means the committee, 501(c)(4) organization, 527 organization, or
3 separate segregated fund was organized by any officer, employee,
4 contract employee, or staff member or any family member of an
5 officer, employee, contract employee, or staff member of the
6 electric utility or natural gas utility.

7 (c) "Elected state official" means an individual who holds a
8 state elective office in this state.

9 (d) "Family member" means any of the following:

10 (i) A spouse or ex-spouse.

11 (ii) A child, stepchild, grandchild, parent, sibling, niece, or
12 nephew.

13 (iii) The spouse of a child, stepchild, grandchild, parent,
14 sibling, niece, or nephew.

15 (e) "501(c)(4) organization" means an organization that claims
16 tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(4) of the internal revenue
17 code of 1986, 26 USC 501.

18 (f) "527 organization" means an organization that claims tax-
19 exempt status under section 527 of the internal revenue code of
20 1986, 26 USC 527.

21 (g) "Former elected state official" means an individual who no
22 longer holds state elective office but held state elective office
23 during the previous 2 years.