



**PHIL McGRANE**  
IDAHO SECRETARY OF STATE

April 1, 2026

**Re: Reporting Online Transaction Fees**

This letter outlines the reporting of online transaction fees from third-party fundraising platforms, such as Anedot, ActBlue, and WinRed. These platforms allow contributors to cover the transaction fee accompanying the donation. According to the Federal Election Commission's reporting guidelines, our office considers the payment of transaction fees part of a contribution and, therefore, subject to the contribution limits in Idaho Code §67-6610A.

Candidate and committee treasurers should report the full donation amount, including the transaction fee, as a contribution in the Sunshine Campaign Finance Portal. They should also record an expenditure for the transaction fee paid to the third-party platform. Alternatively, they can group fees and record a single monthly expenditure for the total transaction fees for that period.

Legislative, county, and local candidates have a contribution limit of \$1,000 per individual per election. Statewide candidates have a contribution limit of \$5,000 per individual per election.

Under Idaho Code, a \$1,000 contribution to a legislative, county, or local candidate that includes an additional transaction fee is not permitted. Since the transaction fee is considered part of the contribution, if a contributor chooses to pay the fee, the total donation must remain within the contribution limit. This rule likewise applies to statewide contributions of \$5,000 plus any transaction fees.

As this is a policy clarification, our office will not require previous contributions to be amended. Please ensure that moving forward, all contributions through third-party fundraising platforms stay within the limits and are recorded as specified in this guidance. Our office recommends disabling features that allow donors to pay the transaction fee for any donation at or near the contribution limits. Feel free to contact our office with any questions.