



- d) Excluding payments for a gun or made to a relative.
- 6) Mandates the candidate or elected officer one year after leaving office or after the conclusion of the threat, whichever comes later, to return any tangible security items to the campaign or reimburse the campaign for them at their fair market value.
- 7) Requires the candidate or elected officer to report any expenditure or reimbursement for security to the FPPC on their annual campaign statement and to also submit a form signed under penalty of perjury that describes and verifies the threat to the candidate or elected officer or their immediate family or staff that arose as a result of being a candidate or elected officer.
- 8) Mandates the candidate or elected officer maintain various records related to payments for security, including reports that provide evidence of the threat that gave rise to the expenditure.
- 9) Creates the Bureau of Security and Investigative Services to license and regulate the alarm, locksmith, private investigator, private security services, and repossession industries.

This bill mandates that campaign funds spent on security personnel may only pay those who are licensed by the state's Bureau of Security and Investigative Services.

### **COMMENTS**

- 1) Author's Statement. This bill requires that campaign funds only be used to pay for personal security services if the security personnel are properly licensed by the California Bureau of Security and Investigative Services. By ensuring security personnel meet California's existing training and licensing standards, personnel will be prepared to protect candidates, elected officials and their families from political violence.
- 2) Arguments in Support. The sponsor of the bill, the FPPC, writes in support:

There are currently no requirements or guidelines for a committee that wishes to use campaign funds to hire security personnel. Under existing law, a committee would be permitted to hire any person to provide security, even if that person had no background, training, or expertise in providing security services.

[This bill] would provide important clarification by authorizing the use of campaign funds to pay security personnel only if the security personnel hold the appropriate license issued by the Bureau of Security and Investigative Services.

This bill will help ensure that any security personnel hired to protect a candidate, elected officer, or their staff or family have the appropriate training and experience to effectively respond to emergency situations.

**RELATED/PRIOR LEGISLATION**

AB 789 (Bonta), Chapter 621, Statutes of 2025, allows candidates for office and elected officials to use unlimited amounts of campaign funds for security purposes until January 1, 2029, and \$10,000 per year thereafter.

**PRIOR ACTION**

Assembly Floor:	66 - 0
Assembly Appropriations Committee:	14 - 0
Assembly Elections Committee:	8 - 0

**POSITIONS**

**Sponsor:** California Fair Political Practices Commission

**Support:** None received

**Oppose:** None received

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