



## WES ALLEN

### SECRETARY OF STATE

#### **Alabama Act 2024-104**

Alabama Affected Statutes: 17-5-4; 17-5-8; 17-5-9

Act 2024-104 was passed by the Legislature in the 2024 regular session, providing that:

"A candidate running for a municipal office is exempt from the filing requirements of Sections 17-5-4 and 17-5-8, Code of Alabama 1975, unless and until the candidate receives contributions or makes expenditures in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000)."

#### **What are municipal candidates required to do going forward?**

Beginning June 1, 2024, municipal candidates are not required to file an Appointment of Principal Campaign Committee or any monthly, weekly or daily campaign disclosure reports after they qualify with their city clerk, unless and until they raise or spend in excess of \$1,000.

#### **Who do I file campaign finance forms with if I raise or spend in excess of \$1,000?**

If you raise/spend over \$1,000, you must file electronically with the Alabama Secretary of State at [FCPA.AlabamaVotes.gov](https://FCPA.AlabamaVotes.gov).

**Am I required to file with the Secretary of State as soon as I raise or spend in excess of \$1000, even if I haven't qualified with the city clerk yet?** Yes. Beginning 12 months prior to the election, candidates may begin receiving and spending money to influence their upcoming election. As soon as you cross the \$1,000 threshold, you are subject to the filing requirements.

#### **Why is this important?**

In the past, municipal candidates were required to file campaign finance forms with the probate judge within 5 days of qualifying with the city clerk, **regardless** of whether they raised or spent any money. This Act relieves the burden for the majority of municipal candidates that don't raise or spend much, if any, campaign funds.

**Do municipal candidates need to file any campaign paperwork with the judge of probate in their county?** No.

**Am I still required to file qualifying paperwork with my municipal clerk and file a Statement of Economic Interests with the Alabama Ethics Commission?** Yes.

*For questions or assistance, contact the Elections Division of the Office of the Secretary of State at (334) 242-7210.*