

House Study Bill 624 - Introduced

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the placement of campaign signs and making
2 penalties applicable.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 68A.103, Code 2020, is amended to read
2 as follows:

3 **68A.103 Applicability to federal candidates.**

4 1. The requirements of **this chapter** relative to disclosure
5 of contributions shall apply to candidates and political
6 committees for federal office only in the event such candidates
7 are not subject to a federal law requiring the disclosure of
8 campaign financing. Any such federal law shall supersede the
9 provisions of **this chapter**.

10 2. The provisions of section 68A.406 shall apply to
11 candidates and political committees for federal office.

12 Sec. 2. Section 68A.406, Code 2020, is amended by adding the
13 following new subsection:

14 NEW SUBSECTION. 4. For the purposes of this section:

15 *a.* "Campaign sign" means a sign that expressly advocates in
16 favor of or against one or more clearly identified candidates
17 or ballot issues.

18 *b.* "Candidate" means an individual who has taken affirmative
19 action to seek the nomination or election to any federal,
20 state, county, city, or school office filled by election and
21 shall also include any judge standing for retention in a
22 judicial election.

23 EXPLANATION

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

26 This bill relates to campaign signs. The bill applies the
27 restrictions on the placement of campaign signs to candidates
28 for federal office. The bill also defines "campaign sign" and
29 "candidate".

30 A person who violates a provision of Code chapter 68A
31 is subject to civil penalties imposed by the Iowa ethics
32 and campaign disclosure board, including remedial action, a
33 reprimand, and a civil penalty up to \$2,000. In addition, a
34 person who willfully violates a provision of Code chapter 68A
35 is guilty of a serious misdemeanor. A serious misdemeanor is

S.F. _____ H.F. _____

1 punishable by confinement for no more than one year and a fine
2 of at least \$315 but not more than \$1,875.