

## Campaign finance bill passes

Written by

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A measure approved this week by the General Assembly will expand the state's voluntary public campaign financing program to cover three more statewide races next year.

Supporters hope such a move will reduce the influence of special interest money. The bill will expand taxpayer financing to the 2008 races for state auditor, insurance commissioner and superintendent of public instruction. The change will have to be approved by the U.S. Department of Justice to ensure that it complies with the Voting Rights Act.