
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2144 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY HEFFLEY, M. MACKENZIE, FLICK AND JAMES,
MARCH 25, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 25, 2024

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), entitled
2 "An act concerning elections, including general, municipal,
3 special and primary elections, the nomination of candidates,
4 primary and election expenses and election contests; creating
5 and defining membership of county boards of elections;
6 imposing duties upon the Secretary of the Commonwealth,
7 courts, county boards of elections, county commissioners;
8 imposing penalties for violation of the act, and codifying,
9 revising and consolidating the laws relating thereto; and
10 repealing certain acts and parts of acts relating to
11 elections," in primary and election expenses, further
12 providing for advertising.

13 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
14 hereby enacts as follows:

15 Section 1. Section 1638(b)(3) of the act of June 3, 1937
16 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, is
17 amended and subsections (a) and (b) are amended by adding
18 paragraphs to read:

19 Section 1638. Advertising.--

20 (a) Whenever any person makes an expenditure for the purpose
21 of financing communications expressly advocating the election or
22 defeat of a candidate, or ballot questions, through any
23 broadcasting station, newspaper, magazine, outdoor advertising

1 facility, direct mailing, or any other type of general public
2 political advertising, such communication:

3 * * *

4 (3) May not utilize artificially generated facsimiles of a
5 human voice.

6 (b) * * *

7 (3) Any person, firm or corporation, political committee or
8 party or member thereof, violating any of the provisions of this
9 section, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction
10 thereof, shall be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding one
11 thousand dollars (\$1,000), or to undergo an imprisonment of not
12 less than one (1) month nor more than two (2) years, or both, in
13 the discretion of the court. A fine issued due to conviction of
14 a violation of subsection (a) (3) is the personal liability of
15 the candidate or treasurer of a committee or party and cannot be
16 paid from contributions to the candidate, committee or party.

17 (4) The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall publish a list
18 of all candidates, committees or parties who have been convicted
19 of a violation of subsection (a) (3) on the Department of State's
20 publicly accessible Internet website.

21 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.