
SENATE BILL 5870

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Senators Spanel, Horn, McCaslin, Snyder, Patterson and Kohl-Welles

Read first time 02/06/2001. Referred to Committee on State & Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to clarifying the deadline for primary
2 contributions to candidates who do not advance to the general election;
3 and amending RCW 42.17.640.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 42.17.640 and 1995 c 397 s 20 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 (1) No person, other than a bona fide political party or a caucus
8 political committee, may make contributions to a candidate for a state
9 legislative office that in the aggregate exceed five hundred dollars or
10 to a candidate for a state office other than a state legislative office
11 that in the aggregate exceed one thousand dollars for each election in
12 which the candidate is on the ballot or appears as a write-in
13 candidate. Contributions made with respect to a primary to a candidate
14 whose name will appear on the general election ballot may not be made
15 after the date of the primary. Contributions made with respect to a
16 primary to a candidate whose name will not appear on the general
17 election ballot may not be made more than thirty days after the date of
18 the primary. Contributions made with respect to a general election may
19 not be made after the final day of the applicable election cycle.

1 (2) No person, other than a bona fide political party or a caucus
2 political committee, may make contributions to a state official against
3 whom recall charges have been filed, or to a political committee having
4 the expectation of making expenditures in support of the recall of the
5 state official, during a recall campaign that in the aggregate exceed
6 five hundred dollars if for a state legislative office or one thousand
7 dollars if for a state office other than a state legislative office.

8 (3)(a) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, no bona fide
9 political party or caucus political committee may make contributions to
10 a candidate during an election cycle that in the aggregate exceed (i)
11 fifty cents multiplied by the number of eligible registered voters in
12 the jurisdiction from which the candidate is elected if the contributor
13 is a caucus political committee or the governing body of a state
14 organization, or (ii) twenty-five cents multiplied by the number of
15 registered voters in the jurisdiction from which the candidate is
16 elected if the contributor is a county central committee or a
17 legislative district committee.

18 (b) No candidate may accept contributions from a county central
19 committee or a legislative district committee during an election cycle
20 that when combined with contributions from other county central
21 committees or legislative district committees would in the aggregate
22 exceed twenty-five cents times the number of registered voters in the
23 jurisdiction from which the candidate is elected.

24 (4)(a) Notwithstanding subsection (2) of this section, no bona fide
25 political party or caucus political committee may make contributions to
26 a state official against whom recall charges have been filed, or to a
27 political committee having the expectation of making expenditures in
28 support of the state official, during a recall campaign that in the
29 aggregate exceed (i) fifty cents multiplied by the number of eligible
30 registered voters in the jurisdiction entitled to recall the state
31 official if the contributor is a caucus political committee or the
32 governing body of a state organization, or (ii) twenty-five cents
33 multiplied by the number of registered voters in the jurisdiction from
34 which the candidate is elected if the contributor is a county central
35 committee or a legislative district committee.

36 (b) No state official against whom recall charges have been filed,
37 no authorized committee of the official, and no political committee
38 having the expectation of making expenditures in support of the recall
39 of a state official may accept contributions from a county central

1 committee or a legislative district committee during an election cycle
2 that when combined with contributions from other county central
3 committees or legislative district committees would in the aggregate
4 exceed twenty-five cents multiplied by the number of registered voters
5 in the jurisdiction from which the candidate is elected.

6 (5) For purposes of determining contribution limits under
7 subsections (3) and (4) of this section, the number of eligible
8 registered voters in a jurisdiction is the number at the time of the
9 most recent general election in the jurisdiction.

10 (6) Notwithstanding subsections (1) through (4) of this section, no
11 person other than an individual, bona fide political party, or caucus
12 political committee may make contributions reportable under this
13 chapter to a caucus political committee that in the aggregate exceed
14 five hundred dollars in a calendar year or to a bona fide political
15 party that in the aggregate exceed two thousand five hundred dollars in
16 a calendar year. This subsection does not apply to loans made in the
17 ordinary course of business.

18 (7) For the purposes of RCW 42.17.640 through 42.17.790, a
19 contribution to the authorized political committee of a candidate, or
20 of a state official against whom recall charges have been filed, is
21 considered to be a contribution to the candidate or state official.

22 (8) A contribution received within the twelve-month period after a
23 recall election concerning a state office is considered to be a
24 contribution during that recall campaign if the contribution is used to
25 pay a debt or obligation incurred to influence the outcome of that
26 recall campaign.

27 (9) The contributions allowed by subsection (2) of this section are
28 in addition to those allowed by subsection (1) of this section, and the
29 contributions allowed by subsection (4) of this section are in addition
30 to those allowed by subsection (3) of this section.

31 (10) RCW 42.17.640 through 42.17.790 apply to a special election
32 conducted to fill a vacancy in a state office. However, the
33 contributions made to a candidate or received by a candidate for a
34 primary or special election conducted to fill such a vacancy shall not
35 be counted toward any of the limitations that apply to the candidate or
36 to contributions made to the candidate for any other primary or
37 election.

38 (11) Notwithstanding the other subsections of this section, no
39 corporation or business entity not doing business in Washington state,

1 no labor union with fewer than ten members who reside in Washington
2 state, and no political committee that has not received contributions
3 of ten dollars or more from at least ten persons registered to vote in
4 Washington state during the preceding one hundred eighty days may make
5 contributions reportable under this chapter to a candidate, to a state
6 official against whom recall charges have been filed, or to a political
7 committee having the expectation of making expenditures in support of
8 the recall of the official. This subsection does not apply to loans
9 made in the ordinary course of business.

10 (12) Notwithstanding the other subsections of this section, no
11 county central committee or legislative district committee may make
12 contributions reportable under this chapter to a candidate, state
13 official against whom recall charges have been filed, or political
14 committee having the expectation of making expenditures in support of
15 the recall of a state official if the county central committee or
16 legislative district committee is outside of the jurisdiction entitled
17 to elect the candidate or recall the state official.

18 (13) No person may accept contributions that exceed the
19 contribution limitations provided in this section.

20 (14) The following contributions are exempt from the contribution
21 limits of this section:

22 (a) An expenditure or contribution earmarked for voter
23 registration, for absentee ballot information, for precinct caucuses,
24 for get-out-the-vote campaigns, for precinct judges or inspectors, for
25 sample ballots, or for ballot counting, all without promotion of or
26 political advertising for individual candidates; or

27 (b) An expenditure by a political committee for its own internal
28 organization or fund raising without direct association with individual
29 candidates.

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