

PERC-WV

West Virginia People's Election Reform Coalition

Analysis of Contributions to Legislative Candidates During the 2004 Primary Election

This report was produced by:

WV Citizen Action Group
1500 Dixie Street
Charleston, WV 25311
304-346-5891
www.wvca.org

Mountain State Education
& Research Foundation
1500 Dixie Street
Charleston, WV 25311
304-346-8928

Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition
PO Box 6753
Huntington, WV 25773
304-522-0246
www.ohvec.org

About the WV People's Election Reform Coalition

The WV People's Election Reform Coalition is a joint project of the Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition, Mountain State Education and Research Foundation and WV Citizen Action Group. PERC-WV's primary mission is to focus attention on how special interest money influences our democratic institutions in West Virginia. By maintaining a database of special interest contributions to political campaigns, tracking significant bills in the legislature and issuing reports on our research, PERC-WV educates the public on the significant influence that special interest money plays in WV politics and highlights the need for campaign finance reform.

Overview and Methodology

The purpose of this report is to provide West Virginians with a quantitative summary of campaign donations made to legislative candidates in the 2004 primary election. Comparisons to the 2000 and 2002 figures are included where relevant. The report attempts to identify the special interest category of the contributions. The raw data for this report was provided to PERC-WV by the National Institute on Money in State Politics and was compiled from the candidates' own financial reports filed with the Secretary of State.

Unless otherwise noted, the percentages given are based on "identified contributions," where indicated, although in some instances percentages are based on "total contributions."

PERC-WV researchers identified contributions from 34 individual special interest groups. By law, candidates must identify donors who give more than \$250 by name, address, occupation and employer. Donors who contribute \$250 or less can be identified by name only. However, many contributors who give over \$250 are often not completely identified and discovering their business interests is difficult and sometimes impossible.

Candidates list the occupation of their donors in a variety of ways. Some are very specific, listing not only the name of the employer, but also the industry represented. Others list very generic terms such as "businessman," "housewife" or "retired." Still others ignore the occupation requirement altogether. Such practices account for a many of the "unidentified contributions."

A variety of resources were employed in determining donors' special interest relationships. PERC-WV databases for the 1996, 1998, 2000 and 2002 election cycles were used as well as professional rosters, phone books and direct contacts with the candidates. These efforts identified 79% of all contributions to legislative candidates.

Highlights & Trends of the 2004 Primary Election

- Legislative candidates raised nearly \$3.5 million dollars during the primary election. 65% of all contributions went to incumbents, 33% went to challengers and 2% went to candidates for open seats in the legislature. (This year there are only four open seats in the Legislature, one in the Senate and three in the House.) Democratic candidates received 78% of all contributions and Republican candidates received 22%.
- Contributions to candidates from themselves and family members continue to be the largest source of funding for campaigns. Self-financing accounted for \$589,178, or 22% of all identified contributions to legislative candidates.
- Contributions from health care providers were the second biggest source of special interest contributions to legislative candidates. Doctors, hospitals and other health care professionals poured \$329,685 into candidates campaign coffers. These contributions accounted for 12% of all identified contributions to legislative candidates.
- Of the top ten special interest groups contributing the most during the 2004 primary, nine were also in the top ten in 2002. For the past two election cycles the top four contributing interests were self & family, health care, labor and coal respectively. This year consumer lawyers replaced labor as the third largest contributor. Contributions from consumer (or trial) lawyers increased 43% since the 2002 primary and accounted for \$252,683, or 9% of all identified contributions to legislative candidates. Other candidates were the only other group in the top ten to see an increase this election cycle.
- Overall the presidential, gubernatorial and other statewide races probably had a moderating influence on contributions to legislative candidates. However, while contributions from the interest groups that typically give the most have decreased since 2002, all the interest groups in the top ten have increased since 2000. Those interest groups that had the biggest increase in donations this year are not generally big contributors.
- House Speaker Bob Kiss regained the position as the House candidate with the most contributions. In 2002, Dan Foster, who is currently running to the State Senate seat being vacated by Larry Rowe, held that position. Vic Sprouse raised the most of all the Senate candidates, bumping Senate President Earl Ray Tomblin from the top spot. Sprouse was also the top recipient of contributions from health care, coal, corporate lawyers, real estate & construction and other candidates, and he was among the top five recipients of contributions from several other interest groups.

Special Interest Groups Contributing the Most to Legislative Candidates

2004 Primary Election

SPECIAL INTEREST	Contributions	% of Identified Contributions	Increase Since 2000	% Increase Since 2002
Self & Family	\$589,178	22%	-24%	-9%
Health Care	\$329,685	12%	93%	-26%
Consumer Lawyers	\$252,683	9%	163%	43%
Labor	\$211,817	8%	32%	-26%
Coal	\$163,683	6%	21%	-12%
Other Candidates	\$110,666	4%	92%	8%
Education	\$95,993	4%	3%	-12%
Real Estate & Construction	\$93,130	3%	10%	-17%
Banking & Finance	\$92,517	3%	43%	-9%
Corporate Lawyers	\$76,220	3%	20%	-5%
TOP TEN TOTAL	\$2,015,573	74%		

2002 Primary Election

SPECIAL INTEREST	Contributions	% of Identified Contributions	% Increase Since 2000
Self & Family	\$646,236	22%	-16%
Health Care	\$444,120	15%	159%
Labor	\$284,491	9%	77%
Coal	\$186,520	6%	38%
Consumer Lawyers	\$176,380	6%	84%
Other Lawyers	\$122,292	4%	135%
Real Estate & Construction	\$112,605	4%	33%
Education	\$109,655	4%	18%
Other Candidates	\$102,219	3%	77%
Banking & Finance	\$101,723	3%	57%
TOP TEN TOTAL	\$2,253,241	75%	

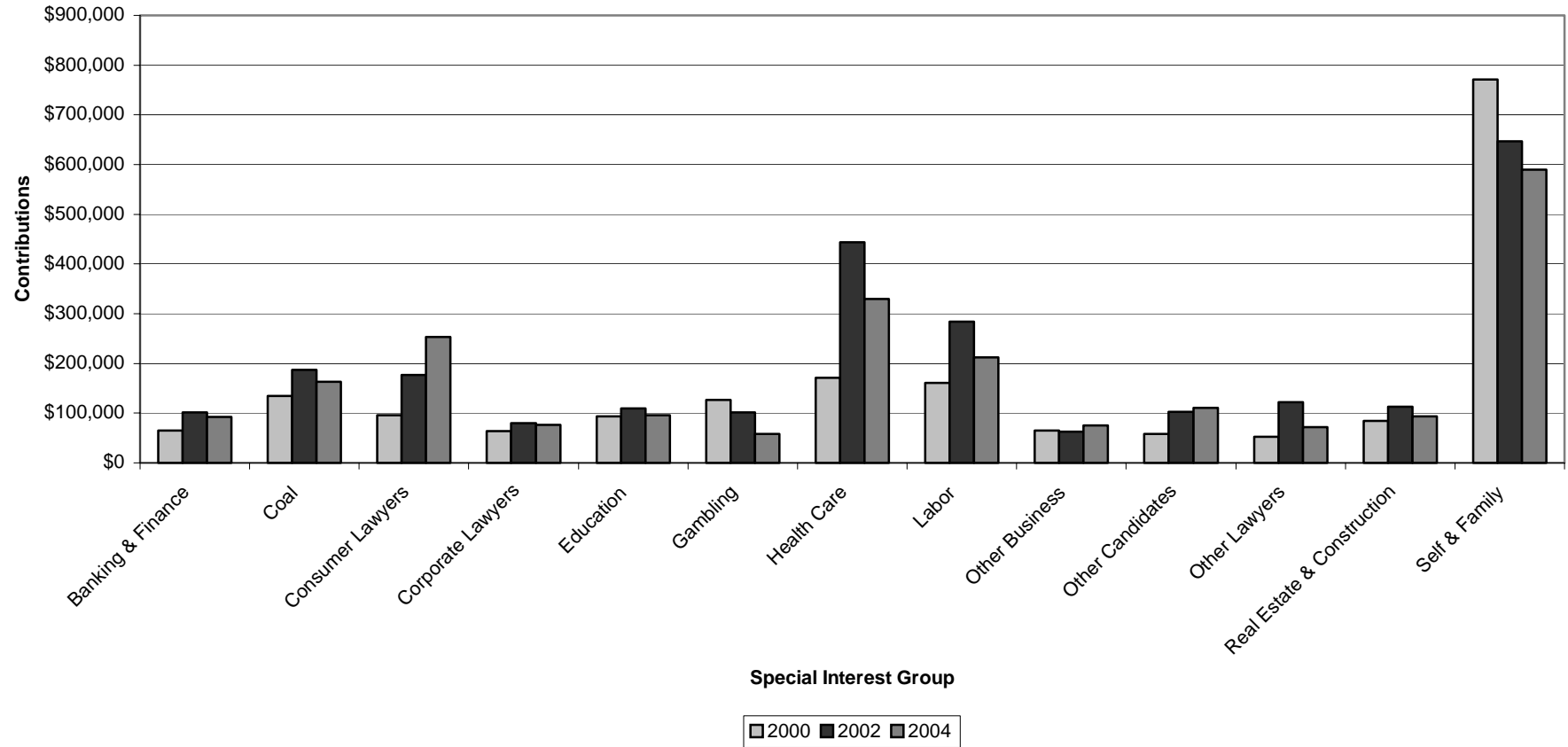
2000 Primary Election

SPECIAL INTEREST	Contributions	% of Identified Contributions
Self & Family	\$770,795	33%
Health Care	\$171,184	7%
Labor	\$161,025	7%
Coal	\$134,968	6%
Gambling	\$126,147	5%
Consumer Lawyers	\$96,027	4%
Education	\$93,030	4%
Real Estate & Construction	\$84,528	4%
Other Business	\$65,141	3%
Banking & Finance	\$64,629	3%
TOP TEN TOTAL	\$1,767,474	76%

**Comparison of Special Interest Contributions to Legislative Candidates
During the Primary Election**

SPECIAL INTEREST	2000	2002	2004	% Increase Since 2000	% Increase Since 2002
Agriculture	\$12,259	\$9,300	\$6,255	-49%	-33%
Banking & Finance	\$64,629	\$101,723	\$92,517	43%	-9%
Beverage	\$49,675	\$57,850	\$60,715	22%	5%
Business Lobbyists	\$46,755	\$55,998	\$44,920	-4%	-20%
Chemicals & Manufacturing	\$31,930	\$51,002	\$46,081	44%	-10%
Coal	\$134,968	\$186,520	\$163,683	21%	-12%
Communications	\$13,785	\$14,345	\$10,590	-23%	-26%
Consumer Lawyers	\$96,027	\$176,380	\$252,683	163%	43%
Corporate Lawyers	\$63,426	\$80,199	\$76,220	20%	-5%
Education	\$93,030	\$109,655	\$95,993	3%	-12%
Electric Power	\$2,800	\$675	\$36,375	1199%	5289%
Environment	\$6,974	\$3,085	\$1,080	-85%	-65%
Gambling	\$126,147	\$101,170	\$57,633	-54%	-43%
Health Care	\$171,184	\$444,120	\$329,685	93%	-26%
Insurance	\$22,770	\$29,625	\$67,098	195%	126%
Labor	\$161,025	\$284,491	\$211,817	32%	-26%
Oil & Gas	\$63,939	\$73,850	\$69,234	8%	-6%
Other Business	\$65,141	\$62,604	\$75,334	15%	20%
Other Candidates	\$57,625	\$102,219	\$110,666	92%	8%
Other Lawyers	\$52,113	\$122,292	\$72,235	39%	-41%
Pharmaceuticals	\$17,000	\$33,275	\$26,772	57%	-20%
Political Party	\$2,985	\$13,368	\$4,125	38%	-69%
Public Employees	\$15,867	\$17,945	\$14,166	-11%	-21%
Railroad	\$625	\$1,425	\$5,055	709%	255%
Real Estate & Construction	\$84,528	\$112,605	\$93,130	10%	-17%
Religion	\$535	\$1,895	\$1,442	169%	-24%
Self & Family	\$770,795	\$646,236	\$589,178	-24%	-9%
Social Issues	\$15,913	\$24,340	\$14,350	-10%	-41%
Solid Waste	\$4,200	\$1,800	\$4,770	14%	165%
Timber	\$14,650	\$12,650	\$16,775	15%	33%
Tobacco	\$10,300	\$18,100	\$21,700	111%	20%
Tourism	\$6,800	\$7,350	\$6,300	-7%	-14%
Transportation	\$43,740	\$45,709	\$35,975	-18%	-21%
Identified Special Interest Contributions	\$2,324,140	\$3,003,800	\$2,714,551	17%	-10%
Unidentified Contributions	\$688,250	\$716,985	\$733,753		
Total Contributions	\$3,012,390	\$3,720,785	\$3,448,304	14%	-7%

Comparison of Special Interest Contributions to Legislative Candidates During the Primary Election



Special Interest Contributions to Legislative Candidates During the 2004 Primary Election

SPECIAL INTEREST	House	Senate	Total Contributions	% of Identified
Agriculture	\$3,730	\$2,525	\$6,255	*
Banking & Finance	\$57,316	\$35,201	\$92,517	3%
Beverage	\$28,315	\$32,400	\$60,715	2%
Business Lobbyists	\$17,400	\$27,520	\$44,920	2%
Chemicals & Manufacturing	\$26,236	\$19,845	\$46,081	2%
Coal	\$82,758	\$80,925	\$163,683	6%
Communications	\$3,810	\$6,780	\$10,590	*
Consumer Lawyers	\$191,138	\$61,545	\$252,683	9%
Corporate Lawyers	\$42,750	\$33,470	\$76,220	3%
Education	\$69,108	\$26,886	\$95,993	4%
Electric Power	\$24,450	\$11,925	\$36,375	1%
Environment	\$890	\$190	\$1,080	*
Gambling	\$17,828	\$39,805	\$57,633	2%
Health Care	\$165,699	\$163,986	\$329,685	12%
Insurance	\$29,750	\$37,348	\$67,098	2%
Labor	\$164,462	\$47,355	\$211,817	8%
Oil & Gas	\$38,034	\$31,200	\$69,234	3%
Other Business	\$40,429	\$34,905	\$75,334	3%
Other Candidates	\$59,119	\$51,547	\$110,666	4%
Other Lawyers	\$55,855	\$16,380	\$72,235	3%
Pharmaceuticals	\$10,272	\$16,500	\$26,772	1%
Political Party	\$2,650	\$1,475	\$4,125	*
Public Employees	\$6,544	\$7,622	\$14,166	1%
Railroad	\$3,705	\$1,350	\$5,055	*
Real Estate & Construction	\$51,450	\$41,680	\$93,130	3%
Religion	\$937	\$505	\$1,442	*
Self & Family	\$447,204	\$141,974	\$589,178	22%
Social Issues	\$10,040	\$4,310	\$14,350	1%
Solid Waste	\$4,120	\$650	\$4,770	*
Timber	\$6,000	\$10,775	\$16,775	1%
Tobacco	\$7,550	\$14,150	\$21,700	1%
Tourism	\$1,350	\$4,950	\$6,300	*
Transportation	\$19,275	\$16,700	\$35,975	1%
Identified Special Interest Contributions	\$1,690,173	\$1,024,378	\$2,714,551	
Unidentified Contributions	\$563,552	\$170,201	\$733,753	
Total Contributions	\$2,253,725	\$1,194,579	\$3,448,304	

*Less than one percent of identified special interest contributions.

Candidates with the Most Contributions

House Candidates	Senate Candidates	
KISS, ROBERT S	\$145,764 SPROUSE, VIC (R)	\$145,235
REYNOLDS, DOUG*	\$59,655 TOMBLIN, EARL RAY	\$142,364
HUNT, MARK	\$54,824 ROSS, MIKE	\$102,132
EASTERLY, TOM	\$54,628 FOSTER, DAN	\$76,061
DELONG, JOE	\$51,728 FACEMYER, KAREN (R)	\$71,721
MICHAEL, HAROLD	\$43,318 SHARPE, BILL	\$62,145
STATON, W RICHARD (RICK)	\$39,424 PLYMALE, ROBERT H (BOB)	\$60,250
WARNER, BARBARA (BOBBIE)*	\$38,600 WEBB, RUSTY (R)	\$36,992
BEANE, J D	\$36,328 MCKENZIE, ANDY (R)	\$30,719
CAPUTO, MIKE	\$34,901 KESSLER, JEFFREY V	\$30,472
HRUTKAY, LIDELLA WILSON	\$34,776 EDWARDS, KEITH8	\$30,162

Candidates Receiving the Most Contributions from Selected Special Interest Groups

SELF-FINANCING \$589,178 Total

House Candidates	Senate Candidates	
EASTERLY, TOM*	\$54,016 ROSS, MIKE	\$25,000
HUNT, MARK	\$48,074 SCHOLL, JENNY (R)*	\$21,607
SUSMAN, SALLY	\$24,511 BARNES, CLARK S (R)	\$20,000
RYAN, ARNOLD W*	\$22,905 YODER, JOHN (R)	\$13,660
HRUTKAY, LIDELLA WILSON	\$16,756 BENNETT, BRUCE LEE*	\$9,191
	WILBOURNE, R EARL (R)*	\$9,141

HEALTH CARE \$329,685 Total

House Candidates	Senate Candidates	
MICHAEL, HAROLD	\$9,200 SPROUSE, VIC (R)	\$38,540
STAGGERS, MARGARET ANNE*	\$8,450 FOSTER, DAN	\$19,805
BEANE, J D	\$7,850 TOMBLIN, EARL RAY	\$18,162
KISS, ROBERT S	\$7,218 EDWARDS, KEITH*	\$16,684
WARNER, BARBARA (BOBBIE)*	\$5,800 PREZIOSO JR, ROMAN W	\$9,375
REYNOLDS, DOUG*	\$5,700	
LONG, MARSHALL C	\$5,649	

LABOR \$211,817 Total

House Candidates	Senate Candidates	
KLEMPA, ORPHY	\$15,500 HUNTER, JON BLAIR	\$8,195
PARKER, DIANE C	\$8,550 MULLINS, DAVID	\$6,965
CAPUTO, MIKE	\$5,990 BENNETT, BRUCE LEE*	\$5,645
MARTIN, DALE	\$5,950 CALDWELL, ANITA SKEENS	\$5,500
DELONG, JOE	\$5,550 KESSLER, JEFFREY V	\$2,800

COAL \$163,683 Total

House Candidates	Senate Candidates	
KOMINAR, K STEVEN	\$7,250 SPROUSE, VIC (R)	\$14,075
KISS, ROBERT S	\$6,900 TOMBLIN, EARL RAY	\$13,700
THOMPSON, RON	\$5,575 ROSS, MIKE	\$9,550
WOOTON, JOHN D	\$5,250 LOVE, SHIRLEY	\$8,300
BROWNING, RICHARD	\$3,425 SHARPE, BILL	\$7,900

*Defeated in Primary Election

**Candidates Receiving the Most Contributions
from Selected Special Interest Groups (continued)**

CONSUMER LAWYERS \$252,683 Total

House Candidates	Senate Candidates	
SPENCER, SHARON	\$10,400 WORKMAN, MARGARET L	\$15,500
HATFIELD, BARBARA (BOBBIE)	\$10,250 CALDWELL, ANITA SKEENS	\$10,550
YOST, JACK	\$10,200 HUTCHINS, TAL	\$10,500
MANCHIN, TIMOTHY J	\$9,850 WEBB, RUSTY (R)	\$6,450
DELONG, JOE	\$9,473 HUNTER, JON BLAIR	\$4,300

CORPORATE LAWYERS \$76,220 Total

House Candidates	Senate Candidates	
KISS, ROBERT S	\$4,875 SPROUSE, VIC (R)	\$6,695
HIGGINS, DAVE*	\$3,980 FOSTER, DAN	\$6,100
MICHAEL, HAROLD	\$3,775 TOMBLIN, EARL RAY	\$4,450
PALUMBO, COREY	\$2,630 ROSS, MIKE	\$2,650
CRAIG, KEVIN J	\$2,000 SHARPE, BILL	\$2,225

OTHER LAWYERS \$72,235 Total

House Candidates	Senate Candidates	
DELONG, JOE	\$9,800 WORKMAN, MARGARET L	\$3,725
MAGANN, MICHAEL	\$3,300 HUTCHINS, TAL	\$3,050
MILEY, TIM	\$2,700 CALDWELL, ANITA SKEENS	\$1,500
YOST, JACK	\$2,450 WEBB, RUSTY (R)	\$1,350
LONGSTRETH, LINDA	\$2,300 FOSTER, DAN	\$1,130

REAL ESTATE & CONSTRUCTION \$93,130 Total

House Candidates	Senate Candidates	
WARNER, BARBARA (BOBBIE)*	\$5,550 SPROUSE, VIC (R)	\$10,885
REYNOLDS, DOUG*	\$4,125 TOMBLIN, EARL RAY	\$7,700
SWARTZMILLER, RANDY	\$3,750 PLYMALE, ROBERT H (BOB)	\$6,200
MANCHIN, TIMOTHY J	\$3,100 FACEMYER, KAREN (R)	\$5,320
DELONG, JOE	\$2,250 ROSS, MIKE	\$3,150

EDUCATION \$95,993 Total

House Candidates	Senate Candidates	
HUBBARD, SUSAN	\$4,030 HUNTER, JON BLAIR	\$4,350
DELONG, JOE	\$3,100 PLYMALE, ROBERT H (BOB)	\$3,650
CAPUTO, MIKE	\$2,040 CALDWELL, ANITA SKEENS	\$2,900
POLING, MARY M	\$2,000 HUTCHINS, TAL	\$2,110
MARSHALL, CHARLENE	\$2,000 TOMBLIN, EARL RAY	\$1,800
CLAYPOLE, EUGENE GENE*	\$2,000	
BROWNING, RICHARD	\$2,000	

*Defeated in Primary Election

**Candidates Receiving the Most Contributions
from Selected Special Interest Groups (continued)**

OTHER CANDIDATES \$110,666 Total

House Candidates	Senate Candidates	
STATON, W RICHARD (RICK)	\$5,376 SPROUSE, VIC (R)	\$5,684
THOMPSON, RICHARD	\$2,350 TOMBLIN, EARL RAY	\$4,437
BROWNING, RICHARD	\$2,050 SHARPE, BILL	\$4,350
KOMINAR, K STEVEN	\$2,000 ROSS, MIKE	\$4,050
HUBBARD, SUSAN	\$1,900 SNYDER, HERB*	\$3,450
CAPUTO, MIKE	\$1,900	

BANKING & FINANCE \$92,517 Total

House Candidates	Senate Candidates	
REYNOLDS, DOUG*	\$7,450 ROSS, MIKE	\$4,949
KISS, ROBERT S	\$3,525 TOMBLIN, EARL RAY	\$4,500
AMORES, JON	\$2,625 SPROUSE, VIC (R)	\$3,950
THOMPSON, RON	\$2,600 SHARPE, BILL	\$3,300
MICHAEL, HAROLD	\$2,500 FOSTER, DAN	\$2,800

GAMBLING \$57,663 Total

House Candidates	Senate Candidates	
SWARTZMILLER, RANDY	\$2,050 TOMBLIN, EARL RAY	\$16,350
BUTCHER, GREG	\$1,396 FACEMYER, KAREN (R)	\$8,500
WELLS, DANNY	\$1,250 SNYDER, HERB	\$6,000
WARNER, BARBARA (BOBBIE)*	\$1,000 ROSS, MIKE	\$1,850
CAPUTO, MIKE	\$950 BAILEY JR, BILLY WAYNE	\$1,600
MARTIN, DALE	\$850 CALDWELL, ANITA SKEENS	\$1,600
PETHTEL, DAVE	\$800 SHARPE, BILL	\$1,500
BROWNING, RICHARD	\$750	
AMORES, JON	\$750	
STATON, W RICHARD (RICK)	\$700	

OTHER BUSINESS \$75,334 Total

House Candidates	Senate Candidates	
REYNOLDS, DOUG*	\$5,850 TOMBLIN, EARL RAY	\$7,330
DELONG, JOE	\$3,500 SPROUSE, VIC (R)	\$5,000
BROWNING, RICHARD	\$2,050 FOSTER, DAN	\$3,608
MEZZATESTA, JERRY L	\$2,000 ROSS, MIKE	\$2,750
CRAIG, KEVIN J	\$1,800 WEBB, RUSTY (R)	\$2,717

OIL & GAS \$69,234 Total

House Candidates	Senate Candidates	
CANN, SAMUEL J (SAM)	\$5,000 ROSS, MIKE	\$11,050
KISS, ROBERT S	\$2,500 SPROUSE, VIC (R)	\$3,700
WARNER, BARBARA (BOBBIE)*	\$1,950 TOMBLIN, EARL RAY	\$3,600
THOMPSON, RON	\$1,650 SHARPE, BILL	\$3,600
STATON, W RICHARD (RICK)	\$1,400 FOSTER, DAN	\$2,750

*Defeated in Primary Election