

2 **SHB 2673** - S COMM AMD

3 By Committee on State & Local Government

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "**Sec. 1.** RCW 42.52.185 and 1997 c 320 s 1 are each amended to read
8 as follows:

9 (1) During the twelve-month period beginning on December 1st of the
10 year before a general election for a state legislator's election to
11 office and continuing through November 30th immediately after the
12 general election, the legislator may not (~~mail, either by regular mail
13 or electronic mail,~~) by regular mail send to a constituent at public
14 expense a letter, newsletter, brochure, or other piece of literature,
15 except as follows:

16 (a) The legislator may mail two mailings of newsletters to
17 constituents. All newsletters within each mailing of newsletters must
18 be identical as to their content but not as to the constituent name or
19 address. One such mailing may be mailed no later than thirty days
20 after the start of a regular legislative session, except that a
21 legislator appointed during a regular legislative session to fill a
22 vacant seat may have up to thirty days from the date of appointment to
23 send out the first mailing. The other mailing may be mailed no later
24 than sixty days after the end of a regular legislative session.

25 (b) The legislator may mail an individual letter to (i) an
26 individual constituent who has contacted the legislator regarding the
27 subject matter of the letter during the legislator's current term of
28 office; (ii) an individual constituent who holds a governmental office
29 with jurisdiction over the subject matter of the letter; or (iii) an
30 individual constituent who has received an award or honor of
31 extraordinary distinction of a type that is sufficiently infrequent to
32 be noteworthy to a reasonable person, including, but not limited to:
33 (A) An international or national award such as the Nobel prize or the
34 Pulitzer prize; (B) a state award such as Washington scholar; (C) an
35 Eagle Scout award; and (D) a Medal of Honor.

1 (2) For purposes of subsection (1) of this section, "legislator"
2 means a legislator who is a "candidate," as defined by RCW 42.17.020,
3 for any public office.

4 (3) A violation of this section constitutes use of the facilities
5 of a public office for the purpose of assisting a campaign under RCW
6 42.52.180.

7 (4) The house of representatives and senate shall specifically
8 limit expenditures per member for the total cost of mailings. Those
9 costs include, but are not limited to, production costs, printing
10 costs, and postage costs. The limits imposed under this subsection
11 apply only to the total expenditures on mailings per member and not to
12 any categorical cost within the total.

13 (5) For purposes of this section, persons residing outside the
14 legislative district represented by the legislator are not considered
15 to be constituents, but students, military personnel, or others
16 temporarily employed outside of the district who normally reside in the
17 district are considered to be constituents.

18 (6) During the period beginning on the forty-fifth day past the
19 date of the adjournment of a regular legislative session in the year of
20 a general election for a state legislator's election to office and
21 continuing through the day after the general election, the restrictions
22 in subsection (1) of this section shall apply to letters, newsletters,
23 brochures, or other pieces of literature sent by electronic mail at
24 public expense."

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28 In line 1 of the title, after "legislators;" strike the remainder
29 of the title and insert "and amending RCW 42.52.185."

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