



# Maryland State Board of Elections

## SB 310 – SBE Departmental Election Law – Campaign Finance Entities - Termination Chair, Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee

### **Purpose:**

To remove a subjective deadline when a campaign finance entity must file its final report.

### **Comments:**

The State Board of Elections supports this proposed legislation.

The proposed bill removes a one of the conditions triggering a campaign finance entity to terminate and file its final campaign finance report. The condition that is removed by this legislation is the date of the entity's payment of the final debt or other obligation incurred in connection with that candidacy.

If enacted, the triggering condition would be the later of the end of the individual's most recent term of office **or** the date of the election in which the individual was last a filed candidate. Since these dates are easy for candidates, responsible officers, and the State Board of Elections to determine, it will allow for better enforcement by the State Board of Elections to require termination and payment of debts and provide clarity for candidates, responsible officers, and potential candidates on when an authorized candidate campaign committee must close.

Additionally, the proposed legislation requires that the State Administrator shall notify the candidate and responsible officers of the requirements to pay outstanding obligations, legally dispose of assets, and file a final report. The notice must be sent at least 6 months prior to the date for the termination, which gives the committee ample time to wind down and dispose of surplus funds.

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**STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

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