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HOUSE BILL 2448

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2008 Regular Session

By Representatives Hunt, Chandler, Appleton, Armstrong, and Haigh; by request of Public Disclosure Commission

Prefiled 12/06/07. Read first time 01/14/08. Referred to Committee on State Government & Tribal Affairs.

1 AN ACT Relating to the time frame covered by the twenty-one day 2 preelection campaign finance reports; and amending RCW 42.17.080.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 42.17.080 and 2006 c 344 s 30 are each amended to read 5 as follows:

(1) On the day the treasurer is designated, each candidate or 6 7 political committee shall file with the commission and the county 8 auditor or elections officer of the county in which the candidate resides, or in the case of a political committee, the county in which 9 10 the treasurer resides, in addition to any statement of organization under RCW 42.17.040 or 42.17.050, a report of 11 required all 12 contributions received and expenditures made prior to that date, if 13 any.

14 (2) At the following intervals each treasurer shall file with the 15 commission and the county auditor or elections officer of the county in 16 which the candidate resides, or in the case of a political committee, 17 the county in which the committee maintains its office or headquarters, 18 and if there is no office or headquarters then in the county in which 1 the treasurer resides, a report containing the information required by 2 RCW 42.17.090:

3 (a) On the twenty-first day and the seventh day immediately4 preceding the date on which the election is held; and

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(b) On the tenth day of the first month after the election; and

6 (c) On the tenth day of each month in which no other reports are 7 required to be filed under this section: PROVIDED, That such report 8 shall only be filed if the committee has received a contribution or 9 made an expenditure in the preceding calendar month and either the 10 total contributions received or total expenditures made since the last 11 such report exceed two hundred dollars.

When there is no outstanding debt or obligation, and the campaign fund is closed, and the campaign is concluded in all respects, and in the case of a political committee, the committee has ceased to function and has dissolved, the treasurer shall file a final report. Upon submitting a final report, the duties of the treasurer shall cease and there shall be no obligation to make any further reports.

The report filed twenty-one days before the election shall report 18 all contributions received and expenditures made as of the end of the 19 ((fifth)) one business day before the date of the report. The report 20 21 filed seven days before the election shall report all contributions 22 received and expenditures made as of the end of the one business day before the date of the report. Reports filed on the tenth day of the 23 24 month shall report all contributions received and expenditures made 25 from the closing date of the last report filed through the last day of the month preceding the date of the current report. 26

27 (3) For the period beginning the first day of the fourth month preceding the date on which the special election is held, or for the 28 period beginning the first day of the fifth month before the date on 29 which the general election is held, and ending on the date of that 30 special or general election, each Monday the treasurer shall file with 31 32 the commission and the appropriate county elections officer a report of each bank deposit made during the previous seven calendar days. 33 The report shall contain the name of each person contributing the funds so 34 deposited and the amount contributed by each person. 35 However, contributions of no more than twenty-five dollars in the aggregate from 36 37 any one person may be deposited without identifying the contributor. 38 A copy of the report shall be retained by the treasurer for his or her

1 records. In the event of deposits made by a deputy treasurer, the copy 2 shall be forwarded to the treasurer for his or her records. Each 3 report shall be certified as correct by the treasurer or deputy 4 treasurer making the deposit.

5 (4) If a city requires that candidates or committees for city 6 offices file reports with a city agency, the candidate or treasurer so 7 filing need not also file the report with the county auditor or 8 elections officer.

(5) The treasurer or candidate shall maintain books of account 9 accurately reflecting all contributions and expenditures on a current 10 basis within five business days of receipt or expenditure. During the 11 12 eight days immediately preceding the date of the election the books of 13 account shall be kept current within one business day. As specified in 14 the committee's statement of organization filed under RCW 42.17.040, the books of account must be open for public inspection by appointment 15 16 at the designated place for inspections between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. 17 on any day from the eighth day immediately before the election through the day immediately before the election, other than Saturday, Sunday, 18 or a legal holiday. It is a violation of this chapter for a candidate 19 or political committee to refuse to allow and keep an appointment for 20 21 an inspection to be conducted during these authorized times and days. 22 The appointment must be allowed at an authorized time and day for such inspections that is within twenty-four hours of the time and day that 23 24 is requested for the inspection.

(6) The treasurer or candidate shall preserve books of account, bills, receipts, and all other financial records of the campaign or political committee for not less than five calendar years following the year during which the transaction occurred.

(7) All reports filed pursuant to subsection (1) or (2) of this section shall be certified as correct by the candidate and the treasurer.

(8) Copies of all reports filed pursuant to this section shall be readily available for public inspection for at least two consecutive hours Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays, between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., as specified in the committee's statement of organization filed pursuant to RCW 42.17.040, at the principal headquarters or, if there is no headquarters, at the address of the treasurer or such other place as may be authorized by the commission.

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1 (9) After January 1, 2002, a report that is filed with the 2 commission electronically need not also be filed with the county 3 auditor or elections officer.

4 (10) The commission shall adopt administrative rules establishing 5 requirements for filer participation in any system designed and 6 implemented by the commission for the electronic filing of reports.

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