

regular national rate regularly charged by such person or corporation for commercial advertising may be charged.

(c) Violation of this section is a misdemeanor and any person so convicted is subject to the penalties provided in § 26-20 of this [subtitle] ARTICLE.

31-2.

(a) In this subtitle the following have the meanings indicated unless otherwise provided:

(b) "Candidate" means a candidate for a State or county office who is regulated by the expenditure limits in § 31-3.

[(d)] (C) "Comptroller" means the State Comptroller of the treasury.

[(e)] (D) "County" includes Baltimore City.

[(f)] (E) "Fund" means the "Fair Campaign Financing Fund" provided in § 31-4.

[(g)] "Fair campaign financing contribution" means the moneys created, collected, administered, and invested pursuant to §§ 465 to 467 of Article 81 of the Code.]

[(h)] (F) "Major party" means a political party whose candidate, for the same office in the immediate previous election to that for which public financing is currently sought, received 25 percent or more of the total popular votes received by all candidates in the general election for that office.

[(i)] (G) "Maximum public contribution" for any candidate is an amount equal to 75 percent of the candidate's campaign expenditure limit in the general election, as provided in § 31-3.

[(j)] (H) "Minor party" means a political party whose candidate for the same office in the immediate previous election to that for which public financing is currently sought, received less than 25 percent of the total popular votes received by all candidates in the general election for that office, or has filed a valid petition for the formation of a new political party pursuant to § 4B-1 of this article.

[(k)] (I) "Public contribution" means a sum disbursed from the Fair Campaign Financing Fund to a candidate for elective office according to the provisions of this subtitle.

[(l)] (J) "Seed money" means a sum of lawfully raised private campaign contributions from individual persons that is the greater of either \$250 or 15 percent of the maximum campaign expenditure limit provided under § 31-3 for a primary election for the same office.