
SENATE BILL 6165

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2014 Regular Session

By Senators Hasegawa, Roach, and Keiser

Read first time 01/16/14. Referred to Committee on Governmental Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to accountability in caucus political committee
2 accounts; and reenacting and amending RCW 42.17A.110.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 42.17A.110 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 43 s 448 and 2011 c 60
5 s 20 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

6 The commission may:

7 (1) Adopt, amend, and rescind suitable administrative rules to
8 carry out the policies and purposes of this chapter, which rules shall
9 be adopted under chapter 34.05 RCW. Any rule relating to campaign
10 finance, political advertising, or related forms that would otherwise
11 take effect after June 30th of a general election year shall take
12 effect no earlier than the day following the general election in that
13 year;

14 (2) Appoint an executive director and set, within the limits
15 established by the office of financial management under RCW 43.03.028,
16 the executive director's compensation. The executive director shall
17 perform such duties and have such powers as the commission may
18 prescribe and delegate to implement and enforce this chapter
19 efficiently and effectively. The commission shall not delegate its

1 authority to adopt, amend, or rescind rules nor may it delegate
2 authority to determine whether an actual violation of this chapter has
3 occurred or to assess penalties for such violations;

4 (3) Prepare and publish reports and technical studies as in its
5 judgment will tend to promote the purposes of this chapter, including
6 reports and statistics concerning campaign financing, lobbying,
7 financial interests of elected officials, and enforcement of this
8 chapter;

9 (4) Conduct, as it deems appropriate, audits and field
10 investigations, including annual audits or investigations of the
11 expenditures, receipts, debts, and obligations of each caucus political
12 committee. Any documents, records, reports, computer files, papers, or
13 materials provided to the commission for use in conducting audits or
14 investigations under this subsection must be returned to the committee
15 or candidate from which they were received within one week of the
16 commission's completion of the audit or investigation;

17 (5) Make public the time and date of any formal hearing set to
18 determine whether a violation has occurred, the question or questions
19 to be considered, and the results thereof;

20 (6) Administer oaths and affirmations, issue subpoenas, and compel
21 attendance, take evidence, and require the production of any records
22 relevant to any investigation authorized under this chapter, or any
23 other proceeding under this chapter;

24 (7) Adopt a code of fair campaign practices;

25 (8) Adopt rules relieving candidates or political committees of
26 obligations to comply with the election campaign provisions of this
27 chapter, if they have not received contributions nor made expenditures
28 in connection with any election campaign of more than five thousand
29 dollars;

30 (9) Adopt rules prescribing reasonable requirements for keeping
31 accounts of, and reporting on a quarterly basis, costs incurred by
32 state agencies, counties, cities, and other municipalities and
33 political subdivisions in preparing, publishing, and distributing
34 legislative information. For the purposes of this subsection,
35 "legislative information" means books, pamphlets, reports, and other
36 materials prepared, published, or distributed at substantial cost, a
37 substantial purpose of which is to influence the passage or defeat of
38 any legislation. The state auditor in his or her regular examination

1 of each agency under chapter 43.09 RCW shall review the rules,
2 accounts, and reports and make appropriate findings, comments, and
3 recommendations concerning those agencies; and

4 (10) Develop and provide to filers a system for certification of
5 reports required under this chapter which are transmitted by facsimile
6 or electronically to the commission. Implementation of the program is
7 contingent on the availability of funds.

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