

# HOUSE BILL 331

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By: **Delegates Guyton, Allen, Bagnall, Boyce, Feldmark, Foley, Forbes, Griffith, Healey, Hill, Holmes, Jackson, Kaufman, Lehman, Love, Palakovich Carr, Patterson, Ruth, Shetty, Simpson, Stewart, Taveras, Toles, Valderrama, White Holland, Wilkins, ~~and Williams~~ Williams, Wells, Henson, Roberts, Wims, Vogel, Mireku-North, Attar, and Atterbeary**

Introduced and read first time: January 17, 2024

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 20, 2024

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Candidate Expenditures – Campaign-Related ~~Child Care~~**  
3 **Caregiving Expenses**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of “expenditure” to include reasonable expenses  
5 for ~~child care~~ caregiving services that a candidate incurs; and generally relating to  
6 candidate expenditures.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
8 Article – Election Law  
9 Section 1–101(a) and (l)  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

12 BY adding to  
13 Article – Election Law  
14 Section 1–101(l–2)  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
18 Article – Election Law

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### EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 Section 1–101(aa)  
 2 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 3 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

4 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
 5 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

6 **Article – Election Law**

7 1–101.

8 (a) In this article the following words have the meanings indicated unless a  
 9 different meaning is clearly intended from the context.

10 (l) (1) “Candidate” means an individual who files a certificate of candidacy for  
 11 a public or party office.

12 (2) “Candidate” includes:

13 (i) an incumbent justice of the Supreme Court of Maryland or  
 14 Appellate Court of Maryland at an election for continuance in office; and

15 (ii) an individual, prior to that individual filing a certificate of  
 16 candidacy, if a campaign finance entity has been established on behalf of that individual.

17 **(L-2) (1) “~~CHILD-CARE~~ CAREGIVING SERVICES” MEANS DIRECT CARE,**  
 18 **PROTECTION, AND SUPERVISION OF A CHILD OR AN INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY**  
 19 **FOR WHOM A CANDIDATE HAS DIRECT ~~CHILD-CARE~~ CAREGIVING RESPONSIBILITY.**

20 **(2) “~~CHILD-CARE~~ CAREGIVING SERVICES” DOES NOT INCLUDE:**

21 **(I) PRIVATE SCHOOL TUITION ~~OR~~;**

22 **(II) TUTORING SERVICES; OR**

23 **(III) NURSING HOME CARE.**

24 (aa) (1) “Expenditure” means a gift, transfer, disbursement, or promise of  
 25 money or a thing of value by or on behalf of a campaign finance entity to:

26 [(1)] (I) promote or assist in the promotion of the success or defeat of a  
 27 candidate, political party, question, or prospective question at an election;

28 [(2)] (II) pay expenses associated with contesting an election under Title  
 29 12 of this article; or

1                    [(3)] (III) pay for the publication expense of a legislative newsletter under  
2 Title 13, Subtitle 4 of this article.

3                    (2) “EXPENDITURE” INCLUDES REASONABLE EXPENSES FOR ~~CHILD~~  
4 ~~CARE~~ CAREGIVING SERVICES THAT A CANDIDATE INCURS AS A DIRECT RESULT OF  
5 CAMPAIGN ACTIVITY AND THAT ARE NECESSARY TO PROMOTE THE CANDIDACY OF  
6 THE CANDIDATE.

7                    SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
8 January 1, 2025.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.