

HB0812



101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

HB0812

by Rep. Robert Martwick

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

10 ILCS 5/9-8.7 new

Amends the Election Code. Provides that any expenditure made by a news publication or an entity that owns a news publication for the purpose of supporting or opposing a public official or candidate shall be treated as an in-kind contribution for the purposes of the Code. Effective immediately.

LRB101 05138 SMS 50150 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning elections.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Election Code is amended by adding Section
5 9-8.7 as follows:

6 (10 ILCS 5/9-8.7 new)

7 Sec. 9-8.7. Expenditures by newspaper entities.

8 (a) As used in this Section only, "expenditure" means:

9 (1) a payment, distribution, purchase, loan, advance,
10 deposit, gift of money, or anything of value, in connection
11 with the nomination for election, election, or retention of
12 any person to or in public office or in connection with any
13 question of public policy; or

14 (2) a payment, distribution, purchase, loan, advance,
15 deposit, gift of money, or anything of value that
16 constitutes an electioneering communication, regardless of
17 whether made in concert or cooperation with or at the
18 request, suggestion, or knowledge of a candidate, a
19 political committee, or any of their agents.

20 As used in this Section only, "expenditure" does not
21 include normal publication costs associated with a news story,
22 commentary, or editorial, but does include costs associated
23 with advertising related to a particular news story,

1 commentary, or editorial.

2 (b) Any expenditure made by a news publication or an entity
3 that owns a news publication for the purpose of supporting or
4 opposing a public official or candidate shall be treated as an
5 in-kind contribution for the purposes of this Code.

6 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
7 becoming law.