
SENATE BILL 6313

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2026 Regular Session

By Senators Lias, J. Wilson, and Nobles

Read first time 01/26/26. Referred to Committee on State Government, Tribal Affairs & Elections.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating the capitol centennial stewardship
2 account and authorizing members of the legislature and statewide
3 elected officials to solicit gifts, grants, and donations to the
4 account; amending RCW 29B.45.020 and 42.52.150; adding a new section
5 to chapter 43.34 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 42.52 RCW;
6 creating new sections; and providing an expiration date.

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

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that, as the
9 Washington state capitol approaches its centennial in 2028, it
10 remains a vital symbol of civic life and an architectural marvel
11 featuring North America's tallest masonry dome. To honor this
12 milestone, strategic public and private investments are essential to
13 preserve its historic integrity while ensuring modern functionality.
14 Funding will support improvements and enhancements that will enable
15 more Washingtonians to access and enjoy this historic building. By
16 supporting these efforts, public and private partners protect a
17 shared heritage, ensuring this "People's House" continues to inspire
18 and serve Washingtonians safely and effectively for another century
19 of democracy and progress.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.34
2 RCW to read as follows:

3 (1) The capitol centennial stewardship account is created in the
4 custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from gifts, grants,
5 donations and other sources as provided in subsection (2) of this
6 section must be deposited into the account. Moneys in the account may
7 be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account may
8 only be used for:

9 (a) Remodeling and repairs to the state capitol public and
10 historic facilities as defined in RCW 79.24.710;

11 (b) Interpretive and educational activities; and

12 (c) Improvements and activities to enhance public participation
13 in state government.

14 (2) Members of the legislature and statewide elected officials
15 may solicit gifts, grants, and donations from public or private
16 sources that are made for the purposes in subsection (1) of this
17 section.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 42.52
19 RCW to read as follows:

20 When soliciting gifts, grants, or donations for the purposes in
21 section 2 of this act, members of the legislature and statewide
22 elected officials are presumed not to be in violation of the
23 solicitation and receipt of gift provisions of this chapter.

24 **Sec. 4.** RCW 29B.45.020 and 2024 c 164 s 469 are each amended to
25 read as follows:

26 (1) During the period beginning on the thirtieth day before the
27 date a regular legislative session convenes and continuing through
28 the date of final adjournment, and during the period beginning on the
29 date a special legislative session convenes and continuing through
30 the date that session adjourns, no state official or a person
31 employed by or acting on behalf of a state official or state
32 legislator may solicit or accept contributions to a public office
33 fund, to a candidate or authorized committee, or to retire a campaign
34 debt. Contributions received through the mail after the thirtieth day
35 before a regular legislative session may be accepted if the
36 contribution is postmarked prior to the thirtieth day before the
37 session.

1 (2) This section does not apply to activities authorized in RCW
2 43.07.370 and, until June 30, 2033, section 2 of this act.

3 **Sec. 5.** RCW 42.52.150 and 2025 c 377 s 10 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (1)(a) Unless the context requires otherwise, the definition of
6 "gift" in this subsection applies throughout this chapter.

7 (b) "Gift" means anything of economic value for which no
8 consideration is given.

9 (c) "Gift" does not include the following:

10 (i) Items from family members or friends where it is clear beyond
11 a reasonable doubt that the gift was not made as part of any design
12 to gain or maintain influence in the agency of which the recipient is
13 an officer or employee;

14 (ii) Items related to the outside business of the recipient that
15 are customary and not related to the recipient's performance of
16 official duties;

17 (iii) Items exchanged among officials and employees at a social
18 event hosted or sponsored by a state officer or state employee for
19 coworkers;

20 (iv) Payments by a governmental or nongovernmental entity of
21 reasonable expenses incurred in connection with a speech,
22 presentation, appearance, or trade mission made in an official
23 capacity. As used in this subsection, "reasonable expenses" are
24 limited to travel, lodging, and subsistence expenses incurred the day
25 before through the day after the event;

26 (v) Items a state officer or state employee is authorized by law
27 to accept;

28 (vi) Payment of enrollment and course fees and reasonable travel
29 expenses attributable to attending seminars and educational programs
30 sponsored by a bona fide governmental or nonprofit professional,
31 educational, trade, or charitable association or institution. As used
32 in this subsection, "reasonable expenses" are limited to travel,
33 lodging, and subsistence expenses incurred the day before through the
34 day after the event;

35 (vii) Items returned by the recipient to the donor within 30 days
36 of receipt or donated to a charitable organization within 30 days of
37 receipt;

38 (viii) Campaign contributions reported under Title 29B RCW;

1 (ix) Discounts available to an individual as a member of an
2 employee group, occupation, or similar broad-based group;

3 (x) Awards, prizes, scholarships, or other items provided in
4 recognition of academic or scientific achievement; and

5 (xi) Gift cards received by legislative employees in an amount of
6 \$25 or less.

7 (2) No state officer or state employee may receive, accept, take,
8 seek, or solicit, directly or indirectly, any thing of economic value
9 as a gift, gratuity, or favor from a person if it could be reasonably
10 expected that the gift, gratuity, or favor would influence the vote,
11 action, or judgment of the officer or employee, or be considered as
12 part of a reward for action or inaction.

13 (3) No state officer or state employee may accept gifts, other
14 than those specified in subsections (4) and (7) of this section, with
15 an aggregate value in excess of \$100 from a single source in a
16 calendar year or a single gift from multiple sources with a value in
17 excess of \$100. For purposes of this section, "single source" means
18 any person, as defined in RCW 42.52.010, whether acting directly or
19 through any agent or other intermediary, and "single gift" includes
20 any event, item, or group of items used in conjunction with each
21 other or any trip including transportation, lodging, and attendant
22 costs, not excluded from the definition of gift under subsection
23 (1)(c) of this section. The value of gifts given to an officer's or
24 employee's family member or guest shall be attributed to the official
25 or employee for the purpose of determining whether the limit has been
26 exceeded, unless an independent business, family, or social
27 relationship exists between the donor and the family member or guest.

28 (4) Except as provided in subsection (6) of this section, the
29 following items are presumed not to influence under subsection (3) of
30 this section, and may be accepted without regard to the limit
31 established by subsection (3) of this section:

32 (a) Unsolicited flowers, plants, and floral arrangements;

33 (b) Unsolicited advertising or promotional items of nominal
34 value, such as pens and note pads;

35 (c) Unsolicited tokens or awards of appreciation in the form of a
36 plaque, trophy, desk item, wall memento, or similar item;

37 (d) Unsolicited items received by a state officer or state
38 employee for the purpose of evaluation or review, if the officer or
39 employee has no personal beneficial interest in the eventual use or
40 acquisition of the item by the officer's or employee's agency;

1 (e) Informational material, publications, or subscriptions
2 related to the recipient's performance of official duties;

3 (f) Food and beverages consumed at hosted receptions where
4 attendance is related to the state officer's or state employee's
5 official duties;

6 (g) Gifts, grants, conveyances, bequests, and devises of real or
7 personal property, or both, in trust or otherwise accepted and
8 solicited for deposit in the legislative international trade account
9 created in RCW 43.15.050;

10 (h) Gifts, grants, conveyances, bequests, and devises of real or
11 personal property, or both, solicited on behalf of a national or
12 regional legislative association as defined in RCW 42.52.822(2), the
13 2006 official conference of the national lieutenant governors'
14 association, the annual conference of the national association of
15 state treasurers, or a host committee, for the purpose of hosting an
16 official conference under the circumstances specified in RCW
17 42.52.820, section 2, chapter 5, Laws of 2006, RCW 42.52.821, or RCW
18 42.52.822. Anything solicited or accepted may only be received by the
19 national association or host committee and may not be commingled with
20 any funds or accounts that are the property of any person;

21 (i) Admission to, and the cost of food and beverages consumed at,
22 events sponsored by or in conjunction with a civic, charitable,
23 governmental, or community organization;

24 (j) Unsolicited gifts from dignitaries from another state or a
25 foreign country that are intended to be personal in nature;

26 (k) Gifts, grants, donations, sponsorships, or contributions from
27 any agency or federal or local government agency or program or
28 private source for the purposes of chapter 28B.156 RCW; ~~((and))~~

29 (l) Unsolicited gifts received by legislative employees from a
30 legislator; and

31 (m) Until June 30, 2033, gifts, grants, or donations from public
32 or private sources for the purposes in section 2 of this act.

33 (5) The presumption in subsection (4) of this section is
34 rebuttable and may be overcome based on the circumstances surrounding
35 the giving and acceptance of the item.

36 (6) Notwithstanding subsections (4) and (7) of this section, a
37 state officer or state employee of a regulatory agency or of an
38 agency that seeks to acquire goods or services who participates in
39 those regulatory or contractual matters may receive, accept, take, or
40 seek, directly or indirectly, only the following items from a person

1 regulated by the agency or from a person who seeks to provide goods
2 or services to the agency:

3 (a) Unsolicited advertising or promotional items of nominal
4 value, such as pens and note pads;

5 (b) Unsolicited tokens or awards of appreciation in the form of a
6 plaque, trophy, desk item, wall memento, or similar item;

7 (c) Unsolicited items received by a state officer or state
8 employee for the purpose of evaluation or review, if the officer or
9 employee has no personal interest in the eventual use or acquisition
10 of the item by the officer's or employee's agency;

11 (d) Informational material, publications, or subscriptions
12 related to the recipient's performance of official duties;

13 (e) Food and beverages consumed at hosted receptions where
14 attendance is related to the state officer's or state employee's
15 official duties;

16 (f) Admission to, and the cost of food and beverages consumed at,
17 events sponsored by or in conjunction with a civic, charitable,
18 governmental, or community organization; and

19 (g) Those items excluded from the definition of gift in
20 subsection (1)(c) of this section except:

21 (i) Payments by a governmental or nongovernmental entity of
22 reasonable expenses incurred in connection with a speech,
23 presentation, appearance, or trade mission made in an official
24 capacity;

25 (ii) Payments for seminars and educational programs sponsored by
26 a bona fide governmental or nonprofit professional, educational,
27 trade, or charitable association or institution; and

28 (iii) Flowers, plants, and floral arrangements.

29 (7) A state officer or state employee may accept gifts in the
30 form of food and beverage on infrequent occasions in the ordinary
31 course of meals where attendance by the officer or employee is
32 related to the performance of official duties. Gifts in the form of
33 food and beverage that exceed \$100 on a single occasion shall be
34 reported as provided in Title 29B RCW.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Any residual balance of funds remaining in
36 the capitol centennial stewardship account when section 2 of this act
37 expires shall be transferred by the state treasurer to the capitol
38 furnishings preservation committee account.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Sections 1 through 3 of this act expire
2 June 30, 2033.

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