

Illinois State Board of Elections

ELECTION NEWS ELECTION NEWS ELECTION NEWS

100 W. Randolph Street
Suite 14-100
Chicago, Illinois 60601
(312)-814-6440
(312)-814-6431 (tdD)

1020 S. Spring Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704
(217)-782-4141
(217)-782-1518 (tdD)

SPRINGFIELD, IL. ,June 14, 1999 - At its June 21st Board meeting, the State Board of Elections will consider a record number of fines levied against campaign committees that have allegedly violated Illinois campaign finance law.

The fines have been imposed pursuant to changes in the Illinois Campaign Financing Act that took effect January 1. The new law raises the limits of existing civil penalties for certain types of delinquent filings previously uncovered.

Board officials said that the vast majority of fines are for failure to timely file reports of contributions of \$500 or more prior to the Spring local elections.

Any contribution of \$500 or more received in the thirty days prior to an election must be reported within two business days of when the committee's treasurer or candidate actually received the contribution, election officials said.

Board officials noted that many of the fines are pending and subject to appeal.

In addition, the board has adopted a rule that automatically stays enforcement of a civil penalty for first time violations of a filing deadline.

The total number of fines imposed is 453, representing 47 separate committees with 266 pending appeal and subject to board review. Since each delinquent filing of any required report constitutes a separate fine, multiple fines levied against a single committee are not uncommon.

The fines per committee range in amounts from \$25 to \$69,200.

The total amount of fines imposed is \$450,575, with \$54,275 automatically stayed for first time offenses.

The amount of fines pending appeal is \$367,200.

The board is scheduled to meet at 11 a.m. Monday, June 21, in Room 9-040 of the James R. Thompson Center, 100 W. Randolph Street, Chicago,



Illinois.

[\[Back to Press Releases\]](#)