

**HB 1317** - S COMM AMD

By Committee on State Government & Elections

**ADOPTED 04/12/2023**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 **"Sec. 1.** RCW 42.17A.640 and 2010 c 204 s 809 are each amended to  
4 read as follows:

5 (1) Any person who has made expenditures, not reported by a  
6 registered lobbyist under RCW 42.17A.615 or by a candidate or  
7 political committee under RCW 42.17A.225 or 42.17A.235, exceeding one  
8 thousand dollars in the aggregate within any three-month period or  
9 exceeding five hundred dollars in the aggregate within any one-month  
10 period in presenting a ~~((program))~~ campaign to the public, a  
11 substantial portion of which is intended, designed, or calculated  
12 primarily to solicit, urge, or encourage the public to influence  
13 legislation, shall register and report, as provided in subsection (2)  
14 of this section, as a sponsor of a grass roots lobbying campaign.

15 (2) ~~((Within thirty days after becoming a sponsor of a grass~~  
16 ~~roots lobbying campaign, the))~~ (a) The sponsor shall register by  
17 filing with the commission a registration statement:

18 (i) Within 24 hours of the initial presentation of the campaign  
19 to the public during the period:

20 (A) Beginning on the 30th day before a regular legislative  
21 session convenes and continuing through the date of final adjournment  
22 of that session; or

23 (B) Beginning on the date that a special legislative session has  
24 been called or 30 days before the special legislative session is  
25 scheduled to convene, whichever is later, and continuing through the  
26 date of final adjournment of that session; or

27 (ii) Within five business days of the initial presentation of the  
28 campaign to the public during any other period.

29 (b) The registration must show, in such detail as the commission  
30 shall prescribe ~~((, showing))~~:

31 ~~((a))~~ (i) The sponsor's name, address, and business or  
32 occupation and employer, and, if the sponsor is not an individual,

1 the names, addresses, and titles of the controlling persons  
2 responsible for managing the sponsor's affairs;

3 ~~((b))~~ (ii) The names, addresses, and business or occupation and  
4 employer of all persons organizing and managing the campaign, or  
5 hired to assist the campaign, including any public relations or  
6 advertising firms participating in the campaign, and the terms of  
7 compensation for all such persons;

8 ~~((c) The names and addresses of each person contributing twenty-~~  
9 ~~five dollars or more to the campaign, and the aggregate amount~~  
10 ~~contributed))~~ (iii) Each source of funding for the campaign of \$25 or  
11 more, including:

12 (A) General treasury funds. The name and address of each  
13 business, union, group, association, or other organization using  
14 general treasury funds for the campaign; however, if such entity  
15 undertakes a special solicitation of its members or other persons for  
16 the campaign, or it otherwise receives funds for the campaign, that  
17 entity shall report pursuant to (b) (ii) of this subsection; and

18 (B) Special solicitations and other funds. The name, address,  
19 and, for individuals, occupation and employer, of a person whose  
20 funds were used to pay for the campaign, along with the amount;

21 ~~((d))~~ (iv) The purpose of the campaign, including the specific  
22 legislation, rules, rates, standards, or proposals that are the  
23 subject matter of the campaign;

24 ~~((e))~~ (v) The totals of all expenditures made or incurred to  
25 date on behalf of the campaign segregated according to financial  
26 category, including but not limited to the following: Advertising,  
27 segregated by media, and in the case of large expenditures (as  
28 provided by rule of the commission), by outlet; contributions;  
29 entertainment, including food and refreshments; office expenses  
30 including rent and the salaries and wages paid for staff and  
31 secretarial assistance, or the proportionate amount paid or incurred  
32 for lobbying campaign activities; consultants; and printing and  
33 mailing expenses; and

34 (vi) Such other information as shall be required by the  
35 commission by rule in conformance with the policies and purposes of  
36 this chapter.

37 (3) Every sponsor who has registered under this section shall  
38 file monthly reports with the commission by the tenth day of the  
39 month for the activity during the preceding month. The reports shall  
40 update the information contained in the sponsor's registration

1 statement and in prior reports and shall show contributions received  
2 and totals of expenditures made during the month, in the same manner  
3 as provided for in the registration statement.

4 (4) When the campaign has been terminated, the sponsor shall file  
5 a notice of termination with the final monthly report. The final  
6 report shall state the totals of all contributions and expenditures  
7 made on behalf of the campaign, in the same manner as provided for in  
8 the registration statement.

9 (5) (a) Any advertising or other mass communication produced as  
10 part of a campaign must include the following disclosures:

11 (i) All written communications shall include the sponsor's name  
12 and address. All radio and television communications shall include  
13 the sponsor's name. The use of an assumed name for the sponsor is  
14 unlawful;

15 (ii) If the sponsor is a political committee established,  
16 maintained, or controlled directly, or indirectly through the  
17 formation of one or more political committees, by an individual,  
18 corporation, union, association, or other entity, the communication  
19 must include the full name of that individual or entity; and

20 (iii) If the communication costs \$1,000 or more, the  
21 communication must include:

22 (A) The statement "Top Five Contributors," followed by a listing  
23 of the names of each of the five largest sources of funding of \$1,000  
24 or more, as reported under subsection (2) (b) of this section, during  
25 the 12-month period preceding the date on which the advertisement is  
26 initially to be published or otherwise presented to the public; and

27 (B) If one of the "Top Five Contributors" listed includes a  
28 political committee, the statement "Top Three Donors to PAC  
29 Contributors," followed by a listing of the names of the three  
30 individuals or entities other than political committees making the  
31 largest aggregate contributions to political committees using the  
32 same methodology as provided in RCW 42.17A.350(2).

33 (b) Abbreviations may be used to describe entities required to be  
34 listed under (a) of this subsection if the full name of the entity  
35 has been clearly spoken previously during the communication. The  
36 information required by (a) of this subsection shall:

37 (i) In a written communication:

38 (A) Appear on the first page or fold of the written advertisement  
39 or communication in at least 10-point type, or in type at least 10  
40 percent of the largest size type used in a written communication

1 directed at more than one voter, such as a billboard or poster,  
2 whichever is larger;  
3 (B) Not be subject to the half-tone or screening process; and  
4 (C) Be set apart from any other printed matter. No text may be  
5 before, after, or immediately adjacent to the information required by  
6 (a) of this subsection; or  
7 (ii) In a communication transmitted via television or another  
8 medium that includes a visual image or audio:  
9 (A) Be clearly spoken; or  
10 (B) Appear in print and be visible for at least four seconds,  
11 appear in letters greater than four percent of the visual screen  
12 height on a solid black background on the entire bottom one-third of  
13 the television or visual display screen, or bottom one-fourth of the  
14 screen if the sponsor does not have or is otherwise not required to  
15 list its top five contributors, and have a reasonable color contrast  
16 with the background.  
17 (6) The commission is authorized to adopt rules, as needed, to  
18 prevent ways to circumvent the purposes of the required disclosures  
19 in this section or otherwise in conformance with the policies and  
20 purposes of this chapter."

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21 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "to" strike the remainder  
22 of the title and insert "improving transparency in grass roots  
23 lobbying disclosure; and amending RCW 42.17A.640."

EFFECT: Corrects the title to match the spelling of "grass roots"  
in statute.

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