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HOUSE BILL 2737

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State of Washington

57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By Representatives Romero and Chase

Read first time 01/25/2002. Referred to Committee on State Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to requests by employees to withhold or divert  
2 wages for political contributions; and amending RCW 42.17.680.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 42.17.680 and 1993 c 2 s 8 are each amended to read as  
5 follows:

6 (1) No employer or labor organization may increase the salary of an  
7 officer or employee, or give an emolument to an officer, employee, or  
8 other person or entity, with the intention that the increase in salary,  
9 or the emolument, or a part of it, be contributed or spent to support  
10 or oppose a candidate, state official against whom recall charges have  
11 been filed, political party, or political committee.

12 (2) No employer or labor organization may discriminate against an  
13 officer or employee in the terms or conditions of employment for (a)  
14 the failure to contribute to, (b) the failure in any way to support or  
15 oppose, or (c) in any way supporting or opposing a candidate, ballot  
16 proposition, political party, or political committee.

17 (3) No employer or other person or entity responsible for the  
18 disbursement of funds in payment of wages or salaries may withhold or  
19 divert a portion of an employee's wages or salaries for contributions

1 to political committees or for use as political contributions except  
2 upon the written request of the employee. The request must be made on  
3 a form prescribed by the commission informing the employee of the  
4 prohibition against employer and labor organization discrimination  
5 described in subsection (2) of this section. (~~The request is valid~~  
6 ~~for no more than twelve months from the date it is made by the~~  
7 ~~employee.~~)

8 (4) Each person or entity who withholds contributions under  
9 subsection (3) of this section shall maintain open for public  
10 inspection for a period of no less than three years, during normal  
11 business hours, documents and books of accounts that shall include a  
12 copy of each employee's request, the amounts and dates funds were  
13 actually withheld, and the amounts and dates funds were transferred to  
14 a political committee. Copies of such information shall be delivered  
15 to the commission upon request.

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