

House Study Bill 54 - Introduced

SENATE/HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED ETHICS AND
CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE BOARD
BILL)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to attribution statements on political
2 materials and making penalties applicable.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 68A.405, subsection 1, paragraph a,
2 unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2019, is amended to read as
3 follows:

4 For purposes of this subsection section:

5 Sec. 2. Section 68A.405, subsection 1, paragraph a,
6 subparagraph (3), Code 2019, is amended to read as follows:

7 (3) "*Published material*" means any newspaper, magazine,
8 shopper, outdoor advertising facility, poster, direct mailing,
9 brochure, internet site, campaign sign, or any other form of
10 printed or electronic general public political advertising.
11 "*Published material*" includes television, video, or motion
12 picture advertising, live telephone calls, automated telephone
13 calls, or text messages.

14 EXPLANATION

15 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
16 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

17 Under current law, published material designed to expressly
18 advocate the nomination, election, or defeat of a candidate
19 for public office or the passage or defeat of a ballot issue
20 is required to include an attribution statement indicating
21 who is responsible for the published material. This bill
22 adds live telephone calls, automated telephone calls, and
23 text messages to the definition of "published material". A
24 person who violates a provision of Code chapter 68A is subject
25 to civil penalties imposed by the Iowa ethics and campaign
26 disclosure board, including remedial action, a reprimand, and
27 a civil penalty of up to \$2,000. In addition, a person who
28 willfully violates a provision of Code chapter 68A is guilty
29 of a serious misdemeanor. A serious misdemeanor is punishable
30 by confinement for no more than one year and a fine of at least
31 \$315 but not more than \$1,875.