
SENATE BILL 6137

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2015 2nd Special Session

By Senators Fain and Litzow

Read first time 06/24/15. Referred to Committee on Government Operations & Security.

1 AN ACT Relating to a prohibition on a legislator soliciting or
2 accepting a campaign contribution for a certain number of days if the
3 legislature fails to adopt a biennial operating, capital, or
4 transportation budget during the regular session; reenacting and
5 amending RCW 42.17A.560; and creating a new section.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** There is a sense that it is more common
8 than not to convene special sessions so that the legislature can
9 adopt a biennial operating, capital, or transportation budget. Since
10 1981, there have been forty-three special sessions and only eleven
11 years where no extra session was called at all. In the 1980s, there
12 were fifteen extra sessions and only one year where the legislature
13 was able to finish its work without the need for a special session.
14 In the 1990s, there were ten special sessions. There were three years
15 in the 1990s in which only a supplemental budget was adopted and no
16 special session was convened. Since 2000 there have been eighteen
17 special sessions and seven years when no extra sessions were needed.
18 There needs to be an additional incentive to encourage legislators to
19 adopt a biennial operating budget during the regular session. It is
20 the intent of the legislature to prohibit legislators from fund-
21 raising for a certain period of time if the legislature fails to

1 adopt a biennial operating, capital, or transportation budget during
2 the regular session.

3 **Sec. 2.** RCW 42.17A.560 and 2006 c 348 s 5 and 2006 c 344 s 31
4 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

5 (1) During the period beginning on the thirtieth day before the
6 date a regular legislative session convenes and continuing through
7 the date of final adjournment, and during the period beginning on the
8 date a special legislative session convenes and continuing through
9 the date that session adjourns, no state official or a person
10 employed by or acting on behalf of a state official or state
11 legislator may solicit or accept contributions to a public office
12 fund, to a candidate or authorized committee, or to retire a campaign
13 debt. Contributions received through the mail after the thirtieth day
14 before a regular legislative session may be accepted if the
15 contribution is postmarked prior to the thirtieth day before the
16 session.

17 (2) Beginning January 1, 2017, if, during the first year of a
18 biennium, any special legislative session is convened to adopt the
19 biennial operating, capital, or transportation budget, the period in
20 which a state legislator or a person employed by or acting on behalf
21 of a state legislator may not solicit or accept contributions to a
22 public office fund, to a candidate or authorized committee, or to
23 retire campaign debt shall be extended after the date of final
24 adjournment of the regular session held in each year of the biennium
25 by the same number of days of special legislative session held in the
26 first year of the biennium until the biennial operating, capital, or
27 transportation budget was adopted.

28 (3) This section does not apply to activities authorized in RCW
29 43.07.370.

--- END ---