

***State Government***

***HB 1103***

***Brief Description:*** *Regulating mail to constituents.*

***Sponsors:*** *Representatives Lambert, Ruderman, Esser, Miloscia, Buck, Pflug, McDermott, Simpson, D. Schmidt and Armstrong.*

***Brief Summary of Bill***

- *Removes the campaign year prohibition against legislative mailings by electronic mail except for the period between the 45th day after session until November 30.*

***Hearing Date:*** *2/5/01*

***Staff:*** *Jim Morishima (786-7191).*

***Background:***

*For the 12 month period preceding a general election in which a legislator is running for office, the legislator may not send to a constituent, either by regular mail or electronic mail, a letter, newsletter, brochure, or other piece of literature. There are several exceptions to this general rule:*

- *The legislator may send two newsletters during the 12 month period;*
- *The legislator may respond to constituent inquiries;*
- *The legislator may send a letter to a constituent who holds a government office having jurisdiction over the subject of the letter;*
- *The legislator may send a letter to a constituent who has won an award or honor of extraordinary distinction like the Nobel Prize, or the Pulitzer Prize.*

***Summary of Bill:***

*The prohibition against legislative mailings via electronic mail only applies from 45 days after the regular session in the year a legislator is running for office until November 30 of that year.*

***Rulemaking Authority:*** *No express authority.*

***Effective Date:*** *Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.*

***Appropriation:*** *None.*

***Fiscal Note:*** *Not Requested.*