

Act on State financial support to political parties (1972:625)

Introductory provision

Section 1

Under this Act, State financial support is paid to political parties that have taken part in elections to the Riksdag. The forms of financial support are 'party support' and 'secretariat support'.

Party support

Section 2

Party support is paid per seat in the Riksdag. Each seat in the Riksdag receives a contribution of SEK 333 300. *Swedish Code of Statutes SFS 2004:702.*

Section 3

The number of per seat contributions that each party receives is determined annually, taking account of the outcome of the two most recent general elections, unless Section 4 states otherwise.

In the first year of the four-year period that follows elections to the Riksdag, each party receives per seat contributions that correspond to one sixth of the number of seats won in the most recent election, plus five sixths of the number of seats won in the immediately preceding election. In the second year, the party receives per seat contributions that correspond to half the number of seats in the most recent election plus half the number of seats in the immediately preceding election. In the third and fourth years, the party receives per seat contributions that correspond to five sixths of the number of seats in the most recent election plus one sixth of the number of seats in the immediately preceding election.

If a party has not won representation in the Riksdag in one of the two most recent elections, for that election the number of full tenths of a percentage point of votes over 2.5 per cent that the party received nationwide are counted instead of seats. If a party has won representation in the Riksdag in one of the two most recent elections but has not received 4 per cent of the votes nationwide, for that election both the number of seats and the number of full tenths of a percentage point of votes over 2.5 per cent are counted. However, if the total number of seats and tenths of percentage points of votes over 2.5 per cent exceed fourteen, the surplus sum is not counted. *Swedish Code of Statutes SFS 1995:345.*

Section 4

If an extraordinary election has taken place after one of the general elections referred to in Section 3, first paragraph, the number of seats counted when applying Section 3, second paragraph are the average of seats won in the general election and in the subsequent extraordinary election. When applying Section 3, third paragraph, the provisions concerning the number of seats apply to the number of full tenths of percentage points of votes. *Swedish Code of Statutes SFS 1974:563*

Secretariat support

Section 5

Secretariat support is paid in the form of basic support and supplementary support.

Section 6

Parties that have received at least 4 per cent of the votes nationwide in an election to the Riksdag receive one full basic support amount for each year covered by the election. A full basic support amount is SEK 5 803 200. *Swedish Code of Statutes SFS 2004:702.*

Section 7

Parties that have won representation in the Riksdag but have not gained 4 per cent of the votes nationwide receive, for each year covered by the election, as many fourteenths of one full basic support amount as correspond to the number of seats won. *Swedish Code of Statutes SFS 1974:563.*

Section 8

Parties referred to in Sections 6 or 7 receive supplementary support in addition to basic support for each year covered by the election in the amount of SEK 16 350 for each seat won if the party is represented in the Government, and otherwise SEK 24 300 for each seat won. *Swedish Code of Statutes SFS 2004:702.*

Section 9

If a party has gained at least 4 per cent of the votes nationwide in an election to the Riksdag, and if in the next election the party receives a percentage share that is less than four, the amount of basic support paid for the next four years is gradually reduced as follows: 75 per cent of one full basic support amount is paid in the first year, 50 per cent of one full basic support amount in the second year, and 25 per cent of one full basic support amount in the third and fourth years. However, if Section 6 or 7 is applicable, the provisions stated there apply instead, if this would entail a higher basic support amount. *Swedish Code of Statutes SFS 1995:345.*

Section 10

If a party has gained at least 4 per cent of the votes nationwide in an extraordinary election or in a new election, and if the party received a percentage share that is less than four in the most recent election or in the annulled election, a twelfth share of one full basic support amount is paid for each calendar month remaining in the year from the day that the extraordinary election or new election was concluded. *Swedish Code of Statutes SFS 1974:563.*

Section 11

Parties cannot receive a higher amount in basic support during a year than that which corresponds to one full basic support amount. *Swedish Code of Statutes SFS 1974:563.*

Section 11a

A party that has gained at least 4 per cent of the votes nationwide in an election to the Riksdag and, in the next election to the Riksdag, gains less than 2 per cent of the votes nationwide is only entitled to half the financial support stated in Sections 3 and 9. *Swedish Code of Statutes SFS 2002:70.*

General provisions

Section 12

In this Act, years are calculated from 15 October. Financial support referred to in this Act is calculated once for each year, unless Section 10 states otherwise. The conditions that exist when the calculations are made determine the total amount of the financial support.

If calculations for determining financial support produce sums containing fractions, these sums are rounded to whole numbers in the customary manner. *Swedish Code of Statutes SFS 1974:563.*

Section 13

Issues concerning support under this Act are reviewed by the Commission on Financial Support to the Political Parties. The Commission consists of a chair and two other members. The members, who must have or have had permanent positions as judges, are appointed by the Riksdag Board for a period of six years.

If diverging opinions arise during a discussion of the Commission on Financial Support to the Political Parties, the provisions of Chapter 16 of the Swedish Code of Judicial Procedure on voting in civil actions are to be used. Decisions of the Commission may not be appealed. *Swedish Code of Statutes SFS 2000:420.*

Section 14

Applications for financial support under this Act are to be submitted each year in writing to the Commission on Financial Support to the Political Parties. The application should be submitted before the end of October.

The party's annual report for the most recently completed financial year is to be included with the application. The accounts must have been examined by an authorised or approved public accountant. The examination must be as detailed and as extensive as required by generally accepted auditing standards. Financial support may not be granted if the application contains shortcomings as regards what is stated above.

As far as possible, party support and secretariat support are paid at the same time. The payments are made on a quarterly basis by the Riksdag Administration, where each payment consists of one fourth of the total amount. The first payment is made within one month after the submission of the application. The payments are made to each party's national organisation. However, at the request of a party, secretariat support or a part of this support can be paid to the secretariat of the party group in the Riksdag. *Swedish Code of Statutes SFS 2002:70.*

1996:1533

This Act enters into force on 1 January 1997.

Applications for financial support for the year beginning 15 October 1996 that were submitted before entry into force are to be considered to refer to financial support of an amount that, beginning 1 January 1997, follows from the provisions of the new wording.

Following a decision by the Commission on Financial Support to the Political Parties from January 1997, parties that have been granted State financial support for the period beginning 15 October 1996 are to receive three quarters of the annual amount until 14 October 1997 under the provisions of the new wording.

2000:0420

This Act enters into force on 1 July 2000.

2002:0070

This Act enters into force on 1 April 2002.

2004:0702

This Act enters into force on 1 July 2004 but is to apply beginning with the support year that began on 15 October 2003.