

# REFERENCE COPY

FILE: DCB  
Critical

**EXPLANATION: POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS**

**House Bill 271 (2021) amended § 115.646, RSMo., to clarify that school districts cannot use public funds to support or oppose a ballot measure, candidate or committee. This policy has been revised to reflect the new language.**

**Please note that the law now makes it a criminal offense (a class four election offense) if there is a purposeful violation of the law.**

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## POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS

No contribution or expenditure of district funds shall be made directly by any board member, employee or agent of the district to advocate, support or oppose the passage or defeat of any ballot measure or the nomination or election of any candidate for public office. District funds also cannot be provided to any committee supporting or opposing a ballot measure or candidate or be used to pay any debts or obligations of any committee. This does not prevent board members or administrators from making public appearances or issuing press releases concerning any such ballot measures.

Reasonable expenditures may be made solely for the purpose of providing patrons of the district with objective information regarding ballot measures ~~in order~~ to inform voters concerning issues that directly affect the district.

***Note: The reader is encouraged to check the index located at the beginning of this section for other pertinent policies and to review administrative procedures and/or forms for related information.***

Adopted: 12/16/1999

Revised: 01/17/2002

Cross Refs: BBBB, School Board Ballot Issues  
GBCB, Staff Conduct  
KB, Public Information Program  
KG, Community Use of District Facilities  
KI, Public Solicitations/Advertising in District Facilities

Legal Refs: § 115.646, RSMo.

Platte County R-3 School District, Platte City, Missouri