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SB 152 - Election Integrity and Campaign Finance Reform Act

Overview

SB 152 introduces measures to enhance election integrity and regulate campaign finance in Missouri. The bill strengthens oversight of election challengers and watchers, prohibits foreign donations in election administration, and enforces stricter campaign finance certifications and penalties.

Key Provisions

1. Election Challengers and Watchers

- **Description:** Requires political party county committee chairs to designate challengers and watchers at least four business days before they enter polling or counting locations. These individuals must be registered voters in the jurisdiction and meet qualifications similar to those of election judges.
- **Location:** Sections 115.105 and 115.107

2. Prohibition on Foreign Donations

- **Description:** Bans government entities from soliciting, accepting, or using non-government funds or in-kind goods/services (especially from foreign nationals) for election administration. Includes definitions for terms like "foreign national" and "election administration."
- **Location:** Section 115.1630

3. Campaign Finance Regulations

- **Description:** Mandates certifications and affirmations to ensure committees and donors do not accept contributions from prohibited sources (e.g., foreign nationals). Requires treasurers to verify donor compliance for contributions over \$2,000. Establishes penalties such as refunds, fines, or imprisonment for violations.
- **Location:** Sections 130.170 to 130.188

Impact

This bill affects election officials, political committees, donors, and government entities involved in election administration. It aims to prevent foreign influence and enhance transparency in Missouri's electoral processes.