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HOUSE BILL 2439

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By Representatives Brown, H. Sommers, Dickerson, Tokuda, Murray, Poulsen, Rust, Patterson, Chopp, Conway, Cody, Mason, Costa and Linville

Read first time 01/10/96. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to the citizens' commission on campaign finance;  
2 amending 1995 2nd sp.s. c 18 s 117 (uncodified); adding new sections to  
3 chapter 42.17 RCW; and making an appropriation.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 42.17 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7 The citizens' commission on campaign finance is created to consist  
8 of nineteen members appointed as provided in this section.

9 (1) Nine members shall be selected by lot by the secretary of state  
10 from among those registered voters eligible to vote at the time persons  
11 are selected for appointment to full terms on the citizens' commission  
12 under subsection (3) of this section. One member shall be selected  
13 from each congressional district. The secretary shall establish  
14 policies and procedures for conducting the selection by lot. The  
15 policies and procedures shall include, but not be limited to, those for  
16 notifying persons selected and for providing a new selection from a  
17 congressional district if a person selected from the district declines  
18 appointment to the citizens' commission or if, following the person's

1 appointment, the person's position on the citizens' commission becomes  
2 vacant before the end of the person's term of office.

3 (2) Five members shall be selected jointly by the speaker of the  
4 house of representatives and president of the senate. The persons  
5 selected under this subsection shall have had experience in the field  
6 of personnel management. Of these five members, one shall be selected  
7 from each of the following five sectors in this state: Private  
8 institutions of higher education; business; professional personnel  
9 management; legal profession; and organized labor.

10 (3) Five members shall be selected by the governor. The persons  
11 selected under this subsection shall have had experience in the field  
12 of personnel management. Of these five members, one shall be selected  
13 from each of the following five sectors in this state: Private  
14 institutions of higher education; business; professional personnel  
15 management; legal profession; and organized labor.

16 (4) The secretary of state shall forward the names of persons  
17 selected under subsection (1) of this section to the governor who shall  
18 appoint these persons to the citizens' commission. Except as provided  
19 in subsection (7) of this section, the names of persons selected for  
20 appointment to the citizens' commission shall be forwarded to the  
21 governor not later than February 15, 1997, and not later than the  
22 fifteenth day of February every four years thereafter.

23 (5) Members shall hold office for terms of four years, and no  
24 person may be appointed to more than two such terms. No member of the  
25 citizens' commission may be removed by the governor during his or her  
26 term of office unless for cause of incapacity, incompetence, neglect of  
27 duty, or malfeasance in office or for a disqualifying change of  
28 residence. A removal by the governor creates a vacancy for that  
29 person's position on the citizens' commission.

30 The unexcused absence of any person who is a member of the  
31 citizens' commission from two consecutive meetings of the citizens'  
32 commission shall constitute the relinquishment of that person's  
33 membership on the citizens' commission. Such a relinquishment creates  
34 a vacancy in that person's position on the citizens' commission. A  
35 member's absence may be excused by the chair of the commission upon the  
36 member's written request if the chair believes there is just cause for  
37 the absence. Such a request must be received by the chair before the  
38 meeting for which the absence is to be excused. A member's absence  
39 from a meeting of the citizens' commission may also be excused during

1 the meeting for which the member is absent by the affirmative vote of  
2 a majority of the members of the citizens' commission present at the  
3 meeting.

4 (6) No state official, public employee, or lobbyist, subject to the  
5 registration requirements of this chapter, or an immediate family  
6 member of such an official, employee, or lobbyist, is eligible for  
7 membership on the citizens' commission.

8 As used in this subsection, "immediate family" means the parents,  
9 spouse, siblings, children, or dependent relative of the official,  
10 employee, or lobbyist whether or not living in the household of the  
11 official, employee, or lobbyist.

12 (7) Upon a vacancy in any position on the citizens' commission, a  
13 successor shall be selected and appointed to fill the unexpired term  
14 using the same procedure as the member was appointed whose term has  
15 become vacant. The selection and appointment shall be concluded within  
16 thirty days of the date the position becomes vacant.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 42.17 RCW  
18 to read as follows:

19 (1) The citizens' commission on campaign finance shall study the  
20 campaign finance practices, laws on campaign finance, and the effects  
21 of these laws, issue periodic reports on these laws, and propose  
22 legislation altering campaign finances to the legislature. Campaigns  
23 include campaigns for partisan elective offices, nonpartisan elective  
24 offices, and for or against ballot propositions.

25 (2) Except as provided otherwise in RCW 43.03.305 and this section,  
26 the citizens' commission shall be solely responsible for its own  
27 organization, operation, and action and shall enjoy the fullest  
28 cooperation of all state officials, departments, and agencies. The  
29 public disclosure commission shall provide the necessary support to the  
30 citizens' commission to carry out the purposes of this section.

31 (3) Members of the citizens' commission shall receive no  
32 compensation for their services, but shall be eligible to receive a  
33 subsistence allowance and travel expenses pursuant to RCW 43.03.050 and  
34 43.03.060.

35 (4) The members of the citizens' commission shall elect a chair  
36 from among their number.

37 (5) Prior to the submitting any reports or recommendations to the  
38 legislature, the citizens' commission shall hold no fewer than two

1 public hearings thereon within the four months immediately preceding  
2 the submission.

3 (6) All meetings, actions, hearings, and business of the citizens'  
4 commission shall be subject in full to the open public meetings act,  
5 chapter 42.30 RCW.

6 **Sec. 3.** 1995 2nd sp.s. c 18 s 117 (uncodified) is amended to read  
7 as follows:

8 **FOR THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION**

9	General Fund Appropriation (FY 1996)	. . . . . \$	1,107,000
10	General Fund Appropriation (FY 1997)	. . . . . \$	((1,045,000))
11			<u>1,095,000</u>
12	Industrial Insurance Premium Refund Account		
13	Appropriation	. . . . . \$	725
14	TOTAL APPROPRIATION	. . . . . \$	((2,152,725))
15			<u>2,202,725</u>

16 The additional \$50,000 appropriated by section 3, chapter . . . ,  
17 Laws of 1996 (this section) is provided solely to finance the expenses  
18 of the citizens' commission on campaign finance that is created in  
19 section 1 of this act.

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