

1 Adopt 2 Cal. Code of Regulations Section 18227.5 to read:

2 **§ 18227.5. General Purpose Committees: State, County or City.**

3 (a) A “general purpose” committee is defined in Section 82027.5 to include all
4 committees formed under Sections 82013(b) and (c), and recipient committees formed under
5 Section 82013(a) that support or oppose multiple candidates or ballot measures, except as
6 provided in Section 82047.5. (In contrast, a “primarily formed” committee, as defined in Section
7 82047.5 and Regulation 18247.5, supports or opposes a single candidate or measure, or a group
8 of specific measures or local candidates on the same ballot.)

9 (b) Filing. Under Section 84215 and other provisions contained in Chapter 4, general
10 purpose committees file their semi-annual and preelection statements as follows:

11 (1) A state general purpose committee files with the Secretary of State’s office.

12 (2) A county general purpose committee files with the county elections official.

13 (3) A city general purpose committee files with the office of the city clerk.

14 (c) State, County or City. Under this regulation a committee is considered a state
15 committee unless it qualifies as a city or county committee. To determine whether a general
16 purpose committee is a state, county or city committee under Section 82027.5, the following
17 definitions apply:

18 (1) City General Purpose Committee. A “city general purpose committee” is a
19 committee that makes more than 70 percent of its contributions or expenditures to support or
20 oppose candidates or measures voted on in only one city, or in one consolidated city and county,
21 including contributions to city general purpose committees in the same city or the same
22 consolidated city and county.

1 (2) County General Purpose Committee. A “county general purpose committee” is a
2 committee that makes more than 70 percent of its contributions or expenditures to support or
3 oppose candidates or measures voted on in only one county, or in more than one jurisdiction
4 within one county, including contributions to county general purpose committees in the same
5 county.

6 (3) State General Purpose Committee. A “state general purpose committee” is a
7 committee that meets the criteria in subparagraph (c)(3)(A), (c)(3)(B) or (c)(3)(C):

8 (A) The committee makes contributions or expenditures to support or oppose candidates
9 or measures voted on in state elections, including making contributions to other state general
10 purpose committees, or in more than one county, and does not meet the criteria for a city or a
11 county committee set forth in subdivisions (c)(1) or (c)(2) above.

12 (B) The committee is a political party committee, as defined in Section 85205.

13 [OPTIONS FOR WHEN MAJOR DONORS FILE WITH THE STATE:

14 MD OPTION 1: (C) The committee is a major donor or independent expenditure
15 committee under Section 82013(c) or (b) that has made any amount of contributions or
16 expenditures on state candidates or measures during the calendar year.

17 MD OPTION 2: (C) The committee is a major donor or independent expenditure
18 committee under Section 82013(c) or (b) that has made \$25,000 in contributions or expenditures
19 on state candidates or measures during the calendar year.

20 MD OPTION 3: No special rule for major donors; they follow the rule for all general
21 purpose committees in subdivision (c), i.e., file at the state level unless they have made 70
22 percent of their contributions during the calendar year in one city or county.]

1 (d) Review.

2 (1) In light of the facts, circumstances and intended activities of the committee, a general
3 purpose committee shall verify its filing jurisdiction [REVIEW OPTION 1: quarterly at the end
4 of March, June, September and December OR REVIEW OPTION 2: at the close of the semi-
5 annual reporting periods at the end of June and December, and as necessary at the close of the
6 pre-election reporting periods specified in Sections 84200.7 or 84200.8 in connection with a city,
7 county or state election]. An existing general purpose committee that has not made contributions
8 and/or expenditures [of \$5,000 or more] in the preceding [quarterly or semi-annual] time period
9 is not required to review or change its status.

10 (2) Newly organized committees. A recipient committee under Section 82013(a) that
11 files its initial statement of organization within six months of an election in connection with
12 which the committee makes contributions or expenditures shall verify its filing jurisdiction at the
13 end of each month prior to the election.

14 (3) For purposes of determining where to file under subdivision (c), a recipient
15 committee formed pursuant to Section 82013(a) shall count contributions and expenditures made
16 to support or oppose candidates or measures during whichever of the following time periods
17 most accurately reflects the current and upcoming activities of the committee:

18 (A) The immediately preceding 24 months; or

19 (B) The current two-year period, beginning with January 1 of an odd-numbered year and
20 ending with December 31 of the following even-numbered year.

21 (4) For purposes of determining where to file under subdivision (c), a major donor or
22 independent expenditure committee formed under Sections 82013(c) or (b) qualifies anew as a

1 committee each year, and accordingly shall count contributions or expenditures made to support
2 or oppose candidates or measures during the current calendar year.

3 (e) *Change of Status.*

4 (1) *Amend Statement of Organization.* A recipient committee whose status changes from
5 one jurisdiction to another, or between general purpose and primarily formed shall amend its
6 statement of organization pursuant to Section 84103 to reflect the change. If, after filing reports
7 with one jurisdiction, a committee changes jurisdiction, in addition to filing reports with a new
8 filing officer, the committee must continue filing reports with the original filing officer through
9 the end of the calendar year under Section 84215(g).

10 [(2) *Local Committee Contributing to State Candidates from its Area.* A city or county
11 general purpose committee that makes up to four contributions per calendar year to candidates
12 for elective state office whose districts include part of that jurisdiction, but which committee
13 would otherwise still qualify as a local committee, is not required to change its status to a state
14 committee based on those contributions.]

15 (f) *Avoidance of Disclosure.* A committee shall not knowingly file in an incorrect
16 jurisdiction or as an incorrect type of committee, with the intention of avoiding the appropriate
17 legal disclosure of campaign contributions and expenditures to the public.

18 Comment: A state general purpose committee that is making independent expenditures on
19 candidates or measures in a local jurisdiction may be subject to local independent expenditure
20 disclosure rules.

21 Note: Authority cited: Section 83112, Government Code. Reference: Section 82027.5,
22 Government Code.