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HOUSE BILL 1888

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State of Washington                      53rd Legislature                      1993 Regular Session

By Representatives Hansen and Grant

Read first time 02/15/93. Referred to Committee on State Government.

1            AN ACT Relating to public disclosure filings by candidates for  
2 minor elective offices; amending RCW 42.17.030 and 42.17.240; and  
3 adding a new section to chapter 42.17 RCW.

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

5            **Sec. 1.** RCW 42.17.030 and 1987 c 295 s 18 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7            The provisions of this chapter relating to the financing of  
8 election campaigns shall apply in all election campaigns other than (1)  
9 for precinct committee officer; (2) for a federal elective office;  
10 (~~and~~) (3) for an office of a political subdivision of the state that  
11 does not encompass a whole county and that contains fewer than five  
12 thousand registered voters as of the date of the most recent general  
13 election in the subdivision, unless required by RCW 42.17.405(2)  
14 through (5); and (4) for an elective office:

15            (a) That pays less than one thousand dollars annually, including  
16 all salary, benefits, per diem, and reimbursable expenses; and (b)  
17 where the candidate will spend less than one thousand dollars on the  
18 cost of campaigning for the position and files a statement to that  
19 effect with the commission in accordance with section 2 of this act.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A new section is added to chapter 42.17 RCW  
2 to read as follows:

3        (1) As an alternative to filing the statements otherwise required  
4 under this chapter, a candidate for an elective office that meets both  
5 requirements of RCW 42.17.030(4) may, within fifteen days of becoming  
6 a candidate for the office, file a signed statement with the commission  
7 containing the following:

8        (a) The candidate's name, address, telephone number, and the  
9 position being sought;

10       (b) A "conflict of interest" statement that states that candidates  
11 for the position are not to have any business dealings or potential for  
12 business dealings where being elected to the position can influence the  
13 candidate's personal business, or a relative's business or financial  
14 situation;

15       (c) A statement that the candidate will not accept a salary,  
16 expense reimbursement, per diem, or any other benefits that exceed a  
17 total of one thousand dollars annually;

18       (d) A statement that the candidate will not spend more than one  
19 thousand dollars to campaign for the office;

20       (e) A statement that if one or more of these conditions are  
21 violated, that the candidate is subject to disciplinary action by the  
22 commission, with the maximum penalty options by law available.

23       (2) If a qualified candidate chooses this option, it is the only  
24 form necessary to be filed during the entire course of the election  
25 campaign.

26       (3) The commission shall develop a one-page form meeting the  
27 requirements of this section by September 30, 1993.

28       **Sec. 3.**    RCW 42.17.240 and 1993 c 2 s 31 (Initiative Measure No.  
29 134, approved November 3, 1992) are each amended to read as follows:

30       (1) Every elected official and every executive state officer shall  
31 after January 1st and before April 15th of each year file with the  
32 commission a statement of financial affairs for the preceding calendar  
33 year. However, any local elected official whose term of office expires  
34 immediately after December 31st shall file the statement required to be  
35 filed by this section for the year that ended on that December 31st.  
36 In addition to and in conjunction with the statement of financial  
37 affairs, every official and officer shall file a statement describing  
38 any gifts received during the preceding calendar year.

1 (2) Every candidate shall within two weeks of becoming a candidate  
2 file with the commission a statement of financial affairs for the  
3 preceding twelve months.

4 (3) Every person appointed to a vacancy in an elective office or  
5 executive state officer position shall within two weeks of being so  
6 appointed file with the commission a statement of financial affairs for  
7 the preceding twelve months.

8 (4) A statement of a candidate or appointee filed during the period  
9 from January 1st to April 15th shall cover the period from January 1st  
10 of the preceding calendar year to the time of candidacy or appointment  
11 if the filing of the statement would relieve the individual of a prior  
12 obligation to file a statement covering the entire preceding calendar  
13 year.

14 (5) No individual may be required to file more than once in any  
15 calendar year.

16 (6) Each statement of financial affairs filed under this section  
17 shall be sworn as to its truth and accuracy.

18 (7) For the purposes of this section, the term "executive state  
19 officer" includes those listed in RCW 42.17.2401.

20 (8) This section does not apply to incumbents or candidates for a  
21 federal office (~~(or)~~), the office of precinct committee officer, or an  
22 elective office exempted under RCW 42.17.030(4) if the candidate has  
23 filed a statement with the commission under section 2 of this act.

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