

SSB 5840 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on State Government & Tribal Relations

NOT CONSIDERED 03/12/2026

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

3 **"Sec. 1.** RCW 29B.10.240 and 2024 c 164 s 224 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 "Final report" means the report described as a final report in
6 RCW 29B.25.090(~~((11))~~) (10)(a).

7 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29B.10.390 and 2024 c 164 s 239 are each amended to
8 read as follows:

9 "Participate" means that, with respect to a particular election,
10 an entity:

11 (1) Makes either a monetary or in-kind contribution to a
12 candidate;

13 (2) Makes an independent expenditure, regardless of the monetary
14 value of the expenditure, or electioneering communication in support
15 of or opposition to a candidate;

16 (3) Endorses a candidate before contributions are made by a
17 subsidiary corporation or local unit with respect to that candidate
18 or that candidate's opponent;

19 (4) Makes a recommendation regarding whether a candidate should
20 be supported or opposed before a contribution is made by a subsidiary
21 corporation or local unit with respect to that candidate or that
22 candidate's opponent; (~~((\oplus))~~)

23 (5) Directly or indirectly collaborates or consults with a
24 subsidiary corporation or local unit on matters relating to the
25 support of or opposition to a candidate including, but not limited
26 to, the amount of a contribution, when a contribution should be
27 given, and what assistance, services, or independent expenditures, or
28 electioneering communications, if any, will be made or should be made
29 in support of or opposition to a candidate; or

30 (6) Makes an expenditure in support of or opposition to a ballot
31 proposition.

1 **Sec. 3.** RCW 29B.25.020 and 2024 c 164 s 419 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 (1) Every political committee shall file a statement of
4 organization with the commission. The statement must be filed within
5 two weeks after organization or within two weeks after the date the
6 committee first has the expectation of receiving contributions or
7 making expenditures in any election campaign, whichever is earlier. A
8 political committee organized within the last three weeks before an
9 election and having the expectation of receiving contributions or
10 making expenditures during and for that election campaign shall file
11 a statement of organization within three business days after its
12 organization or when it first has the expectation of receiving
13 contributions or making expenditures in the election campaign.

14 (2) The statement of organization shall include but not be
15 limited to:

16 (a) The name, address, and electronic contact information of the
17 committee;

18 (b) The names, addresses, and electronic contact information of
19 all related or affiliated committees or other persons, and the nature
20 of the relationship or affiliation;

21 (c) The names, addresses, and titles of its officers; or if it
22 has no officers, the names, addresses, and titles of its responsible
23 leaders;

24 (d) The name, address, and electronic contact information of its
25 treasurer and depository;

26 (e) A statement whether the committee is a continuing one and
27 whether the committee expects to participate in any election campaign
28 for the calendar year in which the statement of organization is
29 filed;

30 (f) The name, office sought, and party affiliation of each
31 candidate whom the committee is supporting or opposing, and, if the
32 committee is supporting the entire ticket of any party, the name of
33 the party;

34 (g) The ballot proposition concerned, if any, and whether the
35 committee is in favor of or opposed to such proposition;

36 (h) What distribution of surplus funds will be made, in
37 accordance with RCW 29B.40.090, in the event of dissolution;

38 (i) Such other information as the commission may by rule
39 prescribe, in keeping with the policies and purposes of this title;

1 (j) The name, address, and title of any person who authorizes
2 expenditures or makes decisions on behalf of the candidate or
3 committee; and

4 (k) The name, address, and title of any person who is paid by or
5 is a volunteer for a candidate or political committee to perform
6 ministerial functions and who performs ministerial functions on
7 behalf of two or more candidates or committees.

8 (3) No two political committees may have the same name.

9 (4) ((Any)) (a) Except as provided in this subsection, any
10 material change in information previously submitted in a statement of
11 organization shall be reported to the commission within the 10 days
12 following the change.

13 (b) Each political committee must submit a statement to the
14 commission by January 1st of each year to indicate whether or not the
15 committee expects to participate in any election campaign for that
16 year. The statement must include the information required in
17 subsection (2)(f) and (g) of this section for each campaign not
18 previously provided.

19 (i) Any change to the statement of participation to indicate the
20 committee is expecting to participate in one or more election
21 campaigns must be made no later than 24 hours of such participation.

22 (ii) Any change to the statement of participation to indicate the
23 committee is not expecting to participate in an election campaign for
24 the primary or general election may only be made before July 1st of
25 the same year.

26 (5) As used in this section, the "name" of a sponsored committee
27 must include the name of the person who is the sponsor of the
28 committee. If more than one person meets the definition of sponsor,
29 the name of the committee must include the name of at least one
30 sponsor, but may include the names of other sponsors. A person may
31 sponsor only one political committee for the same elected office or
32 same ballot proposition per election cycle.

33 **Sec. 4.** RCW 29B.25.070 and 2024 c 164 s 424 are each amended to
34 read as follows:

35 (1) In addition to the provisions of this section, a continuing
36 political committee shall file and report on the same conditions and
37 at the same times as any other committee in accordance with the
38 provisions of RCW 29B.25.020, 29B.25.040, ~~((and))~~ 29B.25.060, and
39 29B.25.090.

1 (2) ~~((A continuing political committee shall file with the~~
2 ~~commission a report on the tenth day of each month detailing~~
3 ~~expenditures made and contributions received for the preceding~~
4 ~~calendar month. This report need only be filed if either the total~~
5 ~~contributions received or total expenditures made since the last such~~
6 ~~report exceed two hundred dollars. The report shall be on a form~~
7 ~~supplied by the commission and shall include the following~~
8 ~~information:~~

9 ~~(a) The information required by RCW 29B.25.100;~~

10 ~~(b) Each expenditure made to retire previously accumulated debts~~
11 ~~of the committee identified by recipient, amount, and date of~~
12 ~~payments;~~

13 ~~(c) Other information the commission shall prescribe by rule.~~

14 ~~(3) If a continuing political committee makes a contribution in~~
15 ~~support of or in opposition to a candidate or ballot proposition~~
16 ~~within 60 days before the date that the candidate or ballot~~
17 ~~proposition will be voted upon, the committee shall report pursuant~~
18 ~~to RCW 29B.25.090.~~

19 (4)) (a) A continuing political committee shall file reports as
20 required by this title until the committee has ceased to function and
21 intends to dissolve, at which time, when there is no outstanding debt
22 or obligation and the committee is concluded in all respects, a final
23 report shall be filed. Upon submitting a final report, the continuing
24 political committee so intending to dissolve must file notice of
25 intent to dissolve with the commission and the commission must post
26 the notice on its website.

27 (b) The continuing political committee may dissolve 60 days after
28 it files its notice to dissolve, only if:

29 (i) The continuing political committee does not make any
30 expenditures other than those related to the dissolution process or
31 engage in any political activity or any other activities that
32 generate additional reporting requirements under this title after
33 filing such notice;

34 (ii) No complaint or court action, pursuant to this title, is
35 pending against the continuing political committee; and

36 (iii) All penalties assessed by the commission or court order
37 have been paid by the continuing political committee.

38 (c) The continuing political committee must continue to report
39 regularly as required under this title until all the conditions under
40 (b) of this subsection are resolved.

1 (d) Upon dissolution, the commission must issue an acknowledgment
2 of dissolution, the duties of the treasurer shall cease, and there
3 shall be no further obligations under this title. Dissolution does
4 not absolve the candidate or board of the committee from
5 responsibility for any future obligations resulting from the finding
6 after dissolution of a violation committed prior to dissolution.

7 ~~((+5))~~ (3) The treasurer shall maintain books of account,
8 current within five business days, that accurately reflect all
9 contributions and expenditures. During the 10 calendar days
10 immediately preceding the date of any election that the committee has
11 received any contributions or made any expenditures, the books of
12 account shall be kept current within one business day and shall be
13 open for public inspection in the same manner as provided for
14 candidates and other political committees in RCW 29B.25.090~~((+6))~~
15 (5).

16 ~~((+6))~~ (4) All reports filed pursuant to this section shall be
17 certified as correct by the treasurer.

18 ~~((+7))~~ (5) The treasurer shall preserve books of account, bills,
19 receipts, and all other financial records of the campaign or
20 political committee for not less than five calendar years following
21 the year during which the transaction occurred.

22 **Sec. 5.** RCW 29B.25.090 and 2024 c 164 s 426 are each amended to
23 read as follows:

24 (1)(a) In addition to the information required under RCW
25 29B.25.020 and 29B.25.040, each candidate or political committee must
26 file with the commission a report of all contributions received and
27 expenditures made as a political committee on the next reporting date
28 pursuant to the timeline established in this section.

29 (b) In addition to the information required under RCW 29B.25.030
30 and 29B.25.040, on the day an incidental committee files a statement
31 of organization with the commission, each incidental committee must
32 file with the commission a report of any election campaign
33 expenditures under RCW 29B.25.100(7), as well as the source of the 10
34 largest cumulative payments of ten thousand dollars or greater it
35 received in the current calendar year from a single person, including
36 any persons tied as the 10th largest source of payments it received,
37 if any.

38 (2)(a) Each treasurer of a candidate or political committee, or
39 an incidental committee, required to file a statement of organization

1 under this title, shall file with the commission a report (~~(, for each~~
2 ~~election in which a candidate, political committee, or incidental~~
3 ~~committee is participating,)~~) containing the information required by
4 RCW 29B.25.100 (~~(at the following intervals:~~

5 ~~(a) On the 21st day and the seventh day immediately preceding the~~
6 ~~date on which the election is held; and~~

7 ~~(b) On the 10th day of the first full month after the election))~~
8 on the 10th day of each month of the year.

9 (b) In addition to the reporting dates under (a) of this
10 subsection, the following shall file with the commission a report
11 containing the information required by RCW 29B.25.100 on the 25th day
12 of the months of July, September, and October:

13 (i) Each treasurer of a candidate in the primary or general
14 election of that year;

15 (ii) Each treasurer of a political committee expecting to
16 participate in the primary or general election of that year, as
17 required in the statement of participation, pursuant to RCW
18 29B.25.020; and

19 (iii) Each incidental committee.

20 (c) Any political committee that has not changed its statement of
21 participation before July 1st of the same year to indicate the
22 committee is not expecting to participate in an election campaign for
23 the primary or general election must report pursuant to (b) of this
24 subsection.

25 (3) (a) (~~(Each treasurer of a candidate or political committee~~
26 ~~shall file with the commission a report on the 10th day of each month~~
27 ~~during which the candidate or political committee is not~~
28 ~~participating in an election campaign, only if the committee has~~
29 ~~received a contribution or made an expenditure in the preceding~~
30 ~~calendar month and either the total contributions received or total~~
31 ~~expenditures made since the last such report exceed two hundred~~
32 ~~dollars.~~

33 ~~(b) Each incidental committee shall file with the commission a~~
34 ~~report on the 10th day of each month during which the incidental~~
35 ~~committee is not otherwise required to report under this section only~~
36 ~~if the committee has:~~

37 ~~(i) Received a payment that would change the information required~~
38 ~~under RCW 29B.25.100(2)(d) as included in its last report; or~~

1 ~~(ii) Made any election campaign expenditure reportable under RCW~~
2 ~~29B.25.100(7) since its last report, and the total election campaign~~
3 ~~expenditures made since the last report exceed two hundred dollars.~~

4 ~~(4) The report filed 21 days before the election shall report all~~
5 ~~contributions received and expenditures made as of the end of one~~
6 ~~business day before the date of the report. The report filed seven~~
7 ~~days before the election shall report all contributions received and~~
8 ~~expenditures made as of the end of one business day before the date~~
9 ~~of the report.)~~ Reports filed on the 10th day of the month (~~shall~~)
10 under subsection (2) of this section must report all contributions
11 received and expenditures made from the closing date of the last
12 report filed through the last day of the month preceding the date of
13 the current report, except the reports filed in the months of July
14 through October must report all contributions received and
15 expenditures made through the end of two business days before the
16 date of the report. For reports filed between January and June, a
17 candidate or political committee not participating in any election
18 during that period may satisfy the reporting requirements under this
19 subsection (3)(a) by filing a certification if the total
20 contributions received and total expenditures made since the last
21 report do not exceed \$750.

22 (b) Reports filed on the 25th day of the month under subsection
23 (2)(b) of this section must report all contributions received and
24 expenditures made from the closing date of the last report filed
25 through the end of two business days before the date of the report.

26 ~~((5))~~ (4) For the period beginning the first day of the fourth
27 month preceding the date of the special election, or for the period
28 beginning the first day of the fifth month before the date of the
29 general election, and ending on the date of that special or general
30 election, each Monday the treasurer for a candidate or a political
31 committee shall file with the commission a report of each bank
32 deposit made during the previous seven calendar days. The report
33 shall contain the name of each person contributing the funds and the
34 amount contributed by each person. However, persons who contribute no
35 more than twenty-five dollars in the aggregate are not required to be
36 identified in the report. A copy of the report shall be retained by
37 the treasurer for the treasurer's records. In the event of deposits
38 made by candidates, political committee members, or paid staff other
39 than the treasurer, the copy shall be immediately provided to the

1 treasurer for the treasurer's records. Each report shall be certified
2 as correct by the treasurer.

3 ~~((+6+))~~ (5)(a) The treasurer for a candidate or a political
4 committee shall maintain books of account accurately reflecting all
5 contributions and expenditures on a current basis within five
6 business days of receipt or expenditure. During the 10 calendar days
7 immediately preceding the date of the election the books of account
8 shall be kept current within one business day. As specified in the
9 political committee's statement of organization filed under RCW
10 29B.25.020, the books of account must be open for public inspection
11 by appointment at a place agreed upon by both the treasurer and the
12 requestor, for inspections between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on any day
13 from the 10th calendar day immediately before the election through
14 the day immediately before the election, other than Saturday, Sunday,
15 or a legal holiday. It is a violation of this title for a candidate
16 or political committee to refuse to allow and keep an appointment for
17 an inspection to be conducted during these authorized times and days.
18 The appointment must be allowed at an authorized time and day for
19 such inspections that is within 48 hours of the time and day that is
20 requested for the inspection. The treasurer may provide digital
21 access or copies of the books of account in lieu of scheduling an
22 appointment at a designated place for inspection. If the treasurer
23 and requestor are unable to agree on a location and the treasurer has
24 not provided digital access to the books of account, the default
25 location for an appointment shall be a place of public accommodation
26 selected by the treasurer within a reasonable distance from the
27 treasurer's office.

28 (b) At the time of making the appointment, a person wishing to
29 inspect the books of account must provide the treasurer the name and
30 telephone number of the person wishing to inspect the books of
31 account. The person inspecting the books of account must show photo
32 identification before the inspection begins.

33 (c) A treasurer may refuse to show the books of account to any
34 person who does not make an appointment or provide the required
35 identification. The commission may issue limited rules to modify the
36 requirements set forth in this section in consideration of other
37 technology and best practices.

38 ~~((+7+))~~ (6) Copies of all reports filed pursuant to this section
39 shall be readily available for public inspection by appointment,
40 pursuant to subsection ~~((+6+))~~ (5) of this section.

1 ~~((8))~~ (7) The treasurer or candidate shall preserve books of
2 account, bills, receipts, and all other financial records of the
3 campaign or political committee for not less than five calendar years
4 following the year during which the transaction occurred or for any
5 longer period as otherwise required by law.

6 ~~((9))~~ (8) All reports filed pursuant to subsection (1) or (2)
7 of this section shall be certified as correct by the candidate and
8 the treasurer.

9 ~~((10))~~ (9) Where there is not a pending complaint concerning a
10 report, it is not evidence of a violation of this section to submit
11 an amended report within 21 days of filing an initial report if:

12 (a) The report is accurately amended;

13 (b) The amended report is filed more than 30 days before an
14 election;

15 (c) The total aggregate dollar amount of the adjustment for the
16 amended report is within three times the contribution limit per
17 election or two hundred dollars, whichever is greater; and

18 (d) The committee reported all information that was available to
19 it at the time of filing, or made a good faith effort to do so, or if
20 a refund of a contribution or expenditure is being reported.

21 ~~((11))~~ (10) (a) When there is no outstanding debt or obligation,
22 the campaign fund is closed, the campaign is concluded in all
23 respects, and the political committee has ceased to function and
24 intends to dissolve, the treasurer shall file a final report. Upon
25 submitting a final report, the political committee so intending to
26 dissolve must file notice of intent to dissolve with the commission
27 and the commission must post the notice on its website.

28 (b) Any political committee may dissolve 60 days after it files
29 its notice to dissolve, only if:

30 (i) The political committee does not make any expenditures other
31 than those related to the dissolution process or engage in any
32 political activity or any other activities that generate additional
33 reporting requirements under this title after filing such notice;

34 (ii) No complaint or court action under this title is pending
35 against the political committee; and

36 (iii) All penalties assessed by the commission or court order
37 have been paid by the political committee.

38 (c) The political committee must continue to report regularly as
39 required under this title until all the conditions under (b) of this
40 subsection are resolved.

1 (d) Upon dissolution, the commission must issue an acknowledgment
2 of dissolution, the duties of the treasurer shall cease, and there
3 shall be no further obligations under this title. Dissolution does
4 not absolve the candidate or board of the committee from
5 responsibility for any future obligations resulting from the finding
6 after dissolution of a violation committed prior to dissolution.

7 ~~((12))~~ (11) The commission must adopt rules for the dissolution
8 of incidental committees.

9 **Sec. 6.** RCW 29B.25.100 and 2024 c 164 s 427 are each amended to
10 read as follows:

11 Each report required under RCW 29B.25.090 (1) ~~((through(4)))~~ and
12 (2) must be certified as correct by the treasurer and the candidate
13 and shall disclose the following, except an incidental committee only
14 must disclose and certify as correct the information required under
15 subsections (2) (d) and (7) of this section:

16 (1) The funds on hand at the beginning of the period;

17 (2) The name and address of each person who has made one or more
18 contributions during the period, together with the money value and
19 date of each contribution and the aggregate value of all
20 contributions received from each person during the campaign, or in
21 the case of a continuing political committee, the current calendar
22 year, with the following exceptions:

23 (a) Pledges in the aggregate of less than one hundred dollars
24 from any one person need not be reported;

25 (b) Income that results from a fund-raising activity conducted in
26 accordance with RCW 29B.25.080 may be reported as one lump sum, with
27 the exception of that portion received from persons whose names and
28 addresses are required to be included in the report required by RCW
29 29B.25.080;

30 (c) Contributions of no more than twenty-five dollars in the
31 aggregate from any one person during the election campaign may be
32 reported as one lump sum if the treasurer maintains a separate and
33 private list of the name, address, and amount of each such
34 contributor;

35 (d) Payments received by an incidental committee from any one
36 person need not be reported unless the person is one of the
37 committee's 10 largest sources of payments received, including any
38 persons tied as the 10th largest source of payments received, during
39 the current calendar year, and the value of the cumulative payments

1 received from that person during the current calendar year is ten
2 thousand dollars or greater. For payments to incidental committees
3 from multiple persons received in aggregated form, any payment of
4 more than ten thousand dollars from any single person must be
5 reported, but the aggregated payment itself may not be reported. The
6 commission may suspend or modify reporting requirements for payments
7 received by an incidental committee in cases of manifestly
8 unreasonable hardship under this title;

9 (e) Payments from private foundations organized under section
10 501(c)(3) of the internal revenue code to an incidental committee do
11 not have to be reported if:

12 (i) The private foundation is contracting with the incidental
13 committee for a specific purpose other than election campaign
14 purposes;

15 (ii) Use of the funds for election campaign purposes is
16 explicitly prohibited by contract; and

17 (iii) Funding from the private foundation represents less than 25
18 percent of the incidental committee's total budget;

19 (f) Commentary or analysis on a ballot proposition by an
20 incidental committee is not considered a contribution if it does not
21 advocate specifically to vote for or against the ballot proposition;
22 and

23 (g) The money value of contributions of postage is the face value
24 of the postage;

25 (3) Each loan, promissory note, or security instrument to be used
26 by or for the benefit of the candidate or political committee made by
27 any person, including the names and addresses of the lender and each
28 person liable directly, indirectly or contingently and the date and
29 amount of each such loan, promissory note, or security instrument;

30 (4) All other contributions not otherwise listed or exempted;

31 (5) A statement that the candidate or political committee has
32 received a certification from any partnership, association,
33 corporation, organization, or other combination of persons making a
34 contribution to the candidate or political committee that:

35 (a) The contribution is not financed in any part by a foreign
36 national; and

37 (b) Foreign nationals are not involved in making decisions
38 regarding the contribution in any way;

1 (6) The name and address of each candidate or political committee
2 to which any transfer of funds was made, including the amounts and
3 dates of the transfers;

4 (7) The name and address of each person to whom an expenditure
5 was made in the aggregate amount of more than fifty dollars during
6 the period covered by this report, the amount, date, and purpose of
7 each expenditure, and the total sum of all expenditures. An
8 incidental committee only must report on expenditures, made and
9 reportable as contributions as defined in RCW 29B.10.160, to election
10 campaigns. For purposes of this subsection, commentary or analysis on
11 a ballot proposition by an incidental committee is not considered an
12 expenditure if it does not advocate specifically to vote for or
13 against the ballot proposition;

14 (8) The name, address, and electronic contact information of each
15 person to whom an expenditure was made for soliciting or procuring
16 signatures on an initiative or referendum petition, the amount of the
17 compensation to each person, and the total expenditures made for this
18 purpose. Such expenditures shall be reported under this subsection in
19 addition to what is required to be reported under subsection (7) of
20 this section;

21 (9) (a) The name and address of any person and the amount owed for
22 any debt with a value of more than seven hundred fifty dollars that
23 has not been paid for any invoices submitted, goods received, or
24 services performed, within five business days during the period
25 within 30 days before an election, or within 10 business days during
26 any other period.

27 (b) For purposes of this subsection, debt does not include
28 regularly recurring expenditures of the same amount that have already
29 been reported at least once and that are not late or outstanding;

30 (10) The surplus or deficit of contributions over expenditures;

31 (11) The disposition made in accordance with RCW 29B.40.090 of
32 any surplus funds; and

33 (12) Any other information required by the commission by rule in
34 conformance with the policies and purposes of this title.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** This act takes effect January 1, 2028."

36 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Removes new language that requires certain candidates and political or incidental committees to file expenditure reports on the 25th day of August.

--- **END** ---