
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6323

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Government Operations & Elections (originally sponsored by Senators Regala, Swecker, Kastama and Rasmussen)

READ FIRST TIME 02/01/06.

1 AN ACT Relating to campaign finance disclosure; and amending RCW
2 42.17.030 and 42.17.405.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 42.17.030 and 1987 c 295 s 18 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 The provisions of this chapter relating to the financing of
7 election campaigns shall apply in all election campaigns other than (1)
8 for precinct committee officer; and (2) for a federal elective office;
9 and (3) for an office of a political subdivision of the state that does
10 not encompass a whole county and that contains fewer than five thousand
11 registered voters as of the date of the most recent general election in
12 the subdivision, unless required by RCW 42.17.405 (2) through ~~((+5))~~
13 (6).

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 42.17.405 and 1986 c 12 s 3 are each amended to read
15 as follows:

16 (1) Except as provided in subsections (2) and (3) of this section,
17 the reporting provisions of this chapter do not apply to candidates,
18 elected officials, and agencies in political subdivisions with less

1 than one thousand registered voters as of the date of the most recent
2 general election in the jurisdiction, to political committees formed to
3 support or oppose candidates or ballot propositions in such political
4 subdivisions, or to persons making independent expenditures in support
5 of or opposition to such ballot propositions.

6 (2) The reporting provisions of this chapter apply in any exempt
7 political subdivision from which a "petition for disclosure" containing
8 the valid signatures of fifteen percent of the number of registered
9 voters, as of the date of the most recent general election in the
10 political subdivision, is filed with the commission. The commission
11 shall by rule prescribe the form of the petition. After the signatures
12 are gathered, the petition shall be presented to the auditor or
13 elections officer of the county, or counties, in which the political
14 subdivision is located. The auditor or elections officer shall verify
15 the signatures and certify to the commission that the petition contains
16 no less than the required number of valid signatures. The commission,
17 upon receipt of a valid petition, shall order every known affected
18 person in the political subdivision to file the initially required
19 statement and reports within fourteen days of the date of the order.

20 (3) The reporting provisions of this chapter apply in any exempt
21 political subdivision that by ordinance, resolution, or other official
22 action has petitioned the commission to make the provisions applicable
23 to elected officials and candidates of the exempt political
24 subdivision. A copy of the action shall be sent to the commission. If
25 the commission finds the petition to be a valid action of the
26 appropriate governing body or authority, the commission shall order
27 every known affected person in the political subdivision to file the
28 initially required statement and reports within fourteen days of the
29 date of the order.

30 (4) The commission shall void any order issued by it pursuant to
31 subsection (2) or (3) of this section when, at least four years after
32 issuing the order, the commission is presented a petition or official
33 action so requesting from the affected political subdivision. Such
34 petition or official action shall meet the respective requirements of
35 subsection (2) or (3) of this section.

36 ~~(5) ((Any petition for disclosure, ordinance, resolution, or~~
37 ~~official action of an agency petitioning the commission to void the~~

1 exemption in RCW 42.17.030(3) shall not be considered unless it has
2 been filed with the commission:

3 (a) In the case of a ballot measure, at least sixty days before the
4 date of any election in which campaign finance reporting is to be
5 required:

6 (b) In the case of a candidate, at least sixty days before the
7 first day on which a person may file a declaration of candidacy for any
8 election in which campaign finance reporting is to be required.

9 (6)) Any person exempted from reporting under this chapter may at
10 his or her option file the statement and reports.

11 (6) The campaign finance reporting provisions of this chapter apply
12 to a candidate in an election for city or town mayor or council if the
13 candidate receives or expects to receive three thousand five hundred
14 dollars or more in contributions. The commission shall increase or
15 decrease this amount pursuant to RCW 42.17.690.

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