



2022 Redistricting bulletin for candidates

Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board

This bulletin is to help candidates and treasurers understand how the redistricting of legislative boundaries may impact their committees. In particular, committees may need to amend documents on file with the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board and must know the laws on transferring funds from one registered committee to another registered committee. This bulletin also describes how to update committee information in the Campaign Finance Reporter software.

CANDIDATE COMMITTEES

My legislative district number changed; do I need to amend my committee registration?

Yes. The registration for a principal campaign committee includes the senate or house district number. In addition, many candidates have incorporated the district number into the committee's name; "Citizens to Elect John Doe in 34B" for instance. The committee's legislative district designation and, if appropriate, the committee name will require amendment if the legislative district number has changed.

The form for submitting the amendment is available at the Board's website at: cfb.mn.gov/pdf/forms/Candidate/Candidate_Registration.pdf

Do I need to amend the committee's registration if I am not going to seek election and plan to close out the committee?

No. Amending the legislative district number is not required if the candidate will not be filing for office in 2022 and will be terminating the committee this year.

If my legislative district number changed do I need to sign a new public subsidy agreement?

No. The public subsidy agreement is signed by the candidate for an office, state representative or state senate, not for a particular district. Therefore, the public subsidy agreement remains in effect for the candidate even if the legislative district number has changed. A candidate may not opt out of a public subsidy agreement because the legislative district number changed.

A candidate who decides to run for a different office, for example changing from house of representatives to state senate, will need to sign and file a new public subsidy agreement for the new office if the candidate seeks to qualify for the public subsidy program.

Could redistricting affect my eligibility for the spending limit increase provided to a candidate running for state office for the first time?

Yes. A candidate is eligible for the 10% spending limit increase if the candidate has never run for the office (state representative or state senate) before and the candidate has not run previously for any other office whose territory now includes a population that is more than one-third of the population in the territory of the new legislative district boundary. A candidate indicates if they qualify for the increase in the spending limit on the public subsidy agreement.

A candidate whose status as a first-time candidate has changed because of the modification in legislative district boundaries must notify the Board in writing of the change in status in order to ensure application of the correct spending limit.

A candidate has previously registered a principal campaign committee for state representative, but because of redistricting has decided to instead run for state senate. May the candidate amend the state representative committee and continue to use that committee to seek election to the state senate?

No. A candidate who decides to run for a different state office will need to register a new principal campaign committee for that office.

May a candidate transfer the funds from an existing principal campaign committee to a new campaign committee for another state office?

Yes, but there are some restrictions. If the candidate is the same for both committees, and the principal campaign committee from which funds are being transferred is for either the house or the senate, then there is no limit on the amount of money that may be transferred to the new committee. For example, there would be no limit on the amount that may be transferred from a candidate's house committee to the candidate's senate committee (or vice versa). However, a committee formed for a statewide office is limited in the amount of funds that may be transferred to another campaign committee. Contact Board staff for more information if you wish to transfer money from a committee for statewide office.

A candidate may have both a house committee and a senate committee registered at the same time. But after the money is transferred from one committee to the other, the contributing committee must be terminated within twelve months of the date the funds were transferred.

May a candidate who has transferred donations from a house committee to a senate committee count those donations towards the amount of contributions that the senate committee must raise to qualify for a public subsidy payment?

No. A candidate may not count contributions raised for one office toward the amount required to file an affidavit of contributions for a different office.

If a candidate decides not to run for election in 2022 and wants to close out the committee, how may the committee funds be disbursed?

There are a number of ways that committee funds may be used if the committee is being terminated.

- The committee may contribute to another state-level candidate. The contribution to the other state candidate is counted against the political party contribution limit of the candidate receiving the contribution.
- The committee may contribute to any party unit at any time and in any amount.
- The committee may **not** contribute to a federal candidate committee or a local office committee.
- A terminating committee may contribute in any amount to a 501(c)(3) charity.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTER SOFTWARE

My committee is using the Campaign Finance Reporter software. How do I change the committee name and legislative district number in the software?

The committee name and legislative district number may only be modified by the user; the periodic downloads of information from the Board to the software will not modify this information. Any changes should be made within the 2022 calendar year. The menu path *Edit/View – Committee – Maintenance* will open up the screen shown below. Both the committee name and district number are available for modification. Please note that updating the committee information in the software does not eliminate the need to file an amendment to the committee's registration with the Board.

The screenshot shows a software window titled "Committee" with a menu bar (File, Record Keeping, Edit/View, Agency, Data-Merge, Reports, Tools, Help). The window is divided into two main sections: "Committee" and "Committee Info".

Committee Section:

- Reg Num: [REDACTED]
- Name: Citizens for John Doe in 34B
- Address 1: 12321 Main Street
- Address 2: [Empty]
- CSZ: Ramsey MN 55155-
- Email: johndoeoforstatehouse@yahoo.com
- Website: [Empty]
- Individuals:
 - Chair Name: Stafford, Matt
 - Treas. Name: Sanders, Barry
 - Dpty. Treas. Name: [Empty]
 - Candidate Name: Doe, John

Committee Info Section:

- Reporting Year: 12
- Special Election:
- Committee Type: Principal Campaign Committee
- Office Sought: House
- District: 22A
- Beginning Cash Balance: 3400

Buttons at the bottom: Clear, OK, Cancel.