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HOUSE BILL 1021

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State of Washington                      58th Legislature                      2003 Regular Session

By Representatives Nixon and Mielke

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Committee on State Government.

1            AN ACT Relating to inspection of political candidates'  
2 contributions and expenditures; 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 2002 c 75 s 2 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            (1) On the day the treasurer is designated, each candidate or  
7 political committee shall file with the commission and the county  
8 auditor or elections officer of the county in which the candidate  
9 resides, or in the case of a political committee, the county in which  
10 the treasurer resides, in addition to any statement of organization  
11 required under RCW 42.17.040 or 42.17.050, a report of 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 immediately  
4 preceding the date on which the election is held; and

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

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

10 (ii) Any continuing political committee; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

36 (6) The treasurer or candidate shall preserve books of account,  
37 bills, receipts, and all other financial records of the campaign or

1 political committee for not less than five calendar years following the  
2 year during which the transaction occurred.

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

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

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

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

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