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State of Minnesota  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 2727

03/08/2016 Authored by Halverson, Hortman, Thissen, Bernardy, Freiberg and others  
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Government Operations and Elections Policy

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 proposing an amendment to the Minnesota Constitution, article VII, section  
1.3 9; requiring the legislature to enact laws providing for disclosure of certain  
1.4 campaign contributions and expenditures.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. **CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED.**

1.7 An amendment to the Minnesota Constitution is proposed to the people. If the  
1.8 amendment is adopted, article VII, section 9, will read:

1.9 Sec. 9. The amount that may be spent by candidates for constitutional and legislative  
1.10 offices to campaign for nomination or election shall be limited by law.

1.11 The legislature shall provide by law for disclosure of contributions and expenditures  
1.12 made to support or oppose candidates for state elective offices. At a minimum, disclosure  
1.13 must be required for contributions and expenditures for communications made within a  
1.14 reasonable proximity to an election that clearly identify a candidate, communications  
1.15 that use words or phrases of express advocacy, and communications that, when taken  
1.16 as a whole and with limited reference to external events, including the proximity to an  
1.17 election, are not susceptible to any other interpretation by a reasonable person other than  
1.18 as advocating the election or defeat of a candidate. Exceptions to disclosure for de  
1.19 minimus contributions and expenditures and for contributions and expenditures directed  
1.20 by an organization to its own subscribed membership may be provided by law.

1.21 As used in this section, "candidate" means an individual seeking nomination or  
1.22 election to a constitutional or legislative office and includes an incumbent seeking  
1.23 renomination or reelection to an office.

