
HOUSE BILL 2214

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Representative MacEwen

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1 AN ACT Relating to the public inspection of records of commercial
2 political advertisers; and amending RCW 42.17A.345.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 42.17A.345 and 2019 c 428 s 26 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) Each commercial advertiser who has accepted or provided
7 political advertising or electioneering communications during the
8 election campaign shall maintain current (~~books of account and~~
9 ~~related materials as provided by rule~~) records that shall be open
10 for public inspection during normal business hours during the
11 campaign and for a period of no less than five years after the date
12 of the applicable election. The (~~documents and books of account~~)
13 records shall specify:

14 (a) The names and addresses of persons from whom it accepted
15 political advertising or electioneering communications;

16 (b) The exact nature and extent of the services rendered; and

17 (c) The total cost (~~and the manner of payment~~) for the
18 services.

19 (2) At the request of the commission, each commercial advertiser
20 required to comply with subsection (1) of this section shall provide
21 to the commission copies of the information that must be maintained

1 and be open for public inspection pursuant to subsection (1) of this
2 section, or shall provide the commission with instructions on how
3 that information may be obtained on the internet.

4 (3) As used in this section:

5 (a) "Address" means physical address, web site uniform resource
6 locator (URL), or social media page. For online advertisements, the
7 address may be of the person or group that hosted the advertisement
8 rather than the person who paid for the advertisement.

9 (b) Records are "open for public inspection" if they are:

10 (i) Available for inspection in person;

11 (ii) Available to be transmitted electronically upon request; or

12 (iii) Posted on a web site that is available to the public
13 without requiring registration.

14 (c) "Total cost" may be expressed as a range within the nearest
15 one hundred dollars.

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