

## QUESTION NO. 10

**An Initiative Relating to Establish Limits and Define  
Campaign Contributions**

### CONDENSATION (ballot question)

Shall the Nevada Constitution be amended to add a new section which establishes, limits and defines campaign contributions?

Yes . . . . .

No . . . . .

### EXPLANATION

The Nevada Constitution currently has no provisions which define or regulate campaign contributions. This amendment defines campaign contributions as including items such as paid polling and resulting data, paid direct mail, paid solicitation by telephone, and paid campaign paraphernalia printed or otherwise produced, and the use of paid personnel to assist in a campaign. The amendment also limits the total amount of contributions by a person to any state or local candidate to \$5,000 for the primary election and \$5,000 for the general election. A violation would be a felony.

### ARGUMENTS FOR PASSAGE

Proponents argue that this amendment is needed in the Nevada Constitution so that it will be more difficult for politicians to change the law regarding campaign contributions. This amendment defines specific types of campaign contributions. The measure also provides for specific contribution limits for the primary and the general election. The Nevada Legislature will be required to establish new penalties for any violations of this section.

### ARGUMENTS AGAINST PASSAGE

Opponents argue that Nevada already has strict campaign reporting requirements for both contributions and expenditures that may be weakened by passage of this amendment. Nevada law already requires candidates to report campaign contributions such as those listed in the amendment plus oth-



ers such as gifts, loans, conveyances, deposits, payments, transfers or distributions of money, or anything else of value. Currently, contribution limits are different for local and state-wide races. Nevada law already provides for strict penalties for any violations of the campaign finance statutes.

## FISCAL NOTE

**Fiscal Impact-No.** The proposal to amend the Nevada Constitution would limit certain campaign contributions. The proposal would have no adverse fiscal impact to the State.

## FULL TEXT OF THE MEASURE

### Initiative to Define and Limit Campaign Contributions

The People of the State of Nevada do enact as follows:

Section 1. Article 2 of the constitution of the State of Nevada is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

*Sec. 10. 1. As used in this section, "contribution" includes the value of services provided in kind for which money would otherwise be paid, such as paid polling and resulting data, paid direct mail, paid solicitation by telephone, any paid campaign paraphernalia printed or otherwise produced, and the use of paid personnel to assist in a campaign.*

*2. The legislature shall provide by law for the limitation of the total contribution by any natural or artificial person to the campaign of any person for election to any office, except a federal office, to \$5,000 for the primary and \$5,000 for the general election, and to the approval or rejection of any question by the registered voters to \$5,000, whether the office sought or the question submitted is local or for the state as a whole. The legislature shall further provide for the punishment of the contributor, the candidate, and any other knowing party to a violation of the limit, as a felony.*

Sec. 2. If article 2 of the constitution of the State of Nevada is also amended by the addition of another section at the same general election at which this initiative is finally approved, the secretary of state shall redesignate the section added by this initiative as

"Sec. 11."

