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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2846**

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**State of Washington**

**59th Legislature**

**2006 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on State Government Operations & Accountability  
(originally sponsored by Representatives Miloscia, Hunt, Campbell and  
Dunshee)

READ FIRST TIME 02/03/06.

1       AN ACT Relating to campaign finance disclosure; and amending RCW  
2 42.17.030 and 42.17.405.

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

4       **Sec. 1.** RCW 42.17.030 and 1987 c 295 s 18 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6       The provisions of this chapter relating to the financing of  
7 election campaigns shall apply in all election campaigns other than (1)  
8 for precinct committee officer; (2) for a federal elective office; and  
9 (3) for an office of a political subdivision of the state that does not  
10 encompass a whole county and that contains fewer than five thousand  
11 registered voters as of the date of the most recent general election in  
12 the subdivision, unless required by RCW 42.17.405 (2) through (5) and  
13 (7).

14       **Sec. 2.** RCW 42.17.405 and 1986 c 12 s 3 are each amended to read  
15 as follows:

16       (1) Except as provided in subsections (2) (~~and~~), (3), and (7) of  
17 this section, the reporting provisions of this chapter do not apply to  
18 candidates, elected officials, and agencies in political subdivisions

1 with less than one thousand registered voters as of the date of the  
2 most recent general election in the jurisdiction, to political  
3 committees formed to support or oppose candidates or ballot  
4 propositions in such political subdivisions, or to persons making  
5 independent expenditures in support of or opposition to such ballot  
6 propositions.

7 (2) The reporting provisions of this chapter apply in any exempt  
8 political subdivision from which a "petition for disclosure" containing  
9 the valid signatures of fifteen percent of the number of registered  
10 voters, as of the date of the most recent general election in the  
11 political subdivision, is filed with the commission. The commission  
12 shall by rule prescribe the form of the petition. After the signatures  
13 are gathered, the petition shall be presented to the auditor or  
14 elections officer of the county, or counties, in which the political  
15 subdivision is located. The auditor or elections officer shall verify  
16 the signatures and certify to the commission that the petition contains  
17 no less than the required number of valid signatures. The commission,  
18 upon receipt of a valid petition, shall order every known affected  
19 person in the political subdivision to file the initially required  
20 statement and reports within fourteen days of the date of the order.

21 (3) The reporting provisions of this chapter apply in any exempt  
22 political subdivision that by ordinance, resolution, or other official  
23 action has petitioned the commission to make the provisions applicable  
24 to elected officials and candidates of the exempt political  
25 subdivision. A copy of the action shall be sent to the commission. If  
26 the commission finds the petition to be a valid action of the  
27 appropriate governing body or authority, the commission shall order  
28 every known affected person in the political subdivision to file the  
29 initially required statement and reports within fourteen days of the  
30 date of the order.

31 (4) The commission shall void any order issued by it pursuant to  
32 subsection (2) or (3) of this section when, at least four years after  
33 issuing the order, the commission is presented a petition or official  
34 action so requesting from the affected political subdivision. Such  
35 petition or official action shall meet the respective requirements of  
36 subsection (2) or (3) of this section.

37 (5) Any petition for disclosure, ordinance, resolution, or official

1 action of an agency petitioning the commission to void the exemption in  
2 RCW 42.17.030(3) shall not be considered unless it has been filed with  
3 the commission:

4 (a) In the case of a ballot measure, at least sixty days before the  
5 date of any election in which campaign finance reporting is to be  
6 required;

7 (b) In the case of a candidate, at least sixty days before the  
8 first day on which a person may file a declaration of candidacy for any  
9 election in which campaign finance reporting is to be required.

10 (6) Any person exempted from reporting under this chapter may at  
11 his or her option file the statement and reports.

12 (7) The reporting provisions of this chapter apply to a candidate  
13 in any political subdivision if the candidate receives or expects to  
14 receive five thousand dollars or more in contributions.

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