
CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2655
Author: Valencia (D)
Introduced: 2/20/26
Vote: 27

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/16/26
AYES: Wiener, Choi, Allen, Cervantes, Umberg

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 5/7/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Campaign funds: security expenses: security personnel

SOURCE: California Fair Political Practices Commission

DIGEST: This bill requires when campaign funds are used to pay for security personnel those personnel must be licensed by the State of California's Bureau of Security and Investigative Services.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Includes the Political Reform Act (PRA), which establishes California's campaign finance and disclosure laws for state and local campaigns, candidates, officeholders, and ballot measures, and which created the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) to implement, administer, and enforce the PRA.
- 2) Prescribes that contributions deposited into a campaign account are held in trust to be used to elect candidates and for expenses associated with holding office.
- 3) Prohibits using campaign funds for the purchase, lease, or refurbishment of any appliance or equipment on real property leased or owned by a candidate, the candidate's campaign, or an immediate family member of the candidate.
- 4) Makes an exception to the prohibition in 3) allowing a candidate or elected officer to use unlimited campaign funds until 2029 and then \$10,000 year

thereafter for security expenses to protect the candidate, the elected officer, or the immediate family or staff thereof, provided that the threat arises from being a candidate, elected officer, or the family or staff of that person.

- 5) Defines security expenses for purposes of 4) above as:
 - a) The reasonable costs associated with installing and monitoring home or office electronic security.
 - b) The reasonable costs of providing personal security.
 - c) Any other tangible item related to security.
 - 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 private security services, and prohibits any person from working as a private security officer without being licensed by the bureau.

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

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.

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.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/16/26)

California Fair Political Practices Commission (source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/16/26)

None received

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.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 5/7/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo,

Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Ward, Wilson,
Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bonta, Chen, Flora, Gallagher, Hart, Hoover,
Irwin, Papan, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Valencia, Wallis, Wicks

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