

# CONTRIBUTIONS TO MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY CANDIDATES IN THE 1998 ELECTIONS

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## Executive Summary

Contributors gave more than \$16.7 million to candidates for the Maryland General Assembly during the 1998 elections. Individuals and groups make campaign contributions for a variety of reasons. Parties contribute because they seek to maximize the number of seats they hold in the state legislature. Legislative leaders, other incumbents, and even a few challengers, referred to as party-connected donors, contribute to their party's other legislative candidates in order to help improve their party's standing in the legislature or to generate political capital among the recipients of their contributions that can be later translated into support for the advancement of the donor's policy priorities. Interest groups contribute to elect policy makers who share their views or to gain access to legislators who can influence policies that groups deem important. Individuals contribute for similar reasons or because they enjoy rubbing elbows with politicians and others who participate in the political process. Regardless of their source or the donors' motives, most contributions flow to candidates who hold positions of power: incumbents, members of the majority party, committee chairs, and party leaders.

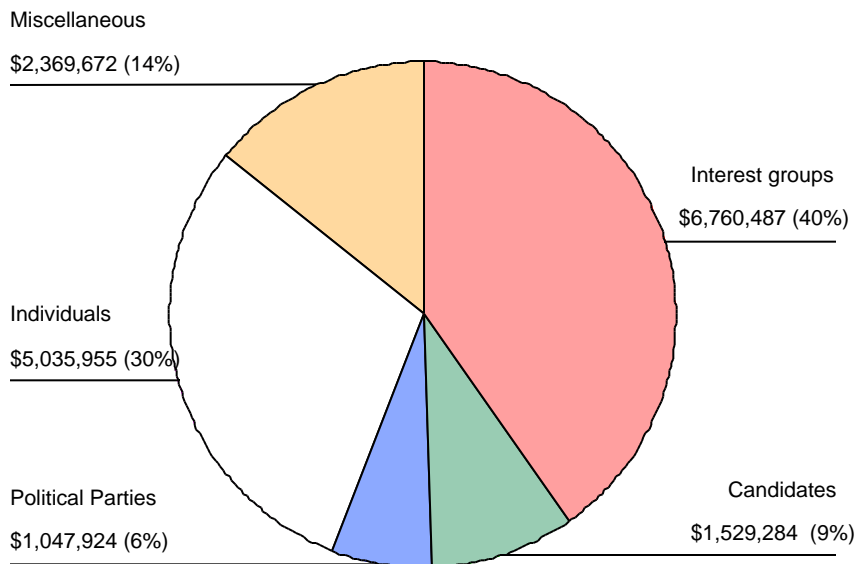
## Major findings:

- Business groups are the largest source of campaign money, contributing almost \$6 million, almost eight times more than organized labor.
- Businesses, labor unions, other interest groups, and individuals contributed predominantly to Democrats, incumbents, and legislative leaders.
- Nineteen percent of all 1998 campaign funds were contributed in amounts of more than \$1,000.
- Maryland General Assembly candidates collected \$1.5 million in contributions from out-of-state, accounting for 9 percent of their campaign funds.
- Party committees and associated groups gave a higher percentage of their contributions to challengers than any other type of contributor.

## I. An Overview of the Sources of Contributions

Contributors gave candidates for the Maryland General Assembly \$16,743,322 during the 1998 elections (see Figure 1). Campaign contributions were made by interest groups, the candidates themselves, political parties and party-connected donors (mainly incumbent legislators), individuals, and other miscellaneous sources. Interest groups, consisting of businesses, labor unions, and ideological groups, were the most important source of contributions, providing 40 percent (\$6.8 million) of all the contributions to legislative candidates. Individual contributors who were not directly connected to identifiable economic or political interest were the second most important source of money. They contributed 30 percent (\$5 million) of funds raised by the candidates.

Figure 1. Sources of Contributions in the 1998 General Assembly Elections

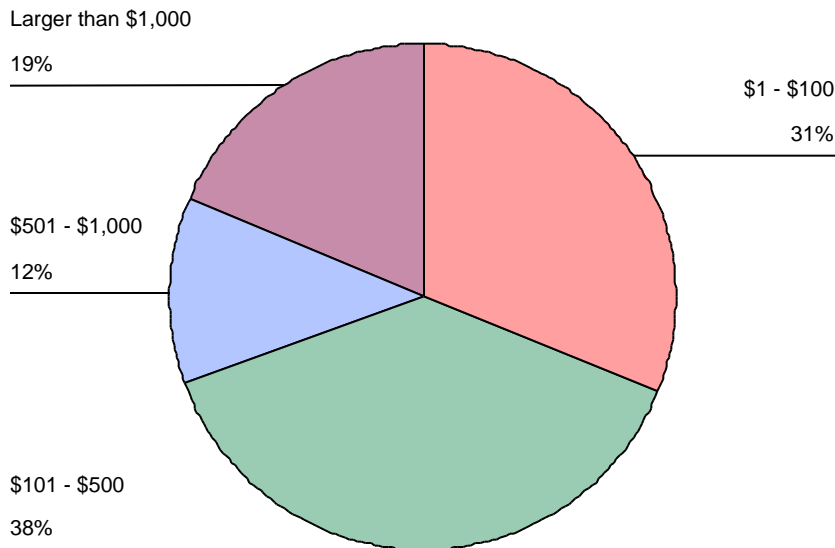


Candidates also are a significant source of campaign funds. During the 1998 elections, they provided 9 percent (\$1.5 million) of the total campaign funds raised. Candidates frequently are the largest single contributors to their own campaigns. On average they gave \$1,138, more than twice the average contribution from political parties and party-connected donors, and nearly five times the average contribution from business contributors. Political parties and party-connected donors contributed 6 percent (\$1 million), and miscellaneous sources accounted for another 15 percent (\$2.4 million).

## II. Contribution Size

Contribution limits in Maryland are relatively high. They are twice as high as federal limits for congressional candidates. Yet candidates for the Maryland General Assembly raise less than one-tenth as much money as do congressional candidates. This creates the possibility that a small group of donors can dominate the financing of individual campaigns. Most of Maryland legislative candidates' campaign funds come in the form of contributions of \$500 or less. Thirty-one percent of all legislative campaign funds were contributed in denominations of \$100 or less and 38 percent consisted of contributions ranging from \$500 to \$101 (see Figure 2). Nevertheless, a substantial portion of all contributions were raised in relatively large amounts: 12 percent of all contributions ranged from \$501 to \$1,000, and another 19 percent took the form of contributions larger than \$1,000.

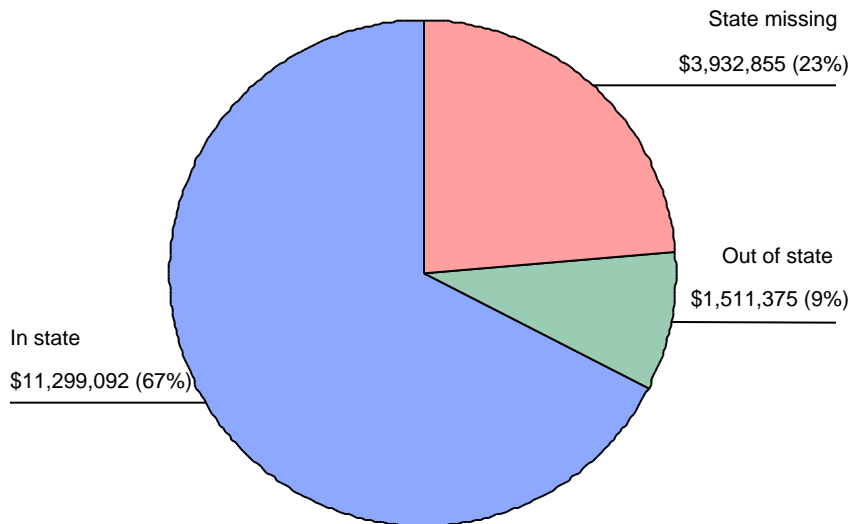
Figure 2. Contribution Size in the 1998 General Assembly Elections



### III. The Geographic Origins of Contributions

Only registered voters who live in a candidate’s electoral district can vote for a candidate, but virtually anyone can contribute to a candidate. In some cases, candidates’ financial supporters may come disproportionately from outside the state. Nine percent of the money raised by legislative candidates came from out-of-state (see Figure 3). Although 9 percent may not sound like much, it is actually a rather substantial sum, totalling over \$1.5 million. Most other states do not have this much out-of-state money flowing into their legislative elections. A study of 24 states found that the average percentage of out-of-state money was 7.6 percent.

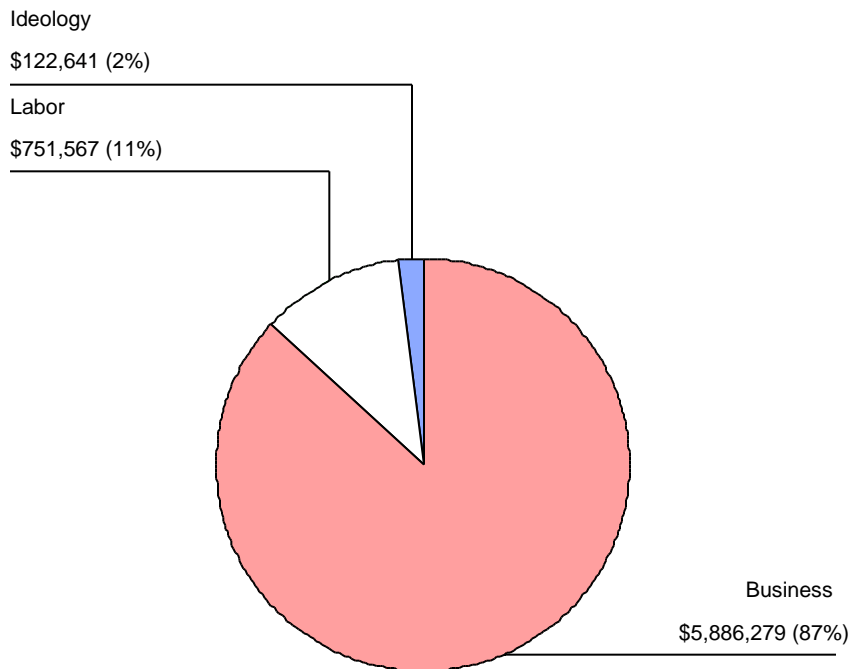
Figure 3. The Geographic Origins of Contributions in the 1998 General Assembly Elections



### IV. Interest Groups

Business interests were the dominant contributors among organized interests, donating \$5,886,279, which comprises 87 percent of all interest group donations (see Figure 4). Businesses contributed nearly eight times more than labor unions and almost fifty times the amount contributed by issue-oriented and ideological groups to 1998 candidates for the Maryland General Assembly.

Figure 4. Interest Group Contributions in the 1998 General Assembly Elections



### Business Contributions

The top two economic interests in terms of contributions were health care and lawyers and lobbyists. The health care industry, including doctors, other health professionals, and pharmaceutical companies, gave more than \$1 million (see Table 1). Lawyers and lobbyist gave \$782,845. The Maryland Trial Lawyers Association, which gave \$183,350, making it the single largest contributor to General Assembly candidates, is in this category.

Table 1. Sources of Business Contributions in the 1998 General Assembly Elections

	Contributions	Percent
Health	\$1,083,045	18%
Lawyers and lobbyists	\$782,845	13%
Real estate	\$513,268	9%
Construction	\$472,163	8%
Finance	\$450,394	6%
Insurance	\$425,554	7%
Energy / natural resources	\$370,809	8%
Communication / electronics	\$256,286	4%
Transportation	\$256,034	4%
Agriculture	\$150,540	3%
Miscellaneous businesses	\$1,125,341	19%
Total	\$5,886,279	100%

Business interests are primarily concerned with gaining access to legislators who can influence the policy-making process. As such, they consider incumbency and legislative power when making contributions. Although businesses are typically ideologically closer to the Republican Party, they give most of their contributions to Democrats because the Democratic Party's legislative majorities enable it to dominate the legislative agenda. Business made 79 percent of their House contributions and 73 percent of their Senate contributions to Democratic candidates (see Table 2). Businesses gave 82 percent of their House contributions to incumbents and 80 percent of their Senate contributions to incumbents. These patterns reflect the fact that most business contributors seek access to legislators whose policy-making positions can influence their businesses.

Table 2. The Distribution of Business Contributions in the 1998 General Assembly Elections

	House		Senate	
	Contributions	Percent	Contributions	Percent
<b>Party affiliation</b>				
Democrats	\$2,626,212	79%	\$1,883,817	73%
Republicans	\$680,419	21%	\$695,001	27%
<b>Incumbency</b>				
Incumbents	\$2,699,260	82%	\$2,045,182	80%
Challengers	\$372,899	11%	\$224,446	9%
Open seats	\$79,730	2%	\$100,328	4%
Primary losers	\$154,667	5%	\$182,135	7%
<b>Leadership (incumbents only)</b>				
Committee chairs*	\$280,470	10%	\$417,175	20%
Majority leaders	\$842,614	31%	\$551,662	26%
Minority leaders	\$96,460	4%	\$83,157	4%
Rank and file	\$1,532,864	56%	\$1,076,345	50%

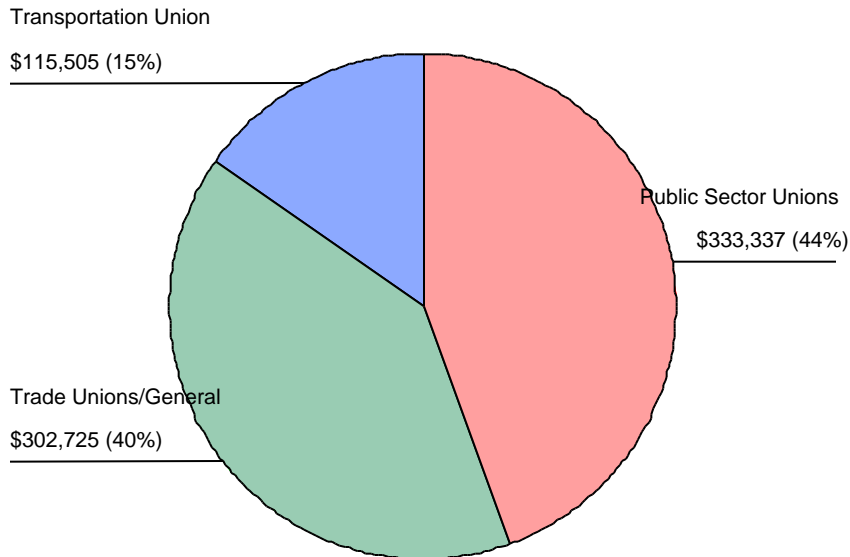
Notes: \* Some of the committee chairs also hold party leadership positions. They are included in the majority leaders category.

Further evidence of the policy-making orientation of business contributors is that they distribute a substantial portion of their funds to legislative leaders. During the 1998 elections they gave the leaders of the House of Delegates 45 percent of the contributions they made to all House incumbents, and they gave the leaders of the Senate roughly half of their Senate incumbent contributions. Business interests gave \$280,470 to six House committee chairs and another \$417,175 to three Senate committee chairs. The 17 Democratic leaders in the House received \$842,614 and their eight counterparts in the Senate received another \$551,662.

## Labor Union Contributions

Labor unions gave \$751,567 to candidates in the 1998 Maryland legislative elections. Public sector unions, representing government employees accounted for 44 percent of the contributions, followed by trade unions and transportation unions (see Figure 5).

Figure 5. Sources of Labor Union Contributions in the 1998 General Assembly Elections



Labor unions are closely allied with the Democratic Party, and they made 95 percent of their House and 93 percent of their Senate contributions to Democratic candidates (Table 3). This contribution pattern is typical, having parallels in the U.S. Congress and in other state legislatures.

Labor made most of its contributions to incumbents, but it was somewhat more supportive of challengers and open-seat candidates and less supportive of legislative leaders than was business. Unions devoted 19 percent of their resources to House challengers and 6 percent to Senate challengers. They gave 35 percent of their House contributions and 45 percent of their Senate contributions to legislative leaders. Once again, this matches national patterns wherein unions contribute both to increase the number of Democrats serving in the legislature and to cultivate relationships with party leaders and committee chairs who are in a position to promote their agenda.

Table 3. The Distribution of Labor Contributions in the 1998 General Assembly Elections

Recipients	House		Senate	
	Contributions	Percent	Contributions	Percent
<b>Party affiliation</b>				
Democrats	\$447,626	95%	\$260,790	93%
Republicans	\$23,828	5%	\$18,973	7%
<b>Incumbency</b>				
Incumbents	\$313,617	67%	\$227,741	81%
Challengers	\$91,220	19%	\$17,202	6%
Open seats	\$19,426	4%	\$25,090	9%
Primary losers	\$47,191	10%	\$10,080	4%
<b>Leadership (incumbents only)</b>				
Committee chairs*	\$12,748	4%	\$24,375	10%
Minority leaders	\$4,215	1%	6,925	3%
Majority leaders	\$96,485	30%	\$74,963	32%
Rank and file	\$211,599	65%	\$128,403	55%

Notes: \* Some of the committee chairs also hold party leadership positions. They are included in the majority leaders category.

### Ideological Group Contributions

Ideological and issue-oriented groups are the smallest class of contributors. They provided about 1 percent of all the contributions given to Maryland General Assembly candidates. Ideological groups are typically short on financial resources, but they can wield political influence by making endorsements and mobilizing their memberships. Only three sets of ideological groups contributed significant sums of money. Anti-gun control groups contributed \$43,580 (36 percent of the total), groups advocating women's issues and abortion rights groups contributed \$37,970 (31 percent), and groups representing minority and ethnic interests donated \$12,870 (10 percent) (see Table A-1). The two largest ideological contributors were Harriet's List, a PAC that supports pro-choice women candidates, with \$28,930 and the National Rifle Association Association's Political Victory Fund with \$15,650.

Ideological groups divided their funds somewhat more equally among Democrats and Republicans, especially in Senate races where they split their contributions almost fifty-fifty (see Table A-2 in the Appendix). They also were more supportive of challengers and candidates for open seats and less supportive of legislative leaders than were either business donors or labor unions. This pattern, which is similar to those for the U.S. House and Senate, demonstrates that these groups give contributions for the purpose of supporting candidates that are sympathetic to their views rather than gaining access to power legislators.

## V. Contributions from Individuals

Individuals are the second most important source of campaign contributions. Individuals who were not identified with an economic or political interest donated \$5,035,955 to Maryland General Assembly candidates during the 1998 elections. This group excludes donors whose occupation places them in an identifiable interest, such as doctors, lawyers, and business executives (whose contributions are included in the business category of interest group contributions discussed above).

Democrats dominate the electorate in Maryland, and not surprisingly most individuals gave their contributions to Democratic candidates. Individual contributors gave 76 percent (\$2,444,239) of their House contributions and 61 percent (\$1,102,589) of their Senate contributions to Democrats (see Table 4). Individuals also favored incumbents, providing incumbents with 58 percent of their House and 70 percent of their Senate contributions. Supporting legislative leaders is not an important priority for most individual contributors. They gave 72 percent of their contributions to House incumbents to rank and file members and 65 percent of their contributions to Senate incumbents to rank and file members.

Table 4. The Distribution of Individual Contributions in the 1998 General Assembly Elections

Recipients	House		Senate	
	Contributions	Percent	Contributions	Percent
Party affiliation				
Democrats	\$2,444,239	76%	\$1,102,589	61%
Republicans	\$775,789	24%	\$707,783	39%
Incumbency				
Incumbents	\$1,871,435	58%	\$1,254,858	70%
Challengers	\$753,773	23%	\$332,045	19%
Open seats	\$143,301	4%	\$75,538	4%
Primary losers	\$455,414	14%	\$123,451	7%
Leadership (incumbents only)				
Committee chairs*	\$84,092	4%	\$148,137	12%
Minority leaders	\$56,028	3%	\$38,111	3%
Majority leaders	\$389,290	21%	\$267,263	21%
Rank and file	\$1,368,370	72%	\$839,458	65%

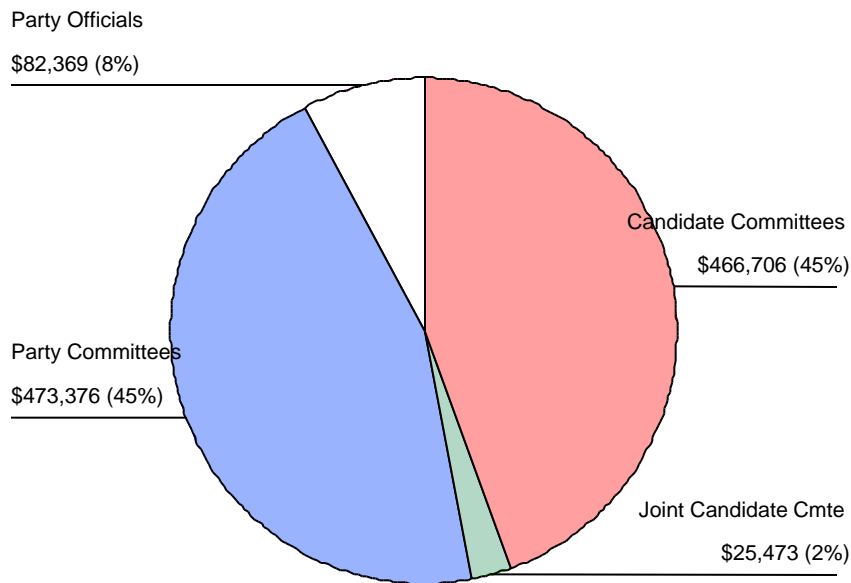
Notes: \* Some of the committee chairs also hold party leadership positions. They are included in the majority leaders category.

## VI. Party and Party-Connected Contributions

Party and party-connected contributors gave a total of \$1,047,924. Formal party committees gave 45 percent (\$473,376) of the party contributions (see Figure 6). These organizations include state and county central party committees, such as the Republican State Central Committee or the Prince Georges' County Democratic Central Committee and legislative campaign committees

run by the party caucuses and legislative party leaders, including the Maryland Republican Legislators' Committee or the Maryland Democratic Senatorial Committee.<sup>1</sup> These committees seek to maximize the party's representation in the legislature by raising money from interest groups and party loyalists and redistributing the funds to party members in competitive races.

Figure 6. Sources of Party and Party-Connected Contributions in the 1998 General Assembly Elections



Candidate committees accounted for another 45 percent (\$466,706) of all party and party-connected contributions. Candidates typically transfer money from their campaign committees to other candidates in order to help their party win control of more legislative seats, or as part of an effort to gain a party leadership post, a committee leadership position, or assignment to an influential committee. Some also contribute to other candidates in order to enhance their policy-making influence in the legislature.

Party officials' and candidates' personal contributions (excluding contributions by candidate committees) comprised another 8 percent (\$82,369) of all party-connected contributions. Joint candidate committees gave the remaining 2 percent (\$25,473). Candidates in multi-member districts often form slate committees to pay for mailings and other joint campaign activities. Typically these committees spend most of the money they raise, but they may also make unlimited transfers to candidates on the slate as well as transfers to other candidates subject to the usual \$6,000 limit on transfers.

<sup>1</sup> Some committees such as the Maryland Democratic Senatorial Committee are actually registered as slate committees so that they can avoid the \$6,000 limit on transfers between campaign committees. The committee actually functions as a party committee (it includes all Democratic senators), so we classify it as such.

Democrats have fundraising advantage over Republicans because they dominate both the Maryland electorate and control most state and county elected offices. Democrats accounted for 69 percent of the party and party-connected contributions to all House candidates and 58 percent of all such contributions to Senate candidates (see Table 5). Parties and party-connected donors are among the few groups that support nonincumbents. They distributed 38 percent of their funds to House and Senate challengers.

Table 5. The Distribution of Party and Party-Connected Contributions in the 1998 General Assembly Elections

Recipients	House		Senate	
	Contributions	Percent	Contributions	Percent
<b>Party affiliation</b>				
Democrats	\$438,311	69%	\$240,061	58%
Republicans	\$197,571	31%	\$171,956	42%
<b>Incumbency</b>				
Incumbents	\$305,929	48%	\$190,244	52%
Challengers	\$243,923	38%	\$140,676	38%
Open seats	\$45,693	7%	\$23,065	6%
Primary losers	\$39,337	6%	\$15,232	4%
<b>Leadership (incumbents only)</b>				
Committee chairs*	\$16,101	5%	\$4,142	2%
Minority leaders	\$7,075	2%	\$7,801	4%
Majority leaders	\$56,639	18%	\$50,732	26%
Rank and file	\$228,714	74%	\$135,370	68%

Notes: \* Some of the committee chairs also hold party leadership positions. They are included in the majority leaders category.

Much of the party and party-connected money is controlled by party leaders. They distributed most of the parties' incumbent contributions to rank and file members, but reserved healthy portions of these funds for their own campaigns.

The dominant and minority parties in a legislature usually distribute their resources differently. During the 1998 elections, Democratic contributors focused most of their money on defending incumbents, while Republican contributors dedicated most of their resources to challengers. The Democrats contributed 57 percent (\$251,363) of their House contributions to incumbents and 70 percent (\$167,101) of their Senate contributions to incumbents (see Table A-4). The Republicans, on the other hand, gave 66 percent (\$129,827) of their House contributions to challengers and 47 percent (\$80,926) of their Senate contributions to challengers.

## VII. Candidate Self-Financing

Candidates are important supporters of their own campaigns. However, the degree to which they self-finance their own bids for office often depends on their personal wealth and how much money they can raise from other sources. Because they can raise substantial sums from interest groups and individuals, most incumbents contribute less to their own campaign efforts than other candidates, usually only 3 percent (see Table 6). House open-seat candidates gave the most to their own campaigns, contributing \$9,898 about (23 percent of the total receipts). House challengers and primary losers gave less money but a higher percent of their total campaign funds. House challengers contributed 24 percent (\$3,689) and primary losers contributed 27 percent (\$3,071) of their own campaign funds. Senate non-incumbents gave roughly equivalent amounts of money to their campaigns, but candidate contributions accounted for a larger share of challenger's campaign funds.

Table 6. Candidate Contributions and Incumbency in the 1998 General Assembly Elections

	House		Senate	
	Average contribution	Percent of campaign funds	Average contribution	Percent of campaign funds
Incumbents	\$829	3%	\$2,833	2%
Challengers	\$3,689	24%	\$3,904	24%
Open seats	\$9,898	23%	\$3,600	16%
Primary losers	\$3,071	27%	\$3,888	22%
All	\$3,079	18%	\$3,462	14%

Self-financed candidates rank among the top contributors in the 1998 elections for the Maryland General Assembly, accounting for 12 of the top 50 contributors (see Table A-3). These candidates contributed between roughly \$26,000 and \$53,000 to their own campaigns.

### The Study

Progressive Maryland collected the campaign finance data from the paper disclosure forms filed with the Maryland State Board of Elections. The National Institute on Money in State Politics digitized the data and coded the contributors based on their economic political interests. For more information about the coding system, please refer to their web site at <http://www.followthemoney.org/database/about/coding.phtml>. We enriched the campaign finance data by adding information, such as election results, incumbents' committee assignments and leadership positions.

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**Copies of this report can be found at <http://www.capc.umd.edu/rpts/MDGA98.CONT.pdf>**

## **Related Studies by the Center for American Politics and Citizenship Available Online:**

- Fundraising by Maryland General Assembly Candidates in the 1998 Elections (<http://www.capc.umd.edu/rpts/MDGA98.FR.pdf>)
- Candidates Devote Substantial Time and Effort to Fundraising (<http://www.bsos.umd.edu/gvpt/herrnson/reporttime.html>)
- State Legislative Candidates Support Campaign Reform (<http://www.bsos.umd.edu/gvpt/herrnson/report.html>)
- See How They Run: State Legislative Candidates (<http://www.bsos.umd.edu/gvpt/herrnson/art2.html>)
- Individual Congressional Campaign Contributors: Wealthy, Conservative, and Reform-Minded (<http://www.bsos.umd.edu/gvpt/herrnson/indiv.html>)
- Women Big Donors Mobilized in Congressional Elections (<http://www.bsos.umd.edu/gvpt/herrnson/indiv.html>)
- Outside Looking In: Views of Third Party and Independent Candidates (<http://www.bsos.umd.edu/gvpt/herrnson/art3.html>)
- The Big Metamorphosis: How Campaigns Change Candidates (<http://www.bsos.umd.edu/gvpt/herrnson/art4.html>)

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## Appendix

Table A-1. Sources of Ideological Contributions in the 1998 General Assembly Elections

	Total Contributions	Percent
Anti-gun control	\$43,580	36%
Women's issues /pro-choice	\$37,970	31%
Minority/ethnic	\$12,870	10%
Pro-environment	\$4,896	4%
Pro-life	\$3,343	3%
Christian groups	\$3,000	2%
Anti-labor	\$1,000	1%
Miscellaneous single issue	\$15,982	13%
	122641	100%

Table A-2. The Distribution of Ideological Group Contributions in the 1998 General Assembly Elections

Recipients	House		Senate	
	Contributions	Percent	Contributions	Percent
Party affiliation				
Democrats	\$48,413	70%	\$27,510	52%
Republicans	\$20,975	30%	\$25,343	48%
Incumbency				
Primary losers	\$3,627	5%	\$200	0%
Open seats	\$10,490	15%	\$9,030	17%
Challengers	\$23,476	34%	\$20,903	40%
Incumbents	\$32,195	46%	\$22,670	43%
Leadership (incumbents only)				
Rank and file	\$27,185	84%	\$15,360	68%
Committee chairs	\$790	1%	\$1,650	7%
Minority leaders	\$410	4%	---	---
Majority leaders	\$4,010	12%	\$5,660	25%

Table A-3. The Top 50 Contributors

Contributor	Type	Industry	Total contributions	Number of candidates
1. Maryland Trial Lawyers Assoc/ MTLA PAC	Business	Lawyers & Lobbyists	\$183,350	137
2. Maryland Realtors PAC/RPAC	Business	Real Estate	\$166,462	139
3. Maryland Medical PAC	Business	Health Professionals	\$134,325	147
4. Taylor, Cmte For Casper	Party	Party Committees	\$128,975	56
5. Maryland Republican Legislators Cmte	Party	Party Committees	\$95,500	39
6. Maryland State Teachers Assoc/Msta PAC	Labor	Public Sector Unions	\$94,053	121
7. Nationwide Insurance Maryland State PAC	Business	Insurance	\$74,462	91
8. Maryland Bankers Assoc/BankPAC	Business	Commercial Banks	\$70,565	120
9. Maryland Dental PAC	Business	Health Professionals	\$68,870	106
10. Build PAC/Building Unions Individual Lab	Labor	Trade Unions/General	\$55,416	113
11. Nationsbank of Maryland PAC	Business	Commercial Banks	\$54,999	100
12. Restaurant Assoc of Maryland PAC	Business	Food & Beverage	\$54,633	90
13. Hooper, J Robert & Shirley M	Candidate	Candidate Self-finance	\$53,333	1
14. Irving, Gagy	Candidate	Candidate Self-finance	\$50,000	1
15. Bromwell, Thomas L	Candidate	Candidate Self-finance	\$49,900	1
16. Bell Atlantic Maryland State PAC	Business	Telephone Utilities	\$49,526	136
17. Baltimore Cnty Licensed Beverage Assoc PAC	Business	Beer, Wine & Liquor	\$48,680	48
18. Gorman, Pat & Eileen & Francis J	Candidate	Candidate Self-finance	\$44,616	1
19. Maryland Demo Senatorial Cmte	Party	Party Committees	\$43,600	5
20. Mirabile, Russell	Candidate	Candidate Self-finance	\$43,447	1
21. Health Policy Leadership Alliance	Business	Hospitals/Nursing Homes	\$41,035	87
22. Maryland Optometric Assoc PAC	Business	Health Professionals	\$40,880	78
23. Maryland CPA Cmte on Poltical Education	Business	Accountants	\$40,763	102
24. Maryland New Car & Truck Dealers Assoc PAC	Business	Automotive	\$40,652	121
25. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Maryland Emplo	Business	Insurance	\$40,313	78
26. Maryland Highway Contractors PAC	Business	General Contractors	\$37,790	76
27. Kelly, Kevin	Candidate	Candidate Self-finance	\$37,700	1
28. Baltimore Gas & Electric Co/BGE State PAC	Business	Electric Utilities	\$36,827	122
29. Mid Atlantic Medical Services Inc/MAMSI	Business	Insurance	\$35,255	54
30. James, Mary Dulany	Candidate	Candidate Self-finance	\$35,100	1
31. Maryland Psychological Assoc PAC	Business	Health Professionals	\$34,988	70
32. Property Owners Assoc of Greater Baltimore	Business	Real Estate	\$34,985	70
33. Food & Commercial Workers Local 27/UFCW	Labor	Trade Unions/General	\$34,710	40
34. Boston Jr, Frank D	Candidate	Candidate Self-finance	\$33,687	1
35. Epic Pharm PAC/Epic Pharmacies	Business	Pharmaceuticals/Health Product	\$31,855	60
36. Cummings, Patricia	Candidate	Candidate Self-finance	\$31,395	1

37. Teamsters/Drive Political Fund	Labor	Transportation Unions	\$31,250	21
38. Allegheny Power PAC	Business	Electric Utilities	\$28,979	37
39. Leiter, Nancy	Candidate	Candidate Self-finance	\$28,827	1
40. Life Underwriters PAC of Maryland	Business	Insurance	\$28,572	77
41. Maryland Motor Truck Assoc PAC	Business	Trucking	\$28,450	72
42. Maryland Troopers Assoc/MTA PAC	Labor	Public Sector Unions	\$28,314	60
43. Holt, Kenneth C & Mary E	Party	Republican officials, candidate	\$27,150	5
44. Muldowney, Paul D	Candidate	Candidate Self-finance	\$26,000	1
45. Dashiell, Robert Fulton	Candidate	Candidate Self-finance	\$25,905	1
46. Harriets List	Ideological	Pro-Choice	\$25,430	9
47. Maryland Nursing Home/HFam PAC	Business	Hospitals/Nursing Homes	\$24,925	74
48. Mercantile Bankshares Corp/MBC State PAC	Business	Commercial Banks	\$23,390	54
49. Maryland Thoroughbred Breeders & Horsemen	Business	Livestock	\$23,000	54
50. Maryland State Funeral Directors PAC	Business	Misc Services	\$22,584	51

Table A-4. The Influence of Party and Incumbency on Party and Party-Connected Contributions in the 1998 General Assembly Elections

Recipients	House		Senate	
	Contributions	Percent	Contributions	Percent
<b>Democrats</b>				
Primary losers	\$30,864	7%	\$4,052	2%
Open seats	\$42,013	10%	\$9,160	4%
Challengers	\$114,071	26%	\$59,750	25%
Incumbents	\$251,363	57%	\$167,101	70%
<b>Republicans</b>				
Primary losers	\$8,473	4%	\$11,182	7%
Open seats	\$3,680	2%	\$13,905	8%
Challengers	\$129,827	66%	\$80,926	47%
Incumbents	\$54,566	28%	\$23,143	13%