

ESB 6342 - H AMD 1058

By Representative Hunter

1 On page 4, after line 14, insert the following:

2 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 42.17
3 RCW to read as follows:

4 It is the intent of the legislature to ensure that elections
5 for municipal court judges do not compromise the integrity of and
6 public confidence in the court system. The establishment of
7 contribution limits for these races will eliminate the potential
8 for influence by large contributors and the appearance of
9 impropriety by municipal judges.

10 (1) No person may make contributions to a candidate for
11 municipal court judge that in the aggregate exceed seven hundred
12 dollars for each election in which the candidate is on the ballot
13 or appears as a write-in candidate. Contributions made with respect
14 to a primary may not be made after the date of the primary.
15 However, contributions to a candidate or a candidate's authorized
16 committee may be made with respect to a primary until thirty days
17 after the primary, subject to the following limitations: (a) The
18 candidate lost the primary; (b) the candidate's authorized
19 committee has insufficient funds to pay debts outstanding as of the
20 date of the primary; and (c) the contributions may only be raised
21 and spent to satisfy the outstanding debt. Contributions made with
22 respect to a general election may not be made after the final day
23 of the applicable election cycle.

24 (2) This section and RCW 42.17.640 through RCW 42.17.790 apply
25 to a special election conducted to fill a vacancy in an office.
26 However, the contributions made to a candidate or received by a
27 candidate for a primary or special election conducted to fill such
28 a vacancy will not be counted toward any of the limitations that
29 apply to the candidate or to contributions made to the candidate
30 for any other primary or election.

31 (3) No person may accept contributions that exceed the

1 contribution limitations provided in this section.

2 (4) The dollar limits in this section must be adjusted
3 according to RCW 42.17.690."

4 Renumber the sections consecutively and correct any internal
5 references accordingly.

6 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Establishes contribution limits for candidates for municipal court judge not to exceed \$700 in the aggregate per person for each election in which the candidate is on the ballot.