

The last minute contribution reporting threshold has not been increased to account for inflation since 2002. When the contribution limit was increased to \$1000 this significantly increased the burden for campaign treasurers.

Before the contribution limit was raised to \$1000, the only contributions which triggered a treasurer having to file a LMC report were special “over-max” contributions from county parties, legislative district committees, state party central committees, etc.

When the contribution limit increased to \$1000 and the LMC threshold remained the same, every single max contribution during the 21 day pre-general period constituted a reportable LMC. This creates a much larger burden on treasurers than I believe was originally intended by the Legislature.

While the receipt of a special “over-max” contribution of \$10,000, \$50,000, or \$100,000+ probably warrants the expedited burden of filing a LMC, the receipt of a “run-of-the-mill” max contribution of \$1000 does not.

Permanently linking the last minute contribution threshold to one penny (\$0.01) over the individual contribution limit contained in RCW 42.17A.405(2) would permanently fix this problem. Every single “over-max” contribution would trigger a LMC report being due.

A similar statutory link to the contribution limit is already contained in RCW 42.17A.005(46)(a).

