

---

**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6289**

---

**State of Washington**

**56th Legislature**

**2000 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on State & Local Government (originally sponsored by Senators Patterson and Winsley)

Read first time 01/24/2000.

1 AN ACT Relating to the day when a political committee's account  
2 books must be open for inspection; and amending RCW 42.17.065 and  
3 42.17.080.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 42.17.065 and 1989 c 280 s 5 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 (1) In addition to the provisions of this section, a continuing  
8 political committee shall file and report on the same conditions and at  
9 the same times as any other committee in accordance with the provisions  
10 of RCW 42.17.040, 42.17.050, and 42.17.060.

11 (2) A continuing political committee shall file with the commission  
12 and the auditor or elections officer of the county in which the  
13 committee maintains its office or headquarters and if there is no such  
14 office or headquarters then in the county in which the committee  
15 treasurer resides a report on the tenth day of the month detailing its  
16 activities for the preceding calendar month in which the committee has  
17 received a contribution or made an expenditure: PROVIDED, That such  
18 report shall only be filed if either the total contributions received  
19 or total expenditures made since the last such report exceed two

1 hundred dollars. The report shall be on a form supplied by the  
2 commission and shall include the following information:

3 (a) The information required by RCW 42.17.090;

4 (b) Each expenditure made to retire previously accumulated debts of  
5 the committee; identified by recipient, amount, and date of payments;

6 (c) Such other information as the commission shall by rule  
7 prescribe.

8 (3) If a continuing political committee shall make a contribution  
9 in support of or in opposition to a candidate or ballot proposition  
10 within sixty days prior to the date on which such candidate or ballot  
11 proposition will be voted upon, such continuing political committee  
12 shall report pursuant to RCW 42.17.080.

13 (4) A continuing political committee shall file reports as required  
14 by this chapter until it is dissolved, at which time a final report  
15 shall be filed. Upon submitting a final report, the duties of the  
16 campaign treasurer shall cease and there shall be no obligation to make  
17 any further reports.

18 (5) The campaign treasurer shall maintain books of account  
19 accurately reflecting all contributions and expenditures on a current  
20 basis within five business days of receipt or expenditure. During the  
21 eight days immediately preceding the date of any election, for which  
22 the committee has received any contributions or made any expenditures,  
23 the books of account shall be kept current within one business day and  
24 shall be open for public inspection (~~for at least two consecutive~~  
25 ~~hours Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays, between 8:00~~  
26 ~~a.m. and 8:00 p.m., as specified in the committee's statement of~~  
27 ~~organization filed pursuant to RCW 42.17.040, at the principal campaign~~  
28 ~~headquarters or, if there is no campaign headquarters, at the address~~  
29 ~~of the campaign treasurer or such other place as may be authorized by~~  
30 ~~the commission)) in the same manner as provided for candidates and  
31 other political committees in RCW 42.17.080(4).~~

32 (6) All reports filed pursuant to this section shall be certified  
33 as correct by the campaign treasurer.

34 (7) The campaign treasurer shall preserve books of account, bills,  
35 receipts, and all other financial records of the campaign or political  
36 committee for not less than five calendar years following the year  
37 during which the transaction occurred.

1       **Sec. 2.** RCW 42.17.080 and 1999 c 401 s 13 are each amended to read  
2 as follows:

3       (1) On the day the treasurer is designated, each candidate or  
4 political committee shall file with the commission and the county  
5 auditor or elections officer of the county in which the candidate  
6 resides, or in the case of a political committee, the county in which  
7 the treasurer resides, in addition to any statement of organization  
8 required under RCW 42.17.040 or 42.17.050, a report of all  
9 contributions received and expenditures made prior to that date, if  
10 any.

11       (2) At the following intervals each treasurer shall file with the  
12 commission and the county auditor or elections officer of the county in  
13 which the candidate resides, or in the case of a political committee,  
14 the county in which the committee maintains its office or headquarters,  
15 and if there is no office or headquarters then in the county in which  
16 the treasurer resides, a report containing the information required by  
17 RCW 42.17.090:

18       (a) On the twenty-first day and the seventh day immediately  
19 preceding the date on which the election is held; and

20       (b) On the tenth day of the first month after the election:  
21 PROVIDED, That this report shall not be required following a primary  
22 election from:

23       (i) A candidate whose name will appear on the subsequent general  
24 election ballot; or

25       (ii) Any continuing political committee; and

26       (c) On the tenth day of each month in which no other reports are  
27 required to be filed under this section: PROVIDED, That such report  
28 shall only be filed if the committee has received a contribution or  
29 made an expenditure in the preceding calendar month and either the  
30 total contributions received or total expenditures made since the last  
31 such report exceed two hundred dollars.

32       When there is no outstanding debt or obligation, and the campaign  
33 fund is closed, and the campaign is concluded in all respects, and in  
34 the case of a political committee, the committee has ceased to function  
35 and has dissolved, the treasurer shall file a final report. Upon  
36 submitting a final report, the duties of the treasurer shall cease and  
37 there shall be no obligation to make any further reports.

38       The report filed twenty-one days before the election shall report  
39 all contributions received and expenditures made as of the end of the

1 fifth business day before the date of the report. The report filed  
2 seven days before the election shall report all contributions received  
3 and expenditures made as of the end of the one business day before the  
4 date of the report. Reports filed on the tenth day of the month shall  
5 report all contributions received and expenditures made from the  
6 closing date of the last report filed through the last day of the month  
7 preceding the date of the current report.

8 (3) For the period beginning the first day of the fourth month  
9 preceding the date on which the special or general election is held and  
10 ending on the date of that election, each Friday the treasurer shall  
11 file with the commission and the appropriate county elections officer  
12 a report of each bank deposit made during the previous seven calendar  
13 days. The report shall contain the name of each person contributing  
14 the funds so deposited and the amount contributed by each person.  
15 However, contributions of no more than twenty-five dollars in the  
16 aggregate from any one person may be deposited without identifying the  
17 contributor. A copy of the report shall be retained by the treasurer  
18 for his or her records. In the event of deposits made by a deputy  
19 treasurer, the copy shall be forwarded to the treasurer for his or her  
20 records. Each report shall be certified as correct by the treasurer or  
21 deputy treasurer making the deposit.

22 (4) The treasurer or candidate shall maintain books of account  
23 accurately reflecting all contributions and expenditures on a current  
24 basis within five business days of receipt or expenditure. During the  
25 eight days immediately preceding the date of the election the books of  
26 account shall be kept current within one business day. As specified in  
27 the committee's statement of organization filed under RCW 42.17.040,  
28 the books of account must be open for public inspection as follows:

29 (a) For at least two consecutive hours between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00  
30 p.m. on the eighth day immediately before the election, (~~between 8:00~~  
31 ~~a.m. and 8:00 p.m., as specified in the committee's statement of~~  
32 ~~organization filed pursuant to RCW 42.17.040)) except when it is a  
33 legal holiday, in which case on the seventh day immediately before the  
34 election, at the principal headquarters or, if there is no  
35 headquarters, at the address of the treasurer or such other place as  
36 may be authorized by the commission; and~~

37 (b) By appointment for inspections to be conducted at the  
38 designated place for inspections between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on any  
39 other day from the seventh day through the day immediately before the

1 election, other than Saturday, Sunday, or a legal holiday. It is a  
2 violation of this chapter for a candidate or political committee to  
3 refuse to allow and keep an appointment for an inspection to be  
4 conducted during these authorized times and days in the week prior to  
5 the election. The appointment must be allowed at an authorized time  
6 and day for such inspections that is within twenty-four hours of the  
7 time and day that is requested for the inspection.

8 (5) The treasurer or candidate shall preserve books of account,  
9 bills, receipts, and all other financial records of the campaign or  
10 political committee for not less than five calendar years following the  
11 year during which the transaction occurred.

12 (6) All reports filed pursuant to subsections (1) or (2) of this  
13 section shall be certified as correct by the candidate and the  
14 treasurer.

15 (7) Copies of all reports filed pursuant to this section shall be  
16 readily available for public inspection for at least two consecutive  
17 hours Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays, between 8:00  
18 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., as specified in the committee's statement of  
19 organization filed pursuant to RCW 42.17.040, at the principal  
20 headquarters or, if there is no headquarters, at the address of the  
21 treasurer or such other place as may be authorized by the commission.

22 (8) The commission shall adopt administrative rules establishing  
23 requirements for filer participation in any system designed and  
24 implemented by the commission for the electronic filing of reports.

--- END ---