



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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To: Members, Washington State Public Disclosure Commission
From: Lori Anderson, Communications & Training Officer
Date: July 16, 2015
Re: July-December 2015 Rule Making Agenda

Staff is preparing to file with the Code Reviser the Commission's July – December 2015 rules development agenda. This semiannual agenda is required by the Administrative Procedures Act and will be published in the state register. The staff strives to develop a comprehensive list that includes only necessary rule making, which can realistically be accomplished in the six-month time period. The agenda is not binding and the Commission may engage in other rule making, if necessary.

Staff proposes rule making to accomplish the following:

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

1. Make inflationary adjustments to contribution limits: The Commission is required to consider biennial inflationary adjustments to contribution limits and other dollar amounts enacted by Initiative 134. Rule making will start in the Fall and any adjustments will take effect in 2016.
2. Make inflationary adjustments to the out-of-state committee reporting threshold: An annual inflationary adjustment is required for the out-of-state political committee's major contributor disclosure threshold
3. Make independent expenditure disclosure more meaningful: By rule, the Commission has adopted letter codes that committees are allowed to use for disclosing typical expenditures. These codes simplified disclosure before electronic filing was introduced. In the electronic filing era, these codes have been used to produce online charts that show how campaign money is spent. Commissioner Ranade requested staff to make independent expenditure disclosure more meaningful for the public by expanding the single independent expenditure code into multiple codes, with each separate code representing a separate category of independent expenditures such as radio advertising, TV advertising, etc.
4. Eliminate signature cards for establishing electronic filing accounts: The Commission's electronic filing rules will be updated to remove instructions related to submitting signature cards. These cards are not necessary after Chapter 72, Laws of 2015 (acceptance of electronic signatures) takes effect on July 24, 2015.

5. Continue the initiative to convert long-standing interpretations to rule: PDC Interpretation 01-04, *Participation in Fund Raising Events by State Officials During Legislative Freeze Period*, adopted in 2001, will be converted to rule.

ENFORCEMENT

6. Complete rule making to establish alternatives to adjudicative proceedings: The rule making currently underway to provide alternatives to adjudicative proceedings for enforcing Chapter 42.17A RCW and Title 390 WAC will be completed.

OTHER

7. Revise executive director's duties: The authority granted by the enforcement-related rule making currently underway will be incorporated in to the Commission's rule setting out the executive director's duties.
8. Update forms to include the PDC website: The Commission has approved expedited rule making to add the website reference to rules/forms where it is not included.