Sponsored by:
Senator SAMUEL D. THOMPSON
District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)

SYNOPSIS
Limits to $5,000 per election amount contributed to and by county committee of a political party.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT
Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.
AN ACT limiting campaign contributions by and to county political
party committees and amending P.L.1993, c.65.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
of New Jersey:

1. Section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2) is amended to
read as follows:
22. a. Not later than December 1 of each year preceding any
year in which a general election is to be held to fill the office of
Governor for a four-year term, the Election Law Enforcement
Commission shall adjust the amounts, set forth in subsection b. of
this section, which shall be applicable under P.L.1973, c.83
(C.19:44A-1 et al.) to primary and general elections for any public
office other than the office of Governor, to limitations on
contributions to and from political committees, continuing political
committees, candidate committees, joint candidates committees,
political party committees and legislative leadership committees
and to other amounts, at a percentage which shall be the same as the
percentage of change that the commission applies to the amounts
used for the primary and general elections for the office of
Governor held in the third year preceding the year in which that
December 1 occurs, pursuant to section 19 of P.L.1980, c.74
(C.19:44A-7.1), and any amount so adjusted shall be rounded in the
same manner as provided in that section.

b. The amounts subject to adjustment as provided under this
section shall be:
(1) the minimum amount raised or expended by any two or more
persons acting jointly who qualify as a political committee and the
minimum amount contributed or expected to be contributed in any
calendar year by any group of two or more persons acting jointly
who qualify as a continuing political committee as defined in
section 3 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-3);
(2) the minimum amount of a contribution to a political
committee, continuing political committee, legislative leadership
committee or political party committee which triggers an obligation
to report that contribution to the commission pursuant to section 8
of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-8), and the minimum amount of a
contribution to a candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates
committee which triggers an obligation to report that contribution to
the commission pursuant to section 16 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-
16);
(3) the minimum amount of a contribution to a political
committee, continuing political committee, legislative leadership
committee or a political party committee received during the period

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.
between the 13th day prior to the election and the date of the
election, the minimum amount of an expenditure by a political
committee during that period, and the minimum amount of an
expenditure by a continuing political committee during the period
beginning after March 31 and ending on the date of the primary
election and the period beginning after September 30 and ending on
the date of the general election which triggers an obligation to
report that contribution to the commission pursuant to section 8 of
P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-8), and the minimum amount of a
contribution to a candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates
committee received during the period between the 13th day prior to
the election and the date of the election which triggers an obligation
to report that contribution to the commission pursuant to section 16
of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-16);

(4) the maximum amount which may be expended by the
campaign organizations of two or more candidates forming a joint
candidates committee without being required to file contribution
reports, pursuant to section 8 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-8);

(5) the maximum amount that a person, not acting in concert
with any other person or group, may spend to support or defeat a
candidate or to aid the passage or defeat of a public question
without being required to report all such expenditures and expenses
to the commission pursuant to section 11 of P.L.1973, c.83
(C.19:44A-11) and the maximum amount that a person, not acting
in concert with any other person or group, may raise through a
public solicitation and expend to finance any lawful activity in
support of or in opposition to any candidate or public question or to
seek to influence the content, introduction, passage or defeat of
legislation pursuant to section 19 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-19);

(6) the maximum amount that may be expended, in the
aggregate, on behalf of a candidate without requiring that candidate
to file contribution reports with the commission and the maximum
amount that may be expended, in the aggregate, on behalf of a
candidate seeking election to a public office of a school district,
without requiring that candidate to file contribution reports with the
commission pursuant to section 16 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-
16);

(7) the maximum amount of penalty which may be imposed by
the commission on any person who fails to comply with the
regulatory provisions of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et al.) for a
first offense or a second and subsequent offenses, pursuant to
section 22 of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-22);

(8) the maximum amount of penalty which may be imposed by
the commission on any corporation or labor organization which
provides any of its employees any additional increment of salary for
the express purpose of making a contribution to a candidate,
candidate committee, joint candidates committee, political party
committee, legislative leadership committee, political committee or
continuing political committee for a first or a second and
subsequent offenses, pursuant to section 15 of P.L.1993, c.65
(C.19:44A-20.1);
(9) the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made
by an individual, a corporation or labor organization to a candidate,
candidate committee or joint candidates committee, the maximum
amount of contributions permitted to be made by a political
committee or a continuing political committee to a candidate,
candidate committee or joint candidates committee other than the
committee of a candidate for nomination or election to the office of
Governor and the maximum amount of contributions permitted to
be made by one candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates
committee, other than the committee of a candidate for nomination
or election to the office of Governor, to another candidate,
candidate committee or joint candidates committee other than the
committee of a candidate for nomination or election to the office of
Governor pursuant to section 18 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-11.3);
(10) the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made
by an individual, corporation, labor organization, political
committee, continuing political committee, candidate committee or
joint candidates committee or any other group to any political party
committee or any legislative leadership committee pursuant to
section 19 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-11.4);
(11) the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made
by a candidate, candidate committee or joint candidates committee
to a political committee or a continuing political committee and the
maximum amount of contributions permitted to be made by one
political committee or continuing political committee to another
political committee or continuing political committee pursuant to
section 20 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-11.5);
(12) the amount of filing fees which may be collected from a
candidate committee, a joint candidates committee, a continuing
political committee, a political party committee, a legislative
leadership committee, or any other person pursuant to section 6 of
P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-6) (as that section shall have been
amended by P.L.1983, c.579);
(13) the maximum amount of contributions permitted to be
made by a county committee of a political party to a candidate,
candidate committee, joint candidates committee, political
committee, continuing political committee, legislative leadership
committee, the State committee of a political party, another county
committee of a political party or a municipal committee of a
political party, pursuant to section 18 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-
11.3).
c. Not later than December 15 of each year preceding any year
in which a general election is to be held to fill the office of
Governor for a four-year term, the commission shall report to the
Legislature and make public its adjustment of limits in accordance
with the provisions of this section. Whenever, following the
transmittal of that report, the commission shall have notice that a
person has declared as a candidate for nomination for election or for
election to any public office in a forthcoming primary or general
election, it shall promptly notify that candidate of the amounts of
those adjusted limits.
(cf: P.L.1993, c.65, s.22)

2. Section 18 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-11.3) is amended to
read as follows:

18. a. No individual, other than an individual who is a
candidate, no corporation of any kind organized and incorporated
under the laws of this State or any other state or any country other
than the United States, no labor organization of any kind which
exists or is constituted for the purpose, in whole or in part, of
collective bargaining, or of dealing with employers concerning the
grievances, terms or conditions of employment, or of other mutual
aid or protection in connection with employment, or any group
shall: (1) pay or make any contribution of money or other thing of
value to a candidate who has established only a candidate
committee, his campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer or
candidate committee which in the aggregate exceeds $1,500 per
election, or (2) pay or make any contribution of money or other
thing of value to candidates who have established only a joint
candidates committee, their campaign treasurer, deputy campaign
treasurer, or joint candidates committee, which in the aggregate
exceeds $1,500 per election per candidate, or (3) pay or make any
contribution of money or other thing of value to a candidate who
has established both a candidate committee and a joint candidates
committee, the campaign treasurers, deputy campaign treasurers, or
candidate committee or joint candidates committee, which in the
aggregate exceeds $1,500 per election. No candidate who has
established only a candidate committee, his campaign treasurer,
deputy campaign treasurer or candidate committee shall knowingly
accept from an individual, other than an individual who is a
candidate, a corporation of any kind organized and incorporated
under the laws of this State or any other state or any country other
than the United States, a labor organization of any kind which exists
or is constituted for the purpose, in whole or in part, of collective
bargaining, or of dealing with employers concerning the grievances,
terms or conditions of employment, or of other mutual aid or
protection in connection with employment, or any group any
contribution of money or other thing of value which in the
aggregate exceeds $1,500 per election, and no candidates who have
established only a joint candidates committee, or their campaign
treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer, or joint candidates committee,
shall knowingly accept from any such source any contribution of
money or other thing of value which in the aggregate exceeds
$1,500 per election per candidate, and no candidate who has established both a candidate committee and a joint candidates committee, the campaign treasurers, deputy campaign treasurers, or candidate committee or joint candidates committee shall knowingly accept from any such source any contribution of money or other thing of value which in the aggregate exceeds $1,500 per election.

b. (1) No political committee or continuing political committee shall: (a) pay or make any contribution of money or other thing of value to a candidate who has established only a candidate committee, his campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer or candidate committee, other than a candidate for nomination for election or for election for the office of Governor, which in the aggregate exceeds $5,000 per election, or (b) pay or make any contribution of money or other thing of value to candidates who have established only a joint candidates committee, their campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer, or the joint candidates committee, which in the aggregate exceeds $5,000 per election per candidate, or (c) pay or make any contribution of money or other thing of value to a candidate who has established both a candidate committee and a joint candidates committee, the campaign treasurers, deputy campaign treasurers, or candidate committee or joint candidates committee, which in the aggregate exceeds $5,000 per election. No candidate who has established only a candidate committee, his campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer or candidate committee, other than a candidate for nomination for election or for election for the office of Governor, shall knowingly accept from any political committee or continuing political committee any contribution of money or other thing of value which in the aggregate exceeds $5,000 per election, and no candidates who have established only a joint candidates committee, their campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer, or joint candidates committee, shall knowingly accept from any such source any contribution of money or other thing of value which in the aggregate exceeds $5,000 per election per candidate, and no candidate who has established both a candidate committee and a joint candidates committee, the campaign treasurers, deputy campaign treasurers, or candidate committee or joint candidates committee shall knowingly accept from any such source any contribution of money or other thing of value which in the aggregate exceeds $5,000 per election.

(2) The limitation upon the knowing acceptance by a candidate, campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer, candidate committee or joint candidates committee of any contribution of money or other thing of value from a political committee or continuing political committee under the provisions of paragraph (1) of this subsection shall also be applicable to the knowing acceptance of any such contribution from the county committee of a political party by a candidate or the campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer, candidate committee or joint
candidates committee of a candidate for any elective public office in another county or, in the case of a candidate for nomination for election or for election to the office of member of the Legislature, in a legislative district in which, according to the federal decennial census upon the basis of which legislative districts shall have been established, less than 20% of the population resides within the county of that county committee. In addition, all contributor reporting requirements and other restrictions and regulations applicable to a contribution of money or other thing of value by a political committee or continuing political committee under the provisions of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et al.) shall likewise be applicable to the making or payment of such a contribution by such a county committee.

The limitation upon the knowing acceptance by a candidate, campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer, candidate committee or joint candidates committee of any contribution of money or other thing of value from a political committee or continuing political committee under the provisions of paragraph (1) of this subsection, except that the amount of any contribution of money or other thing of value shall be in an amount which in the aggregate does not exceed $25,000, shall also be applicable to the knowing acceptance of any such contribution from the county committee of a political party by a candidate, or the campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer, candidate committee or joint candidates committee of a candidate, for nomination for election or for election to the office of member of the Legislature in a legislative district in which, according to the federal decennial census upon the basis of which legislative districts shall have been established, at least 20% but less than 40% of the population resides within the county of that county committee. In addition, all contributor reporting requirements and other restrictions and regulations applicable to a contribution of money or other thing of value by a political committee or continuing political committee under the provisions of P.L.1973, c.83 (C.19:44A-1 et al.) shall likewise be applicable to the making or payment of such a contribution by such a county committee.

No county committee of a political party shall pay or make any contribution of money or other thing of value to a candidate, candidate committee, joint candidates committee, political committee, continuing political committee, legislative leadership committee, State committee of a political party, municipal committee of a political party or to another county committee, which in the aggregate exceeds $5,000 per election, or in the case of a joint candidates committee when that is the only committee established by the candidates, $5,000 per election per candidate in the joint candidates committee, or in the case of a candidate committee and a joint candidates committee when both are established by a candidate, $5,000 per election to that candidate.
No county committee of a political party shall knowingly accept
from another county committee of a political party, a municipal
committee of a political party, political committee, continuing
political committee, State committee of a political party, legislative
leadership committee, candidate, candidate committee or joint
candidates committee shall knowingly accept from a county
committee of a political party any contribution or money or other
thing of value, which in the aggregate exceeds $5,000 per election,
or in the case of a joint candidates committee when that is the only
committee established by the candidates, $5,000 per election per
candidate in the joint candidates committee, or in the case of a
candidate committee and a joint candidates committee when both
are established by a candidate, $5,000 per election from that county
committee.

With respect to the limitations in this paragraph, the Legislature
finds and declares that:
(a) Persons or organizations making contributions to the county
committee of a political party have a right to expect that their
money will be used, for the most part, to support candidates for
elective office who will most directly represent the interest of that
county;
(b) The practice of allowing a county committee to use funds
raised with this expectation to make unlimited contributions to
candidates for [the Legislature] public office or to other
committees who may have a limited, or even nonexistent,
connection with or interest in that county serves to undermine
public confidence in the integrity of the electoral process;
(c) Furthermore, the risk of actual or perceived corruption is
raised by the potential for contributors to circumvent limits on
contributions to candidates by [funnelling] funneling money to
candidates through county committees;
(d) The State has a compelling interest in preventing the
actuality or appearance of corruption and in protecting public
confidence in democratic institutions by limiting the amounts which
a county committee may contribute to [legislative] candidates
[whose districts are not located in close proximity to that county]
for public office or other committees; and
(e) It is, therefore, reasonable for the State to promote this
compelling interest by limiting the amount a county committee may
give to a [legislative] candidate [based upon the degree to which
the population of the legislative district overlaps with the
population of that county] for public office or other committees.
c. (1) No candidate who has established only a candidate
committee, his campaign treasurer, deputy treasurer or candidate
committee shall (a) pay or make any contribution of money or other
thing of value to another candidate who has established only a
candidate committee, his campaign treasurer, deputy campaign
treasurer or candidate committee, other than a candidate for
nomination for election or for election for the office of Governor,
which in the aggregate exceeds $5,000 per election, or (b) pay or
make any contribution of money or other thing of value to
candidates who have established only a joint candidates committee,
their campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer, or joint
candidates committee, which in the aggregate exceeds $5,000 per
election per candidate in the recipient committee, or (c) pay or
make any contribution of money or other thing of value to a
candidate who has established both a candidate committee and a
joint candidates committee, the campaign treasurers, deputy
campaign treasurers, or candidate committee or joint candidates
committee, which in the aggregate exceeds $5,000 per election. No
candidate who has established only a candidate committee, his
campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer or candidate
committee, other than a candidate for nomination for election or for
election to the office of the Governor, shall knowingly accept from
another candidate who has established only a candidate committee,
his campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer or candidate
committee, any contribution of money or other thing of value which
in the aggregate exceeds $5,000 per election, and no candidates who
have established only a joint candidates committee, their campaign
treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer, or joint candidates committee,
shall knowingly accept from any such source any contribution of
money or other thing of value which in the aggregate exceeds
$5,000 per election per candidate in the recipient committee, and no
candidate who has established both a candidate committee and a
joint candidates committee, the campaign treasurers, deputy
campaign treasurers, or candidate committee or joint candidates
committee, shall knowingly accept from any such source any
contribution of money or other thing of value which in the
aggregate exceeds $5,000 per election.
(2) No candidates who have established only a joint candidates
committee, their campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer, or
joint candidates committee shall (a) pay or make any contribution
of money or other thing of value to another candidate who has
established only a candidate committee, his campaign treasurer,
deputy campaign treasurer or candidate committee, other than a
candidate for nomination for election or for election for the office
of Governor, which in the aggregate exceeds, on the basis of each
candidate in the contributing joint candidates committee, $5,000 per
election, or (b) pay or make any contribution of money or other
thing of value to candidates who have established only a joint
candidates committee, their campaign treasurer, deputy campaign
treasurer or joint candidates committee, which in the aggregate
exceeds, on the basis of each candidate in the contributing joint
candidates committee, $5,000 per election per candidate in the
recipient joint candidates committee, or (c) pay or make any
contribution of money or other thing of value to a candidate who
has established both a candidate committee and a joint candidates
committee, the campaign treasurers, deputy campaign treasurers or
candidate committee or joint candidates committee, which in the
aggregate exceeds, on the basis of each candidate in the
contributing joint candidates committee, $5,000 per election. No
candidate who has established only a candidate committee, his
campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer, or candidate
committee, other than a candidate for nomination for election or for
election for the office of Governor, shall knowingly accept from
other candidates who have established only a joint candidates
committee, their campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer or
joint candidates committee, any contribution of money or other
thing of value which in the aggregate exceeds, on the basis of each
candidate in the contributing committee, $5,000 per election, and no
candidates who have established only a joint candidates committee,
their campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer, or joint
candidates committee, shall knowingly accept from any such source
any contribution of money or other thing of value which in the
aggregate exceeds, on the basis of each candidate in the
contributing joint candidates committee, $5,000 per election per
candidate in the recipient joint candidates committee, and no
candidate who has established both a candidate committee and a
joint candidates committee, the campaign treasurers, deputy
campaign treasurers, or candidate committee or joint candidates
committee, shall knowingly accept from any such source any
contribution of money or other thing of value which in the
aggregate exceeds, on the basis of each candidate in the
contributing joint candidates committee, $5,000 per election.

3) No candidate who has established both a candidate
committee and a joint candidates committee, the campaign
treasurers, deputy campaign treasurers, or candidate committee or
joint candidates committee shall (a) pay or make any contribution
of money or other thing of value to another candidate who has
established only a candidate committee, his campaign treasurer,
deputy campaign treasurer or candidate committee, other than a
candidate for nomination for election or for election for the office
of Governor, which in the aggregate exceeds $5,000 per election, or
(b) pay or make any contribution of money or other thing of value
to candidates who have established only a joint candidates
committee, their campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer or
joint candidates committee, which in the aggregate exceeds $5,000
per election per candidate in the recipient joint candidates
committee, or (c) pay or make any contribution of money or other
thing of value to a candidate who has established both a candidate
committee and a joint candidates committee, the campaign
treasurers, deputy campaign treasurers, or candidate committee or
joint candidates committee, which in the aggregate exceeds $5,000
per election. No candidate who has established only a candidate committee, his campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer, or candidate committee, other than a candidate for nomination for election or for election for the office of Governor, shall knowingly accept from a candidate who has established both a candidate committee and a joint candidates committee, the campaign treasurers, deputy campaign treasurers, or candidate committee or joint candidates committee, any contribution of money or other thing of value which in the aggregate exceeds $5,000 per election, and no candidates who have established only a joint candidates committee, their campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer, or joint candidates committee, shall knowingly accept from any such source any contribution of money or other thing of value which in the aggregate exceeds $5,000 per election per candidate in the recipient joint candidates committee, and no candidate who has established both a candidate committee and a joint candidates committee, the campaign treasurers, deputy campaign treasurers, or candidate committee or joint candidates committee shall knowingly accept from any such source any contribution of money or other thing of value which in the aggregate exceeds $5,000 per election.

(4) Expenditures by a candidate for nomination for election or for election to the office of member of the Legislature or to an office of a political subdivision of the State, or by the campaign treasurer, deputy treasurer, candidate committee or joint candidates committee of such a candidate, which are made in furtherance of the nomination or election, respectively, of another candidate for the same office in the same legislative district or the same political subdivision shall not be construed to be subject to any limitation under this subsection; for the purposes of this sentence, the offices of member of the State Senate and member of the General Assembly shall be deemed to be the same office.

d. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to impose any limitation on contributions by a candidate, or by a corporation, 100% of the stock in which is owned by a candidate or the candidate's spouse, child, parent or sibling residing in the same household, to that candidate's campaign.

e. For the purpose of determining the amount of a contribution to be attributed as given to or by each candidate in a joint candidates committee, the amount of the contribution to or by such a committee shall be divided equally among all the candidates in the committee.

(cf: P.L.1993, c.65, s.18)

3. Section 19 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-11.4) is amended to read as follows:

19. a. (1) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, no individual, no corporation of any kind organized and incorporated under the laws of this State or any other state or any
country other than the United States, no labor organization of any kind which exists or is constituted for the purpose, in whole or in part, of collective bargaining, or of dealing with employers concerning the grievances, terms or conditions of employment, or of other mutual aid or protection in connection with employment, no political committee, continuing political committee, candidate committee or joint candidates committee or any other group, shall pay or make any contribution of money or other thing of value to the campaign treasurer, deputy treasurer or other representative of the State committee of a political party or the campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer or other representative of any legislative leadership committee, which in the aggregate exceeds $25,000 per year, or in the case of a joint candidates committee when that is the only committee established by the candidates, $25,000 per year per candidate in the joint candidates committee, or in the case of a candidate committee and a joint candidates committee when both are established by a candidate, $25,000 per year from that candidate. No campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer or other representative of the State committee of a political party or campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer or other representative of any legislative leadership committee shall knowingly accept from an individual, a corporation of any kind organized and incorporated under the laws of this State or any other state or any country other than the United States, a labor organization of any kind which exists or is constituted for the purpose, in whole or in part, of collective bargaining, or of dealing with employers concerning the grievances, terms or conditions of employment, or of other mutual aid or protection in connection with employment, a political committee, a continuing political committee, a candidate committee or a joint candidates committee or any other group, any contribution of money or other thing of value which in the aggregate exceeds $25,000 per year, or in the case of a joint candidates committee when that is the only committee established by the candidates, $25,000 per year per candidate in the joint candidates committee, or in the case of a candidate committee and a joint candidates committee when both are established by a candidate, $25,000 per year from that candidate.

Adjustments to the limits established in this paragraph which have been made by the Election Law Enforcement Commission, pursuant to section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2), prior to the effective date of P.L.2001, c.384 are rescinded. The limits established in this paragraph shall remain as stated in this paragraph until subsequently adjusted by the commission in the manner prescribed by section 22 of P.L.1993, c.65 (C.19:44A-7.2).

(2) No national committee of a political party shall pay or make any contribution of money or other thing of value to the campaign treasurer, deputy treasurer or other representative of the State
committee of a political party which in the aggregate exceeds $50,000 per year, and no campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer or other representative of the State committee of a political party shall knowingly accept from the national committee of a political party any contribution of money or other thing of value which in the aggregate exceeds $50,000 per year.

b. No individual, no corporation of any kind organized and incorporated under the laws of this State or any other state or any country other than the United States, no labor organization of any kind which exists or is constituted for the purpose, in whole or in part, of collective bargaining, or of dealing with employers concerning the grievances, terms or conditions of employment, or of other mutual aid or protection in connection with employment, no political committee, continuing political committee, legislative leadership committee, candidate committee or joint candidates committee, State committee of a political party, another county committee of a political party or a municipal committee of a political party or any other group, shall pay or make any contribution of money or other thing of value to any county committee of a political party, which in the aggregate exceeds [$25,000 per year] $5,000 per election, or in the case of a joint candidates committee when that is the only committee established by the candidates, [$25,000 per year] $5,000 per election per candidate in the joint candidates committee, or in the case of a candidate committee and a joint candidates committee when both are established by a candidate, [$25,000 per year] $5,000 per election from that candidate. No campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer or other representative of a county committee of a political party shall knowingly accept from an individual, a corporation of any kind organized and incorporated under the laws of this State or any other state or any country other than the United States, a labor organization of any kind which exists or is constituted for the purpose, in whole or in part, of collective bargaining, or of dealing with employers concerning the grievances, terms or conditions of employment, or of other mutual aid or protection in connection with employment, a political committee, a legislative leadership committee, a candidate committee or a joint candidates committee, the State committee of a political party, another county committee of a political party or a municipal committee of a political party or any other group, any contribution of money or other thing of value which in the aggregate exceeds [$25,000 per year] $5,000 per election, or in the case of a joint candidates committee when that is the only committee established by the candidates, [$25,000 per year] $5,000 per election per candidate in the joint candidates committee, or in the case of a candidate committee and a joint candidates committee when both are established by a candidate,
c. No individual, no corporation of any kind organized and incorporated under the laws of this State or any other state or any country other than the United States, no labor organization of any kind which exists or is constituted for the purpose, in whole or in part, of collective bargaining, or of dealing with employers concerning the grievances, terms or conditions of employment, or of other mutual aid or protection in connection with employment, no political committee, continuing political committee, candidate committee or joint candidates committee or any other group shall pay or make any contribution of money or other thing of value to any municipal committee of a political party, which in the aggregate exceeds $5,000 per year, or in the case of a joint candidates committee when that is the only committee established by the candidates, $5,000 per year per candidate in the joint candidates committee, or in the case of a candidate committee and a joint candidates committee when both are established by a candidate, $5,000 per year from that candidate. No campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer or other representative of a municipal committee of a political party shall knowingly accept from an individual, a corporation of any kind organized and incorporated under the laws of this State or any other state or any country other than the United States, a labor organization of any kind which exists or is constituted for the purpose, in whole or in part, of collective bargaining, or of dealing with employers concerning the grievances, terms or conditions of employment, or of other mutual aid or protection in connection with employment, a political committee, a continuing political committee, a candidate committee or a joint candidates committee or any other group, any contribution of money or other thing of value which in the aggregate exceeds $5,000 per year, or in the case of a joint candidates committee when that is the only committee established by the candidates, $5,000 per year per candidate in the joint candidates committee, or in the case of a candidate committee and a joint candidates committee when both are established by a candidate, $5,000 per year from that candidate.

No county committee of a political party in any county shall pay or make any contribution of money or other thing of value to a municipal committee of a political party in a municipality not located in that county which in the aggregate exceeds the amount of aggregate contributions which, under this subsection, a continuing political committee is permitted to pay or make to a municipal committee of a political party. No campaign treasurer, deputy campaign treasurer or other representative of a municipal committee of a political party in any municipality shall knowingly accept from any county committee of a political party in any county other than the county in which the municipality is located any contribution of money or other thing of value which in the aggregate exceeds the
amount of contributions permitted to be so paid or made under that
subsection.]

d. For the purpose of determining the amount of a contribution
to be attributed as given by each candidate in a joint candidates
committee, the amount of the contribution by such a committee
shall be divided equally among all the candidates in the committee.
(cf: P.L.2001, c.384, s.2)

4. This act shall take effect on January 1 following the date of
enactment.

STATEMENT

This bill limits the amount of money and other thing of value
that a county committee of a political party can contribute per
election to candidates and political committees, and limits the
amount of money and other thing of value that individuals,
candidates and certain committees can contribute per election to a
county committee of a political party.

Specifically, the bill:

1) provides that no county committee can pay or make any
contribution of money or other thing of value to a candidate,
candidate committee, joint candidates committee, political
committee, continuing political committee, legislative leadership
committee, State committee of a political party, municipal
committee of a political party or to another county committee,
which in the aggregate exceeds $5,000 per election; and

2) reduces from $25,000 per year (now $37,000 per year due to
quadrennial adjustment by the Election Law Enforcement
Commission) to $5,000 per election, the amount of money or other
thing of value that an individual, corporation of any kind, labor
union, political committee, continuing political committee, State
committee of a political party, municipal committee of a political
party or another county committee, legislative leadership
committee, candidate committee, joint candidates committee or any
other group can contribute to a county committee of a political
party.

The bill also provides that the limits it establishes on
contributions by a county committee would be subject to the same
quadrennial adjustments by the Election Law Enforcement
Commission as provided in current law for other contribution and
expenditure amounts.