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AKRON CITY COUNCIL

Substitute  
offered as  
Amendment

October 17, 2022

8-5  
Holland, Kammer,  
Mostek, Neal,  
Omdelien

OFFERED BY: VICE PRESIDENT FUSCO

ORDINANCE NO. 303-2022 amending and/or supplementing Title 3 "Administration," Chapter 30 "Mayor and Council," Section 30.11 "Limits on Noncash Monetary and In-Kind Contributions and Loans" and Section 30.12 "Limits on Cash Contributions" to increase the contribution limits for mayoral and council candidates; and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, the City of Akron Charter provides that Council shall review campaign finance regulations every two years, beginning in 2012, taking into account inflation, and conducting a public hearing to obtain public comment regarding campaign finance; and

WHEREAS, after seeking public comment and considering rising prices and inflation, Council recommends a modest increase in campaign contributions so that candidates may effectively communicate their messages to the voters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED by the Council of the City of Akron, Ohio:

Section 1. That Title 3 "Administration", Chapter 30 "Mayor and Council," Section 30.11 "Limits on monetary and in-kind contributions and loans" of the Code of Ordinances be and is hereby enacted, amended, and supplemented as follows:

CHAPTER 30: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

30.11- Limits on monetary and in-kind contributions and loans.

- A. No candidate for Mayor or At-Large Council shall accept or solicit, as a monetary (i.e., checks, money orders, credit cards) or in-kind campaign contribution or loan, more than ~~seven hundred fifty dollars~~ **ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS** from any person; **OR** campaign committee, ~~political party or political action committee~~, **OR MORE THAN TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM A POLITICAL PARTY OR POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE.**
- B. No candidate for a Council Ward position shall accept or solicit, as a monetary or in-kind campaign contribution or loan, more than ~~five hundred dollars~~ **SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS** from any person; **OR** campaign committee, ~~political party or political action committee~~, **OR MORE THAN ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS FROM A POLITICAL PARTY OR POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE.**
- C. No person, political action committee, political party, or political campaign shall contribute funds or in-kind contributions in excess of said amounts.

- D. Contributions from the candidate and labor of volunteers are exempt from these provisions.
- E. The contributions set forth in this section shall be per election.
- F. Council shall review and amend, if necessary, the contribution limits every two years beginning in 2012 and continuing in each even-numbered year. Each review shall include a public hearing to obtain public comment regarding campaign finance.

Section 2. That this ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace, health, safety and welfare for the reason that this amendment to the City's campaign finance regulations will permit candidates to effectively communicate their messages, and provided this ordinance receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members elected or appointed to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor as may be required by law; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force at the earliest time allowed by law.

Passed November 7, 2022

Diana R. Biviano  
Clerk of Council

Raymond L. Smith  
President of Council

Approved 11/8, 2022

[Signature]  
MAYOR