
SENATE BILL 5975

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Senators Patterson, Goings, Brown, Kline, Kohl, Haugen, Spanel, McAuliffe and Snyder

Read first time 02/24/97. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to the citizens' commission on campaign finance and
2 practices; creating new sections; providing an expiration date; and
3 declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The citizens' commission on campaign finance
6 and practices is created to consist of seventeen members appointed as
7 provided in this section: One person from each congressional district,
8 appointed by the governor; one person each from a list of three
9 submitted by the chair of each of the major political parties of the
10 state, selected by the secretary of state; one nonelected election
11 administrator selected by the secretary of state; and one person
12 appointed by the leader of each major political caucus organization in
13 the state legislature. No person appointed may be a registered
14 lobbyist, an elected state or local official, a candidate for elected
15 office, or a family member of an official or candidate.

16 The governor, secretary of state, attorney general, and chair of
17 the public disclosure commission shall serve as ex officio members of
18 the commission, without voting authority.

1 Vacancies must be filled by the original appointing authority and
2 under the same qualifications.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The citizens' commission on campaign
4 finance and practices shall study campaign finance and practices,
5 including existing laws on campaign finance and practices, their
6 effects, and the mission and operation of the public disclosure
7 commission, and propose legislation on campaign finance and practices
8 to the legislature and make other recommendations as it deems
9 appropriate. "Campaign" as used in this section includes campaigns for
10 partisan elective offices, nonpartisan elective offices, and for or
11 against ballot propositions.

12 (2) Except as provided otherwise in RCW 43.03.305 and this section,
13 the citizens' commission is solely responsible for its own
14 organization, operation, and action and shall enjoy the fullest
15 cooperation of all state officials, departments, and agencies. The
16 public disclosure commission shall provide the necessary support to the
17 citizens' commission to carry out the purposes of this section.

18 (3) Members of the citizens' commission receive no compensation for
19 their services, but are eligible to receive a subsistence allowance and
20 travel expenses under RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

21 (4) The members of the citizens' commission shall elect a chair
22 from among their number.

23 (5) Before submitting reports or recommendations to the
24 legislature, the citizens' commission shall hold no fewer than two
25 public hearings on campaign finance and practices within the four
26 months immediately before the submission.

27 (6) All meetings, actions, hearings, and business of the citizens'
28 commission are subject in full to the Open Public Meetings Act, chapter
29 42.30 RCW.

30 (7) The citizens' commission shall make its report by December 31,
31 1997.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act expire December
33 31, 1997.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate
35 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the

1 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
2 immediately.

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