

# HOUSE BILL 1503

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By: **Delegate Roberts**

Introduced and read first time: February 19, 2024

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

Re-referred to: Ways and Means, February 29, 2024

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 5, 2024

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Campaign Finance Activities – State Treasurer**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the State Treasurer and a person acting on behalf of the  
4 State Treasurer from participating in certain campaign finance activities during a  
5 regular session of the General Assembly; and generally relating to the campaign  
6 finance activities of the State Treasurer.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article – Election Law  
9 Section 13–235(a)  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
13 Article – Election Law  
14 Section 13–235(b), (c), (e), and (f)  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Election Law**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 13–235.

2 (a) This section applies to the following officials:

3 (1) the Governor;

4 (2) the Lieutenant Governor;

5 (3) the Attorney General;

6 (4) the Comptroller; [and]

7 **(5) THE STATE TREASURER; AND**

8 **[(5)] (6)** a member of the General Assembly.

9 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c), (d), or (e) of this section, during a regular  
10 session of the General Assembly an official described in subsection (a) of this section, or a  
11 person acting on behalf of the official, may not, as to a candidate for federal, State, or local  
12 office, or a campaign finance entity of the candidate or any other campaign finance entity  
13 organized under this title and operated in coordination with a candidate:

14 (1) receive a contribution;

15 (2) conduct a fund–raising event;

16 (3) solicit a contribution; or

17 (4) deposit or use any contribution of money that was not deposited prior  
18 to the session.

19 (c) An official described in subsection (a) of this section, or a person acting on  
20 behalf of the official, is not subject to this section when engaged in activities solely related  
21 to the official’s election to an elective federal or local office for which the official is a filed  
22 candidate.

23 (e) An official described in subsection (a) of this section, or a person acting on  
24 behalf of the official, may deposit a contribution during the legislative session if the  
25 contribution was made electronically before the start of the session.

26 (f) (1) As to a violation of this section, the campaign finance entity of the  
27 official in violation is liable for a civil penalty as provided in § 13–604.1 of this title.

28 (2) A civil penalty imposed under this subsection shall be distributed to the  
29 Fair Campaign Financing Fund established under § 15–103 of this article.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2 October 1, 2024.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.