
SENATE BILL 6344

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2010 Regular Session

By Senators Fairley, Prentice, Hargrove, Kauffman, Marr, and McDermott

Read first time 01/12/10. Referred to Committee on Government Operations & Elections.

1 AN ACT Relating to city council campaign contribution limits; and
2 adding a new section to chapter 42.17 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 42.17 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) No person may make contributions to a candidate for city
7 council that in the aggregate exceed eight hundred dollars for each
8 election in which the candidate is on the ballot or appears as a write-
9 in candidate.

10 (2) No person may make contributions to a city councilmember
11 against whom charges have been filed during a recall campaign that in
12 the aggregate exceed eight hundred dollars if for a city council
13 office.

14 (3) A contribution received within the twelve-month period after a
15 recall election concerning a city council office is considered to be a
16 contribution during that recall campaign if the contribution is used to
17 pay a debt or obligation incurred to influence the outcome of that
18 recall campaign.

1 (4) The contributions made to a candidate or received by a
2 candidate for a primary or special election conducted to fill a city
3 council vacancy shall not be counted toward any of the limitations that
4 apply to the candidate or to contributions made to the candidate for
5 any other primary or election.

6 (5) A corporation or business entity not doing business in
7 Washington state, and a labor union with fewer than ten members who
8 reside in Washington state, may not make contributions reportable under
9 this chapter to a candidate having the expectation of making
10 expenditures in support of the recall of the official. This subsection
11 does not apply to loans made in the ordinary course of business.

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

14 (7) A local district with contribution limits already established
15 for city council campaigns may continue to practice such standards so
16 long as the contribution limit does not exceed eight hundred dollars.

17 (8) An expenditure or contribution earmarked for voter
18 registration, for absentee ballot information, for precinct caucuses,
19 for get-out-the-vote campaigns, for precinct judges or inspectors, for
20 sample ballots, or for ballot counting, all without promotion of or
21 political advertising for individual candidates, is exempt from the
22 contribution limits of this section.

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