
HOUSE BILL 1375

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Wylie, Stonier, Vick, Harris, Gregerson, Kraft, Appleton, Dolan, Pellicciotti, Doglio, and Fey

Read first time 01/21/19. Referred to Committee on State Government & Tribal Relations.

1 AN ACT Relating to applying campaign contribution limits to
2 candidates for all port districts; and amending RCW 42.17A.405.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 42.17A.405 and 2013 c 311 s 1 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The contribution limits in this section apply to:

7 (a) Candidates for legislative office;

8 (b) Candidates for state office other than legislative office;

9 (c) Candidates for county office;

10 (d) Candidates for (~~special purpose~~) port district office (~~if~~
11 ~~that district is authorized to provide freight and passenger transfer~~
12 ~~and terminal facilities and that district has over two hundred~~
13 ~~thousand registered voters~~));

14 (e) Candidates for city council office;

15 (f) Candidates for mayoral office;

16 (g) Candidates for school board office;

17 (h) Candidates for public hospital district board of
18 commissioners in districts with a population over one hundred fifty
19 thousand;

20 (i) Persons holding an office in (a) through (h) of this
21 subsection against whom recall charges have been filed or to a

1 political committee having the expectation of making expenditures in
2 support of the recall of a person holding the office;

3 (j) Caucus political committees;

4 (k) Bona fide political parties.

5 (2) No person, other than a bona fide political party or a caucus
6 political committee, may make contributions to a candidate for a
7 legislative office, county office, city council office, mayoral
8 office, school board office, or public hospital district board of
9 commissioners that in the aggregate exceed eight hundred dollars or
10 to a candidate for a public office in a (~~special purpose~~) port
11 district or a state office other than a legislative office that in
12 the aggregate exceed one thousand six hundred dollars for each
13 election in which the candidate is on the ballot or appears as a
14 write-in candidate. Contributions to candidates subject to the limits
15 in this section made with respect to a primary may not be made after
16 the date of the primary. However, contributions to a candidate or a
17 candidate's authorized committee may be made with respect to a
18 primary until thirty days after the primary, subject to the following
19 limitations: (a) The candidate lost the primary; (b) the candidate's
20 authorized committee has insufficient funds to pay debts outstanding
21 as of the date of the primary; and (c) the contributions may only be
22 raised and spent to satisfy the outstanding debt. Contributions to
23 candidates subject to the limits in this section made with respect to
24 a general election may not be made after the final day of the
25 applicable election cycle.

26 (3) No person, other than a bona fide political party or a caucus
27 political committee, may make contributions to a state official, a
28 county official, a city official, a school board member, a public
29 hospital district commissioner, or a public official in a (~~special~~
30 ~~purpose~~) port district against whom recall charges have been filed,
31 or to a political committee having the expectation of making
32 expenditures in support of the recall of the state official, county
33 official, city official, school board member, public hospital
34 district commissioner, or public official in a (~~special purpose~~)
35 port district during a recall campaign that in the aggregate exceed
36 eight hundred dollars if for a legislative office, county office,
37 school board office, public hospital district office, or city office,
38 or one thousand six hundred dollars if for a (~~special purpose~~) port
39 district office or a state office other than a legislative office.

1 (4) (a) Notwithstanding subsection (2) of this section, no bona
2 fide political party or caucus political committee may make
3 contributions to a candidate during an election cycle that in the
4 aggregate exceed (i) eighty cents multiplied by the number of
5 eligible registered voters in the jurisdiction from which the
6 candidate is elected if the contributor is a caucus political
7 committee or the governing body of a state organization, or (ii)
8 forty cents multiplied by the number of registered voters in the
9 jurisdiction from which the candidate is elected if the contributor
10 is a county central committee or a legislative district committee.

11 (b) No candidate may accept contributions from a county central
12 committee or a legislative district committee during an election
13 cycle that when combined with contributions from other county central
14 committees or legislative district committees would in the aggregate
15 exceed forty cents times the number of registered voters in the
16 jurisdiction from which the candidate is elected.

17 (5) (a) Notwithstanding subsection (3) of this section, no bona
18 fide political party or caucus political committee may make
19 contributions to a state official, county official, city official,
20 school board member, public hospital district commissioner, or a
21 public official in a (~~special purpose~~) port district against whom
22 recall charges have been filed, or to a political committee having
23 the expectation of making expenditures in support of the state
24 official, county official, city official, school board member, public
25 hospital district commissioner, or a public official in a (~~special
26 purpose~~) port district during a recall campaign that in the
27 aggregate exceed (i) eighty cents multiplied by the number of
28 eligible registered voters in the jurisdiction entitled to recall the
29 state official if the contributor is a caucus political committee or
30 the governing body of a state organization, or (ii) forty cents
31 multiplied by the number of registered voters in the jurisdiction
32 from which the candidate is elected if the contributor is a county
33 central committee or a legislative district committee.

34 (b) No official holding an office specified in subsection (1) of
35 this section against whom recall charges have been filed, no
36 authorized committee of the official, and no political committee
37 having the expectation of making expenditures in support of the
38 recall of the official may accept contributions from a county central
39 committee or a legislative district committee during an election
40 cycle that when combined with contributions from other county central

1 committees or legislative district committees would in the aggregate
2 exceed forty cents multiplied by the number of registered voters in
3 the jurisdiction from which the candidate is elected.

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

8 (7) Notwithstanding subsections (2) through (5) of this section,
9 no person other than an individual, bona fide political party, or
10 caucus political committee may make contributions reportable under
11 this chapter to a caucus political committee that in the aggregate
12 exceed eight hundred dollars in a calendar year or to a bona fide
13 political party that in the aggregate exceed four thousand dollars in
14 a calendar year. This subsection does not apply to loans made in the
15 ordinary course of business.

16 (8) For the purposes of RCW 42.17A.125, 42.17A.405 through
17 42.17A.415, 42.17A.450 through 42.17A.495, 42.17A.500, 42.17A.560,
18 and 42.17A.565, a contribution to the authorized political committee
19 of a candidate or of an official specified in subsection (1) of this
20 section against whom recall charges have been filed is considered to
21 be a contribution to the candidate or official.

22 (9) A contribution received within the twelve-month period after
23 a recall election concerning an office specified in subsection (1) of
24 this section is considered to be a contribution during that recall
25 campaign if the contribution is used to pay a debt or obligation
26 incurred to influence the outcome of that recall campaign.

27 (10) The contributions allowed by subsection (3) of this section
28 are in addition to those allowed by subsection (2) of this section,
29 and the contributions allowed by subsection (5) of this section are
30 in addition to those allowed by subsection (4) of this section.

31 (11) RCW 42.17A.125, 42.17A.405 through 42.17A.415, 42.17A.450
32 through 42.17A.495, 42.17A.500, 42.17A.560, and 42.17A.565 apply to a
33 special election conducted to fill a vacancy in an office specified
34 in subsection (1) of this section. However, the contributions made to
35 a candidate or received by a candidate for a primary or special
36 election conducted to fill such a vacancy shall not be counted toward
37 any of the limitations that apply to the candidate or to
38 contributions made to the candidate for any other primary or
39 election.

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

13 (13) Notwithstanding the other subsections of this section, no
14 county central committee or legislative district committee may make
15 contributions reportable under this chapter to a candidate specified
16 in subsection (1) of this section, or an official specified in
17 subsection (1) of this section against whom recall charges have been
18 filed, or political committee having the expectation of making
19 expenditures in support of the recall of an official specified in
20 subsection (1) of this section if the county central committee or
21 legislative district committee is outside of the jurisdiction
22 entitled to elect the candidate or recall the official.

23 (14) No person may accept contributions that exceed the
24 contribution limitations provided in this section.

25 (15) The following contributions are exempt from the contribution
26 limits of this section:

27 (a) An expenditure or contribution earmarked for voter
28 registration, for absentee ballot information, for precinct caucuses,
29 for get-out-the-vote campaigns, for precinct judges or inspectors,
30 for sample ballots, or for ballot counting, all without promotion of
31 or political advertising for individual candidates;

32 (b) An expenditure by a political committee for its own internal
33 organization or fund-raising without direct association with
34 individual candidates; or

35 (c) An expenditure or contribution for independent expenditures
36 as defined in RCW 42.17A.005 or electioneering communications as
37 defined in RCW 42.17A.005.

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