



# THE ADVISOR

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### ACTION ALERT!

## Special Session Fundraising Restrictions

Session Begins: April 18, 2012

AS 24.60.031

A legislator or legislative employee may not: Solicit or accept a contribution, or a promise, or a pledge to make a contribution, for a campaign for state or municipal office *while the legislature is in Special Session*.

Additionally, a legislator may not solicit or accept a contribution for another candidate in an election for federal office, to influence a state ballot question or for a political party.

The following questions apply *only* to the Special Session beginning on Wednesday, April 18, 2012:

**1. May a legislator expend campaign funds during the Special Session?**

**Yes.** The legislator would also need to comply with all APOC requirements on the expenditure of campaign funds. *Example:* Printing fundraising invitations, securing a location, and catering services, for fundraising is permitted.

**2. During the Special Session, may a legislator mail or email an invitation to a campaign fundraiser for his/her campaign?**

**No.** The invitation would be considered a solicitation for a campaign contribution.

**3. May a legislator or legislative employee "host" a fundraiser during the Special Session for a non-incumbent candidate for a legislative seat?**

**No.** Hosting a fundraiser would require the legislator's or legislative employee's name to be listed on the invitation, which would constitute a solicitation. (AO 07-06)

**4. May a legislator "host" a fundraiser during Special Session for a federal candidate?**

**No.** Hosting a fundraiser would require the legislator's name to be listed on the invitation, which would constitute a solicitation. (AO 07-06)

**5. May a legislator or legislative employee "endorse" a non-incumbent candidate for legislative office during the Special Session?**

**Yes, with qualifications.** For example: Endorsing a candidate in a signature ad that solicits votes but does not solicit contributions for the campaign. (AO 07-06)

### IMPORTANT!

—Legislators: A fundraiser scheduled during the special session must be canceled.

—Campaign contributions received during the special session must be returned. (AO 94-05); contact APOC for procedures at 276-4176.

**EXEMPTION:** If a special session falls within the period 90 days immediately preceding an election, the soliciting and acceptance of contributions in a place other than the Capital City or a municipality where the legislature was convened is permitted: 90 day period—May 30 to August 27. If this occurs, additional information will be provided in a newsletter.