

Administrative Procedures Act Petition per RCW 34.05.330
Amending WAC 390-05-400
Adjusting Last Minute Contribution Threshold for Inflation

Proposed Amendment (amendatory language is bolded and underlined)

WAC 390-05-400 - Changes in dollar amounts.

Pursuant to the authority in RCW 42.17A.125 that the commission may revise the monetary contribution limits and reporting thresholds and code values of the act to reflect changes in economic conditions, the previous and current amounts are:

Code Section	Subject Matter	Previous	Current
.005	Reporting threshold for "Independent Expenditure" for political advertising	\$950	\$1,000
.255	Reporting threshold for "Independent Expenditure" not otherwise reported	\$100	\$100
<u>.265</u>	Reporting threshold for last-minute contribution threshold	<u>\$1000</u>	<u>\$1640</u>
.445(3)	Reimbursement of candidate for loan to own campaign	\$5,500	\$6,000
.630(1)	Report—		
	Applicability of provisions to persons who made contributions	\$19,000	\$20,000
	Persons who made independent expenditures	\$950	\$1,000
.405(2)	Contribution Limits—		
	Candidates for state leg. office	\$950	\$1,000
	Candidates for county office	\$950	\$1,000
	Candidates for other state office	\$1,900	\$2,000
	Candidates for special purpose districts	\$1,900	\$2,000
	Candidates for city council office	\$950	\$1,000
	Candidates for mayoral office	\$950	\$1,000
	Candidates for school board office	\$950	\$1,000
	Candidates for hospital district	\$950	\$1,000
.405(3)	Contribution Limits—		
	State official up for recall or pol comm. supporting recall—		
	State Legislative Office	\$950	\$1,000
	Other State Office	\$1,900	\$2,000
.405(4)	Contribution Limits—		
	Contributions made by political parties and caucus committees		
	State parties and caucus committees	.95 per voter	\$1.00 per registered voter
	County and leg. district parties	.50 per voter	.50 per registered voter
	Limit for all county and leg. district parties to a candidate	.50 per voter	.50 per registered voter
.405(5)	Contribution Limits—		
	Contributions made by pol. parties and caucus committees to state official up for recall or committee supporting recall		
	State parties and caucuses	.95 per	\$1.00 per registered

	County and leg. district parties	voter .50 per voter	voter .50 per registered voter
	Limit for all county and leg. district parties to state official up for recall or pol. comm. supporting recall	.50 per voter	.50 per registered voter
.405(7)	Limits on contributions to political parties and caucus committees		
	To caucus committee	\$950	\$1,000
	To political party	\$5,000	\$5,500
.410(1)	Candidates for judicial office	\$1,900	\$2,000
.475	Contribution must be made by written instrument	\$95	\$100
.710	Code values for statement of personal financial affairs - See WAC 390-24-301		

Summary

This proposal would increase the Last-Minute Contribution (LMC) threshold to account for the 20 years of inflation that have occurred since the current threshold of \$1000.00 was established in 2002.

Currently, regular “run-of-the-mill” max contributions of \$1000.00 are subject to expedited LMC reporting because the contribution limits have been adjusted upwards to account for inflation, but the LMC thresholds have not. My understanding is that both PDC staff and PDC Commissioners have recognized that this is a problem and are supportive of increasing this threshold to account for inflation.

Time is of the essence in adopting this rule-change to account for inflation: per RCW 42.17A.110(1), the inflationary increases must be adopted before June 30th of 2022, otherwise the new limits will not apply to the 2022 election cycle.

Additional materials in support of this Petition are attached.

I urge the Commission to adopt this Petition.

Best,

Conner Edwards
Campaign Treasurer
(425) 533-1677 cell

Attachments:

- 1) OFM form for Petition For Adoption, Amendment, Or Repeal Of A State Administrative Rule
- 2) Memo from Deputy Director Bradford “Inflationary adjustments to RCW 42.17A”
- 3) E-mail from Conner Edwards to Commissioners & Staff regarding LMC Threshold Adjustment
- 4) Visual aid explaining the issue of current LMC threshold and negative impact on treasurers