

**LEGISLATIVE DIGEST**

[Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code – Increasing the Individual Expenditure Ceiling, capping the amount of public matching funds in mayoral races, and increasing the maximum amount of public funding in supervisory races.]

**Ordinance amending sections 1.140, 1.143, 1.144 of the Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code, to increase the amount of the Individual Expenditure Ceiling, cap the amount of public matching funds in mayoral races, and increase the maximum amount of public funding in supervisory races.**

**Existing Law**

Section 1.140(b) and (c) provides that two of the conditions for a supervisory candidate to receive public matching funds are that his or her candidate committee has received \$5,000 in qualifying contributions and be opposed by another candidate who has received or spent \$5,000. An additional condition in Section 1.140(b) is that the participating candidate agrees to an Individual Expenditure Ceiling of \$143,000. Section 1.143 provides for the adjustment of the Individual Expenditure Ceiling. Section 1.144 sets forth the amounts of public matching funds paid to mayoral and supervisory candidates. Subsections 1.144(c)(1) and (d)(1) set a base public matching amount of \$900,000 for each eligible mayoral candidate and \$89,000 for each eligible supervisory candidate. Subsections 1.144(c)(2)(D) and (d)(2)(D) allow for additional public matching funding if the Ethics Commission raises the Individual Expenditure Ceiling.

**Amendment to Current Law**

The proposed amendment to Section 1.140 would increase the qualifying amounts from \$5,000 to \$7,500. The proposed amendment would also increase the Individual Expenditure Ceiling for supervisory candidates to \$245,000. The proposed amendment to section 1.144 caps the amount of public funding for mayoral candidates at \$900,000 per candidate and caps the public funding for supervisory candidates at an increased amount of \$150,000 per candidate. The amendment eliminates any additional public matching funds if the Individual Expenditure Ceiling is raised. Subsections of the section 1.144 related to additional public funding beyond the \$900,000 and \$150,000 are deleted.

**Background Information**

The proposal amends the Campaign & Governmental Conduct Code (the "Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance" or "CFRO"). The Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance, which was originally approved by the voters, expressly authorizes amendment by the Board of Supervisors only if:

- 1) the amendment furthers the purposes of the CFRO;

- 2) the amendment is submitted to the Ethics Commission and recommended by its members by a four-fifths vote;
- 3) the legislation is made available for public review for 30 days; and
- 4) the Board of Supervisors adopts the legislation by a two-thirds vote.

See S.F. Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code Sec. 1.103.