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**Testimony in support of HB951 - Election Law - Disclosure of Contributions by Persons
Doing Public Business – Enforcement**

HB951 changes the manner in which the State Board of Elections SBE is authorized to impose fees for the late filing of statements of contributions by persons doing public business (Title 14). It also provides the State Prosecutor's Office with the authority to enforce civil penalties for persons doing public business.

Title 14 requires that business entities with State or local government contracts of \$200,000 or more file a campaign contribution report with the State Board of Elections.

Currently, there is a technical loophole that prevents the State Prosecutor's Office from being able to enforce civil penalties in Title 14 of Election Law. Title 14 provides specific language for enforcement of criminal violations, but no language regarding civil violations.

HB951 clarifies this issue by giving clear civil enforcement power to the State Prosecutor's Office. This is accomplished by mirroring language included in Title 13 (Campaign Finance) of Election Law.

This bill will increase transparency and accountability by allowing for full enforcement of Title 14 by the State Prosecutor's Office, and will give the State Board of Elections clarity in issuing fees for late filing by businesses.

I respectfully request a favorable report on HB951.