
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1021

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2003 Regular Session

By House Committee on State Government (originally sponsored by
Representatives Nixon and Mielke)

READ FIRST TIME 01/28/03.

1 AN ACT Relating to inspection of political candidates'
2 contributions and expenditures; and amending RCW 42.17.080 and
3 42.17.040.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 42.17.080 and 2002 c 75 s 2 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

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

15 (2) At the following intervals each treasurer shall file with the
16 commission and the county auditor or elections officer of the county in
17 which the candidate resides, or in the case of a political committee,
18 the county in which the committee maintains its office or headquarters,

1 and if there is no office or headquarters then in the county in which
2 the treasurer resides, a report containing the information required by
3 RCW 42.17.090:

4 (a) On the twenty-first day and the seventh day immediately
5 preceding the date on which the election is held; and

6 (b) On the tenth day of the first month after the election:
7 PROVIDED, That this report shall not be required following a primary
8 election from:

9 (i) A candidate whose name will appear on the subsequent general
10 election ballot; or

11 (ii) Any continuing political committee; and

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

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

24 The report filed twenty-one days before the election shall report
25 all contributions received and expenditures made as of the end of the
26 fifth business day before the date of the report. The report filed
27 seven days before the election shall report all contributions received
28 and expenditures made as of the end of the one business day before the
29 date of the report. Reports filed on the tenth day of the month shall
30 report all contributions received and expenditures made from the
31 closing date of the last report filed through the last day of the month
32 preceding the date of the current report.

33 (3) For the period beginning the first day of the fourth month
34 preceding the date on which the special or general election is held and
35 ending on the date of that election, each Monday the treasurer shall
36 file with the commission and the appropriate county elections officer
37 a report of each bank deposit made during the previous seven calendar
38 days. The report shall contain the name of each person contributing

1 the funds so deposited and the amount contributed by each person.
2 However, contributions of no more than twenty-five dollars in the
3 aggregate from any one person may be deposited without identifying the
4 contributor. A copy of the report shall be retained by the treasurer
5 for his or her records. In the event of deposits made by a deputy
6 treasurer, the copy shall be forwarded to the treasurer for his or her
7 records. Each report shall be certified as correct by the treasurer or
8 deputy treasurer making the deposit.

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

13 (5) The treasurer or candidate shall maintain books of account
14 accurately reflecting all contributions and expenditures on a current
15 basis within five business days of receipt or expenditure. During the
16 eight days immediately preceding the date of the election the books of
17 account shall be kept current within one business day. As specified in
18 the committee's statement of organization filed under RCW 42.17.040,
19 the books of account and copies of all reports filed under this section
20 must be open for public inspection (~~as follows:~~

21 ~~(a) For at least two consecutive hours between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00~~
22 ~~p.m. on the eighth day immediately before the election, except when it~~
23 ~~is a legal holiday, in which case on the seventh day immediately before~~
24 ~~the election, at the principal headquarters or, if there is no~~
25 ~~headquarters, at the address of the treasurer or such other place as~~
26 ~~may be authorized by the commission; and~~

27 ~~(b) By appointment for inspections to be conducted))~~ by appointment
28 at the designated place for inspections between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.
29 on any (~~other~~) day from the (~~seventh~~) eighth day immediately before
30 the election through the day immediately before the election, other
31 than Saturday, Sunday, or a legal holiday. Copies of all reports filed
32 under this section may be maintained in paper or electronic form. It
33 is a violation of this chapter for a candidate or political committee
34 to refuse to allow and keep an appointment for an inspection to be
35 conducted during these authorized times and days (~~in the week prior to~~
36 ~~the election~~). The appointment must be allowed at an authorized time
37 and day for such inspections that is within twenty-four hours of the
38 time and day that is requested for the inspection.

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

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

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

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

18 ~~((10))~~ (9) The commission shall adopt administrative rules
19 establishing requirements for filer participation in any system
20 designed and implemented by the commission for the electronic filing of
21 reports.

22 **Sec. 2.** RCW 42.17.040 and 1989 c 280 s 2 are each amended to read
23 as follows:

24 (1) Every political committee, within two weeks after its
25 organization or, within two weeks after the date when it first has the
26 expectation of receiving contributions or making expenditures in any
27 election campaign, whichever is earlier, shall file a statement of
28 organization with the commission and with the county auditor or
29 elections officer of the county in which the candidate resides, or in
30 the case of any other political committee, the county in which the
31 treasurer resides. A political committee organized within the last
32 three weeks before an election and having the expectation of receiving
33 contributions or making expenditures during and for that election
34 campaign shall file a statement of organization within three business
35 days after its organization or when it first has the expectation of
36 receiving contributions or making expenditures in the election
37 campaign.

1 (2) The statement of organization shall include but not be limited
2 to:
3 (a) The name and address of the committee;
4 (b) The names and addresses of all related or affiliated committees
5 or other persons, and the nature of the relationship or affiliation;
6 (c) The names, addresses, and titles of its officers; or if it has
7 no officers, the names, addresses, and titles of its responsible
8 leaders;
9 (d) The name and address of its treasurer and depository;
10 (e) A statement whether the committee is a continuing one;
11 (f) The name, office sought, and party affiliation of each
12 candidate whom the committee is supporting or opposing, and, if the
13 committee is supporting the entire ticket of any party, the name of the
14 party;
15 (g) The ballot proposition concerned, if any, and whether the
16 committee is in favor of or opposed to such proposition;
17 (h) What distribution of surplus funds will be made, in accordance
18 with RCW 42.17.095, in the event of dissolution;
19 (i) The contact information and the street address of the place
20 (~~and the hours during~~) at which the committee will, by appointment,
21 make available for public inspection its books of account and all
22 reports filed in accordance with RCW 42.17.080; and
23 (j) Such other information as the commission may by regulation
24 prescribe, in keeping with the policies and purposes of this chapter.
25 (3) Any material change in information previously submitted in a
26 statement of organization shall be reported to the commission and to
27 the appropriate county elections officer within the ten days following
28 the change.

--- END ---