

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 5537

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As of February 8, 2011

**Title:** An act relating to soliciting or accepting campaign contributions.

**Brief Description:** Regarding time restrictions on soliciting or accepting campaign contributions.

**Sponsors:** Senators White and Prentice.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Government Operations, Tribal Relations & Elections: 2/08/11.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, TRIBAL RELATIONS & ELECTIONS

**Staff:** Sharon Swanson (786-7447)

**Background:** Current law prohibits a state official or a person employed by or acting on behalf of a state official or state legislator from soliciting or accepting contributions to a public office fund, a candidate or authorized committee, or to retire a campaign debt beginning on the 30th day before the date a regular legislative session convenes and continuing through the date of final adjournment. The prohibition applies beginning on the date a special session convenes and continues through the date that special session adjourns.

Contributions received through the mail after the 30th day before a regular legislative session may be accepted if the contribution is postmarked prior to the 30th day before the session.

**Summary of Bill:** The bill as referred to committee not considered.

**Summary of Bill (Proposed Substitute):** The prohibition against a state official or person employed by or acting on behalf of a state official or state legislator from soliciting or accepting contributions to a public office fund, a candidate or authorized committee, or to retire a campaign debt which begins 30 days prior to the start of a legislative session and continues through the date of adjournment apply to any incumbent of a local elected office who has filed for a state office and persons employed by, or acting on behalf of, the incumbent.

**Appropriation:** None.

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Committee/Commission/Task Force Created:** No.

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

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony:** None.

**Persons Testifying:** No one.