House Bill 1191

By: Representatives Park of the 107th, Mughal of the 105th, Clark of the 108th, Au of the 50th, Draper of the 90th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 5 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to 2 government transparency and campaign finance, so as to repeal provisions of law regarding 3 leadership committees; to provide for the termination of current leadership committees; to 4 provide for the disposition of funds held by such committees; to provide for certain 5 registration and reports; to provide for automatic repeal; to provide for related matters; to 6 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8

SECTION 1.

9 Chapter 5 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to government
10 transparency and campaign finance, is amended by revising Code Section 21-5-34.2, relating
11 to leadership committee definition, operation, and separation from campaign committees, as
12 follows:

13 "21-5-34.2.

(a) As used in this Code section, the term 'leadership committee' means a committee,
 corporation, or organization chaired by the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the
 nominee of a political party for Governor selected in a primary election in the year in

17 which he or she is nominated, or the nominee of a political party for Lieutenant Governor 18 selected in a primary election in the year in which he or she is nominated. Such term shall 19 also mean up to two political action committees designated by the majority caucus of the 20 House of Representatives, the minority caucus of the House of Representatives, the 21 majority caucus of the Senate, and the minority caucus of the Senate. No person may chair 22 more than one leadership committee.

(b) A leadership committee may receive contributions from persons who are members or
 supporters of the leadership committee and expend such funds as permitted by this Code
 section Leadership committees in effect on the effective date of this Code section shall be
 prohibited from receiving any further contributions on and after such date. No additional
 leadership committees shall be created on or after such date.

(c) If a person chairing a leadership committee ceases to hold the office or the status as a 28 nominee of a political party as described in subsection (a) of this Code section, such person 29 30 shall transfer the remaining assets of the leadership committee, if any, to another leadership committee within 60 days, name an eligible person as the new chairperson of the leadership 31 32 committee within 60 days, or Leadership committees in existence on the effective date of 33 this Code section shall dispose of the leadership committee's assets as provided by Code Section 21-5-33. The disposal of such assets shall be accomplished not later than 34 35 December 1, 2024.

(d) A leadership committee may accept contributions or make expenditures for the purpose
of affecting the outcome of any election or advocating for the election or defeat of any
candidate, may defray ordinary and necessary expenses incurred in connection with any
candidate's campaign for elective office, and may defray ordinary and necessary expenses
incurred in connection with a public officer's fulfillment or retention of such office
Leadership committees in existence on the effective date of this Code section shall cease
to exist and shall be dissolved not later than December 31, 2024.

| 43 | (e) A leadership committee in existence on the effective date of this Code section which |
|----|---|
| 44 | accepts contributions or makes expenditures in excess of \$500.00 shall register with the |
| 45 | commission within ten days of such accepted contribution or such expenditure and, |
| 46 | thereafter, shall file <u>all</u> disclosure reports <u>required</u> pursuant to the schedule defined for |
| 47 | candidates and campaign committees in subsection (c) of Code Section 21-5-34. Such |
| 48 | disclosure reports shall be made pursuant to subsection (b) of Code Section 21-5-34. The |
| 49 | contribution limits in Code Section 21-5-41 shall not apply to contributions to a leadership |
| 50 | committee or expenditures made by a leadership committee in support of a candidate or a |
| 51 | group of named candidates. All communications paid for by expenditures of the leadership |
| 52 | committee shall contain a disclaimer, either audibly or in writing, that the communication |
| 53 | is paid for by the leadership committee, unless such disclaimer is impractical. |
| 54 | (f) A leadership committee shall be a separate legal entity from a candidate's campaign |
| 55 | committee and shall not be considered an independent committee. |
| 56 | (g) This Code section shall be repealed by operation of law on December 31, 2024." |
| | |
| | |

57 SECTION 2.

58 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.