## **ABSTRACT**

People's representative institutions become an important element in a democratic state order, thereby forming a representative system. In this case, political representation will be created by involving the people in making policies for the masses. To be able to enter into the parliamentary structure, political parties become political vehicles to get to the arena. But there is a phenomenon that is important to discuss, namely the phenomenon of cartel politics. Political cartels can occur if there is a lobby that will benefit both sides of the coalition political parties. In an effort to find out this, we need a qualitative research method that can examine more deeply with case studies in the Regional Regulation of West Java Province Number 14 of 2021 concerning Reserve Funds for the 2024 General Election of Governor and Deputy Governor of West Java. Thus, from the data available obtained will be explained and validated using the triangulation method.

The political direction of the cartel has become complex, with Its occurrence in the West Java Provincial DPRD with the Governor of West Java through the Reserve Fund Regional Regulation. Several findings from researchers indicate that there is potential for cartel politics between the two government institutions. The political cartelization that occurs Is based on theoretical references used by researchers, namely related to the characteristics of cartel parties expressed by Ambardi, reflected in the absence of opposition; Election results have almost no influence in determining the behavior of political parties; the strong tendency of parties to act collectively as a group. Then, in the model and characteristics of cartel parties by Katz and Mair, researchers can illustrate that the political parties in the DPRD of West Java Province have a relatively widespread level of political distribution with the main political goal being a profession that focuses on changing state policy as if it were competitors (contained) but are actually state agents and subsidized by the state. Apart from that, the relationship between party members and elites has strata and hierarchies which constitute autonomous cooperation that is mutually beneficial or mutual autonomy. Therefore, access to party communication channels has the privilege of being via regulations, in this case meaning that the party is part of the state or state agency.

Keywords: Cartel Politics, West Java Provincial DPRD, Governor, Reserve Fund