SENATE BILL 14
AN ACT PERMITTING THE USE OF CITIZENS’ ELECTION PROGRAM GRANT FUNDS TO OFFSET A PARTICIPATING CANDIDATE’S CHILDCARE COSTS

Summary of Proposal:
The proposal is to specify that childcare expenses are eligible for reimbursement under the Citizens’ Election Program.

Reason for Proposal:
Last year, the State Elections Enforcement Commission determined that under existing statutory and regulatory language, childcare expenses are not reimbursable under the Citizens’ Election Program. Therefore, the change is proposed to expressly allow such expenses and require regulation consistent with the same.

Significant Impacts:
Allowing childcare expenses to be reimbursed under the Citizens’ Election Program may increase and diversify the pool of candidates for State elected office such that reasonable childcare costs during campaign activity is not a prohibitive factor.

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