SENATE BILL 5502

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By Senators Sellar, McMullen, Wojahn, Conner, Madsen and Newhouse.

Read first time February 4, 1991. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

- AN ACT Relating to limitations of actions; amending RCW 42.17.390;
- 2 and adding a new section to chapter 4.16 RCW.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 42.17.390 and 1973 c 1 s 39 are each amended to read
- 5 as follows:
- 6 (1) One or more of the following civil remedies and sanctions may
- 7 be imposed by court order in addition to any other remedies provided by
- 8 law:
- 9 (a) If the court finds that the violation of any provision of this
- 10 chapter by any candidate or political committee probably affected the
- 11 outcome of any election, the result of said election may be held void
- 12 and a special election held within sixty days of such finding. Any
- 13 action to void an election shall be commenced within ((one year))
- 14 thirty days of the date of the election in question. It is intended

- 1 that this remedy be imposed freely in all appropriate cases to protect
- 2 the right of the electorate to an informed and knowledgeable vote.
- 3 (b) If any lobbyist or sponsor of any grass roots lobbying campaign
- 4 violates any of the provisions of this chapter, his or her registration
- 5 may be revoked or suspended and he or she may be enjoined from
- 6 receiving compensation or making expenditures for lobbying: PROVIDED,
- 7 HOWEVER, That imposition of such sanction shall not excuse said
- 8 lobbyist from filing statements and reports required by this chapter.
- 9 (c) Any person who violates any of the provisions of this chapter
- 10 may be subject to a civil penalty of not more than ten thousand dollars
- 11 for each such violation.
- 12 (d) Any person who fails to file a properly completed statement or
- 13 report within the time required by this chapter may be subject to a
- 14 civil penalty of ten dollars per day for each day each such delinquency
- 15 continues.
- 16 (e) Any person who fails to report a contribution or expenditure
- 17 may be subject to a civil penalty equivalent to the amount he or she
- 18 failed to report.
- 19 (f) The court may enjoin any person to prevent the doing of any act
- 20 herein prohibited, or to compel the performance of any act required
- 21 herein.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 4.16 RCW
- 23 to read as follows:
- No lawsuit whatever may be maintained against any municipal
- 25 corporation or public official challenging, or in any manner
- 26 contesting, or seeking to void the outcome of any election authorizing
- 27 the issuance of bonds or the levy of taxes unless that lawsuit is
- 28 served and filed no later than thirty days after the date of the
- 29 election.