April 22, 2025

Washington State Public Disclosure Commission P.O. Box 40908 Olympia, WA 98504-0908

## Via Email Only

RE: PDC Complaint No. 160448, Defend Washington Violations of the Fair Campaign Practices Act, Chapter 42.17A RCW and WAC 390

## Dear Commissioners:

In accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1) and RCW 42.17A.775, Let's Go Washington is providing notice that it intends to commence a citizen action against Defend Washington, a political committee, for violations of the Fair Campaign Practices Act (FCPA), Chapter 42.17A RCW.

Let's Go Washington filed its initial complaint against Defend Washington on October 7, 2024, nearly a month before the November 5, 2024, General Election. Per RCW 42.17A.755(2)(a), a citizen's action may be brought after a complaint has been filed with the Commission and the Commission has not taken action within ninety (90) days of the complaint being filed. As of today, the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has failed to act on the complaint.

Defend Washington violated the FCPA by failing to timely disclose ballot measures supported by each expenditure as required by RCW 42.17A.235 & .240 and WAC 390-16-037 as well as for failing to timely disclose subvendor information for expenditures and inkind contributions as required by WAC 390-16-205. This information was provided months late in some circumstances and only after Let's Go Washington filed Complaint No. 160448 with the Commission.

Defend Washington's response to this complaint minimizes the seriousness of these violations. Moreover, the PDC appears to not be taking this complaint seriously despite taking rushed action on similar complaints against Let's Go Washington. Defend Washington claims it is committed to providing timely and accurate reporting of its finances, but instead Defend Washington's lack of such disclosure deprived the public of its right to transparency in the November 2024 election. The PDC has taken violations of these same campaign finance rules seriously in the past.

In light of the above, Let's Go Washington will commence a citizen action against Defend Washington if the PDC does not act to enforce these violations of state law within forty-five (45) days pursuant to RCW 42.17A.775(2)(a).

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Please let us know if we can be of any further assistance to the PDC in resolving this matter.

Sincerely,

Dan Brady

Let's Go Washington Legal Counsel

Enclosure

cc: Nick Brown, Washington State Attorney General