

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 33 - Election Code

31-3.

(a) A candidate who applies for and accepts a public contribution from the Fair Campaign Financing Fund may not expend, in the applicable election, an amount in excess of the product of 20 cents multiplied by the population of the State.

(b) For purposes of this section, the population of the State shall be determined on January 1 of the year in which the election is to be held in accordance with the most recent decennial United States census, or a more recent population estimate prepared for the State by the State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene if this is available.

(c) The candidate, and any chairman or treasurer associated with the expenditure, are jointly and severally liable civilly and criminally for any expenditure made in violation of this section.

(d) Provisions in this section shall not be applicable to any election held prior to January 1, [1990] 1991.

31-4.

(a) (1) There is established the "Fair Campaign Financing Fund" which shall be administered by the Comptroller in accordance with the provisions of §§ 31-11 and 31-12 of this article.

(2) The Comptroller shall credit to the Fund all money collected pursuant to these provisions.

(3) No disbursements may be made from the Fund prior to January 1, [1990] 1991.

31-10.

(a) The provisions of §§ 31-1 through 31-9 of this article known as the Fair Campaign Financing Act and providing for a system of fair campaign financing are of no effect and may not be implemented or enforced after July 1, [1991] 1995.

(b) Any money remaining in the Fund after disbursements to candidates, as provided by law and regulations, shall be used to offset the expenses of the disbursement and any remaining after that shall be transferred to the State Administrative Board of Election Laws to be used for voter education purposes.