

(9) A society for the prevention of cruelty to animals.]

[(b) A charitable organization claiming to be exempt from the registration provisions of this subtitle and which is about to or does solicit charitable contributions shall initially submit to the Secretary of State on forms prescribed by him, the name, address, and purpose of the organization and a statement setting forth the reason for the claim for exemption. However, if a charitable organization has local elements in this State the charitable organization may submit, on behalf of its local elements, the name, address and purpose of the organization and its local elements and a statement setting forth the reason for the claim for the exemption. If exempted, the Secretary of State shall initially issue a letter of exemption which may be exhibited to the public. A registration fee is not required of an exempt organization.]

(c) Thereafter, a charitable organization shall certify to the Secretary of State, upon the initiative of the Secretary, a brief certification which shall state that the status of the charitable organization is unchanged.

(d) A charitable organization claiming to be exempt from the registration provisions of this subtitle, shall report to the Secretary of State any change from its exempt status by certified mail, return receipt requested, bearing a postmark from the United States Postal Service, within 10 days of the occurrence. Within 30 days after the change in status the organization shall file the registration statement in accordance with § 103B.]

103D.

[(a) A charitable organization other than a charitable salvage organization may not pay or agree to pay as expenses in connection with any fund-raising activity a total amount in excess of 25 percent of the total gross income raised or received by reason of the fund-raising activity. The Secretary of State shall, by rule or regulation in accordance with the "standard of accounting and fiscal reporting for voluntary health and welfare organizations" provide for the reporting of actual cost, and of allocation of expenses, of a charitable organization into those which are in connection with a fund-raising activity and those which are not. The Secretary of State shall issue rules and regulations to permit a charitable organization to pay or agree to pay for expenses in connection with a fund-raising activity more than 25% of its total gross income in those instances where the 25% limitation would effectively prevent the charitable organization from raising contributions.]

The 25% limitation in this subsection shall not apply to compensation or expenses paid by a charitable organization to a fund-raising counsel for conducting feasibility studies for the