



## Comparison of 1999/2000 Campaign Finance Reform Proposals Source Notation for *Voters First* Provisions

| Subject Area  | Governor Thompson<br>(Kettl Commission Plan)<br>(1)                               | Burke/Freeze Proposal<br>(SB 111)<br>(2)   | Ellis Proposal<br>(SSA1 to SB 113)<br>(3) | Senate Democratic Plan<br>(SSA2 to SB 190)<br>(4)                                     | Assembly Republican Plan<br>(Amended AB 701)<br>(5)                                | Voters First Proposal   |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|---|
| <b>Spending Limits</b>                                |   |  |   |   |  |   |
| Governor  | \$ 3,500,000  | \$ 3,500,000   | \$ 2,000,000                              | \$ 2,000,000  | \$ 2,500,000   | \$ 2,000,000 <sup>3,4</sup>   |
| Lt. Governor  | \$ 1,125,000  | \$ 1,125,000   |   |   | \$ 400,000   | \$ 500,000 <sup>7</sup>   |
| Attorney General                                      | \$ 750,000  | \$ 750,000   | \$ 400,000                                | \$ 600,000  | \$ 400,000   | \$ 700,000 <sup>7</sup>   |
| Secretary of State                                    | \$ 350,000  | \$ 350,000   | \$ 200,000                                | \$ 200,000  | \$ 100,000   | \$ 250,000 <sup>7</sup>   |
| Treasurer   | \$ 350,000  | \$ 350,000   | \$ 200,000                                | \$ 200,000  | \$ 100,000   | \$ 250,000 <sup>7</sup>   |
| Supreme Court   | \$ 400,000  | \$ 400,000   | \$ 200,000                                | \$ 300,000  | \$ 400,000   | \$ 300,000 <sup>4</sup>   |
| Public Instruction                                    | \$ 350,000  | \$ 350,000   | \$ 200,000                                | \$ 200,000  | \$ 250,000   | \$ 250,000 <sup>5</sup>   |
| State Senate  | \$ 140,000  | \$ 100,000   | \$ 120,000                                | \$ 70,000   | \$ 70,000  | \$ 100,000 <sup>2</sup>   |
| Assembly  | \$ 60,000   | \$ 50,000  | \$ 60,000                                 | \$ 35,000   | \$ 35,000  | \$ 50,000 <sup>2</sup>  |
| <b>Size of Grant to Candidates Who Limit Spending</b> | 25% of spending limit   | 50% of spending limit  | 33 1/3% of spending limit                 | 75% of the spending limit for Supreme Court candidates; 57% to 60% for other offices. | 50% of the spending limit for Supreme Court candidates, and 33% for other offices. | 75% of the spending limit for Supreme Court <sup>4</sup> and SPI <sup>6</sup> ; 45% for partisan offices <sup>7</sup> . |
| <b>Average Cost Per Year to Fully Fund the Grants</b> | \$ 3,000,000  | \$5,300,000  | \$ 3,150,000 + supplemental grants        | \$ 4,000,000 + supplemental grants  | \$2,200,000  | \$4,400,000 <sup>7</sup> + supplemental grants <sup>3,4</sup>   |
| <b>Source of Funds</b>                                | \$1 income tax checkoff, plus \$750,000 for 2000. (Does not cover costs of plan.) | \$5 income tax checkoff, partisan option, \$3 million GPR per year, tax saving from lobbyist deduction | Sum-sufficient GPR                        | 10% tax on lobbying expenses plus sum-sufficient GPR                                  | \$1 income tax checkoff. (Does not cover costs of program.)                        | \$5 income tax checkoff, with a partisan option <sup>2</sup> , plus sum-sufficient GPR <sup>3,4</sup>                   |
| <b>Qualifying for a</b>                               | 1) 6% of the vote in the  | 1) 6% of the vote in the   | 1) 6% of the vote in the primary.         | 1) 6% of the vote in the primary.   | 1) 6% of the vote in the primary.  | 1) 2% of the vote in the  |

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|--------------|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| <b>Grant</b> | primary or a candidate in the same party received 6% of the vote in the last general election.<br>2) Raise 5% of spending limit in individual contributions of \$100 or less. | primary.<br>2) Raise 5% of the spending limit in not more than \$50 individual contributions, ½ within the district | 2) Raise \$5,000 for Senate candidates and \$2,500 for Assembly candidates in not more than \$100 individual contributions, all within the district. | 2) Raise \$4,000 for Senate and \$2,000 for Assembly in not more than \$100 individual contributions, anywhere in the state.<br>3) Double the number of required signatures on nominating petitions. | 2) Raise \$7,000 for Senate and \$3,500 for Assembly in not more than \$100 individual contributions, ½ of which must come from counties included in the district. | primary <sup>6</sup> .<br>2) Raise \$5,000 for Senate and \$2,500 for Assembly in not more than \$100 individual contributions <sup>1,2,3</sup> , ½ of which must come from counties included in the district <sup>5</sup> . |

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|---|--|--|---|--|---|---|
| <b>Individual/PAC Contribution Limits</b> | Increases PAC contribution limits for Senate from \$1,000 to \$2,000, and for Assembly from \$500 to \$1,000.  | Reduces individual contribution limits for Senate from \$1,000 to \$500, for Assembly from \$500 to \$250, and for statewide offices from \$10,000 to \$1,000. | Reduces individual contribution limits for Senate from \$1,000 to \$500, for Assembly from \$500 to \$250.  | Reduces individual contribution limits for Senate from \$1,000 to \$500, for Assembly from \$500 to \$250, and for statewide offices from \$10,000 to \$1,000. | Reduces the aggregate political committee contribution limit from 65% of a spending limit to 60%.   | 1) Reduces individual contribution limits for Senate from \$1,000 to \$500, for Assembly from \$500 to \$250 <sup>2,3,4</sup> , and for statewide offices from \$10,000 to \$1,000 <sup>2,4</sup> .<br>2) Reduces the aggregate annual individual limit from \$10,000 to \$5,000 <sup>6</sup> .                                 |
| <b>Party/PAC/Conduit Contributions</b>    | 1) Increases party contribution limits.<br>2) Limits PAC to PAC contributions. Eliminates LCCs.<br>3) Increases individual control over conduit contributions. | 1) Limits total of party, LCC, PAC, and conduit contributions to \$25,000 for Senate and \$12,500 for Assembly.<br>3) Treats conduits the same as PACs.        | 1) Party contributions limited to \$20,000 for Senate and \$10,000 for Assembly.<br>2) No PAC contributions to grant recipients. Eliminates LCCs.<br>3) Treats conduits the same as PACs. | 1) No PAC or party contributions for grant recipients<br>2) Eliminates LCCs.<br>3) Eliminates conduits.  | 1) Limits PAC to PAC contributions to \$100 per year.<br>2) Limits conduit to PAC transfers to \$100 per year.<br>3) Requires more reporting and restricts use of funds by out of state committees. | 1) No PAC contributions for grant recipients <sup>3,4</sup> .<br>2) Eliminates LCCs, <sup>1,3,4</sup> .<br>3) Treat conduits same as PACs <sup>2,3,4</sup> .<br>4) Bans PAC to PAC contributions <sup>1,5,6</sup> .<br>5) Restricts contributions from outside WI to individuals and FEC-registered committees <sup>5,6</sup> . |
| <b>Independent</b>                        | Registration and reporting as  | Registration and reporting as  | 1) Requires prior notice of   | 1) Requires prior notice of  | Registration and reporting as in  | 1) Requires contemporaneous   |

|                     |   |                 |  |   |              |  |
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| <b>Expenditures</b> | in current law. If over 25% of the spending limit, a candidate is 1) released from spending limit, 2) contribution limits are doubled, and 3) political party limit is removed. | in current law. | independent spending.<br>2) Matches independent spending with public funds for candidates that agree to spending limits. | anticipated expenditures.<br>2) Requires contemporaneous reporting of actual expenditures.<br>3) Matches both with public funds for candidates that agree to spending limits. | current law. | reporting of independent expenditures <sup>4</sup> .<br>3) Matches with public funds for candidates that agree to spending limits <sup>3,4,6</sup> . |
|---------------------|---|-----------------|--|---|--------------|--|

| <b>Subject Area</b>     | <b>Governor Thompson<br/>(Kettl Commission Plan)<br/>(1)</b>  | <b>Burke/Freeze Proposal<br/>(SB 111)<br/>(2)</b>   | <b>Ellis Proposal<br/>(SSA1 to SB 113)<br/>(3)</b>   | <b>Senate Democratic Plan<br/>(SSA2 to SB 190)<br/>(4)</b>  | <b>Assembly Republican Plan<br/>(Amended AB 701)<br/>(5)</b> | <b>Voters First Proposal</b>  |
|-------------------------|---|---|--|---|--|---|
| <b>Issue Ads</b>        | Requires registration and reporting of sources of money. Continues to allow use of corporate money. If over 25% of the spending limit, a candidate is 1) released from spending limit, 2) contribution limits are doubled, and 3) political party limit is removed. | Treat as independent expenditures if mention a candidate, office or party within 60 days of the election or 30 days of primary. | Treats as independent expenditures if mention a candidate, office or party within 60 days of the election. | Treats as independent expenditures if mention a candidate, office or party within 60 days of the election.                                | No provisions.   | Treats as independent expenditures if mention a candidate, office or party within 60 days of the election <sup>2,3,4</sup> .  |
| <b>Other Provisions</b> | 1) Contemporaneous reporting for committees with activity over \$20,000.<br>2) Strengthens Elections Board.   | Up to \$50 tax refund for contributions to candidates and to political parties.   | Matches with public funds: Contributions to opponent over 75% of the spending limit.                       | Matches with public funds:<br>1) contributions to opponent over 75% of spending limit.<br>2) spending by opponent over the spending limit |  | 1) Match spending by opponent over the spending limit with public funds <sup>3,4,6</sup><br>2) Contemporaneous reporting for committees with activity over \$20,000 <sup>1,6</sup> .<br>3) \$50 tax credit for contributions to political parties |

Wisconsin Democracy Campaign  
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|  |  |  |  |  |  | and a \$50 tax credit for in-district contributions to candidates <sup>2</sup> .<br>4) Expand appointments and strengthen investigatory functions of the Elections Board <sup>1,6</sup> .<br>5) Radio and TV ads paid with public funds must feature the candidate personally <sup>6</sup> .<br>6) Require the return of contributions if occupation and principal place of business are not provided <sup>6</sup> . |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

Other Notations: (6) Wisconsin Democracy Campaign Plan  
 (7) Compromise between major partisan plans.

11/30/00