

BILL/ RESOLUTION REQUEST

- 1. Title:** Approves a request for an ordinance amending Article III of Chapter 15 of the Revised Municipal Code concerning campaign finances to clean up several inconsistencies and to clarify the authority of the Clerk and Recorder to perform responsibilities assigned under Charter.
- 2. Requesting Agency:** Clerk and Recorder
- 3. Contact Person *with actual knowledge of proposed ordinance***
 - Name:**Vicky Ortega
 - Phone:**720-913-3257
 - Email:**Victoria.Ortega@denvergov.org
- 4. Contact Person *with actual knowledge of proposed ordinance who will present the item at Mayor Council and who will be available for first and second reading, if necessary***
 - Name:**Stephanie Y. O'Malley
 - Phone:**720-913-8645
 - Email:**Stephanie.O'Malley@denvergov.org
- 5. Describe the proposed ordinance, including what the proposed ordinance is intended to accomplish, who's involved**
 - a. Scope of Work**
 - 1.Modifies several sections of Chapter 15, Article III to make all minimum spending and reporting thresholds to make all references consistent (e.g. "500 dollars or more," rather than "in excess of 500 dollars.")
 - 2.Adds specific references to ballot issue political committees to sections of Article III where it is now only inferred.
 - 3.Defines the term "election cycle" for issue committees as a calendar year.
 - 4.Adds a definition of "issue committee" to Section 15-32.
 - 5.Clarifies unclear wording in 15-32(11) that has been construed to say that the definition of political committee does not include a committee, club, association or other group that collects campaign contributions and passes them along without depositing them first in its own treasury.
 - 6.Changes several references to "city clerk" to "clerk and recorder."
 - 7.Clarifies the due dates of campaign finance reports prior to a special election. In particular the wording of the due date for the pre-election report has been unclear, and this bill makes this deadline consistent with current practice. Changes two other due dates in order to conform to this clarification.
 - 8.Adds language to say that campaign finance reports are not due on furlough days, and gives the Clerk and Recorder discretion to enact a rule with regard to due dates that fall on days when the city closes due to inclement weather or other unusual circumstance.
 - 9.Clarifies 15-39(3) to make it clear that the Clerk and Recorder has the authority to take action if she determines that a violation of the campaign finance ordinance has been

determined. Gives the violator two days to clear up the violation before any action may be taken. Specifies that the Clerk and Recorder has rulemaking authority with regard to campaign finance reporting.

b. Duration

N/A

c. Location

N/A

d. Affected Council District

N/A

e. Benefits

Allows the Clerk and Recorder to perform Charter responsibilities with more clarity and less need for interpretation.

f. Costs

None.

6. Is there any controversy surrounding this ordinance, groups or individuals who may have concerns about it? Please explain.

No.

Bill Request Number: BR10-0853

Date: 9/24/2010