
SENATE BILL 6207

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1992 Regular Session

By Senators West, McCaslin and Thorsness

Read first time 01/21/92. Referred to Committee on Governmental Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to campaigning by state employees and officials;
2 and amending RCW 42.17.130.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 42.17.130 and 1979 ex.s. c 265 s 2 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 No elective official nor any employee of his or her office nor any
7 person appointed to or employed by any public office or agency may use
8 or authorize the use of any of the facilities of a public office or
9 agency, directly or indirectly, for the purpose of assisting a campaign
10 for election of any person to any office or for the promotion of or
11 opposition to any ballot proposition. Facilities of public office or
12 agency include, but are not limited to, use of stationery, postage,
13 machines, and equipment, use of employees of the office or agency
14 during working hours, vehicles, office space, publications of the

1 office or agency, and clientele lists of persons served by the office
2 or agency: PROVIDED, That the foregoing provisions of this section
3 shall not apply to the following activities:

4 (1) Action taken at an open public meeting by members of an elected
5 legislative body to express a collective decision, or to actually vote
6 upon a motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance, or to support
7 or oppose a ballot proposition so long as (a) any required notice of
8 the meeting includes the title and number of the ballot proposition,
9 and (b) members of the legislative body or members of the public are
10 afforded an approximately equal opportunity for the expression of an
11 opposing view;

12 (2) A statement by an elected official in support of or in
13 opposition to any ballot proposition at an open press conference or in
14 response to a specific inquiry;

15 (3) Activities which are part of the normal and regular conduct of
16 the office or agency; except that a person subject to this section may
17 not after declaring his or her intention to run for elective office or
18 filing with the commission to be a candidate, appear in his or her
19 official capacity in any public broadcast announcement including any
20 public service announcement. A person subject to this section
21 participating in a public service announcement outside of his or her
22 official capacity, must report it as a contribution in kind, and it
23 will count against any campaign spending limitations existent at the
24 time.