

Comment on proposed legislative agenda

[Tom Perry](#)

reported via email

20 minutes ago (Tue, 23 Aug 2022 at 3:30 PM)

To: pdc@pdc.wa.gov

External Email

Hello,

I already commented on a proposal like this one last year, but I wanted to quickly comment again for this year.

1. Additional C4 reporting periods.

I am against this idea. For those of us who work for multiple campaigns, this would make our jobs much more difficult. It is already extremely difficult to collect the information I need to report from multiple campaigns to file the 21 and 7 day pre-election reports. Oftentimes, I don't get the information I request from the campaigns, and I have to repeatedly follow-up with them. As it stands now I am frequently filing amended reports due to the difficulty in communication with the campaign. Adding additional C4 reporting periods would just magnify this problem.

I'm also not sure how the public would benefit from this since we already report contributions every Monday.

However, I do support the idea of increasing the time we get to file pre-election reports from 1 day to 2 days. Often it is impossible for me to know what campaigns were doing the previous day.

2. Raising the LMC limit

I support this idea. Regular sized contributions shouldn't be subjected to special requirements.

3. Increasing level of detail for digital ad expenditures

I oppose this idea. These requirements make it more difficult for us to file our C4s on time and I'm not really sure why people would be interested in the precise details of ad purchases.

4. Fixing foreign contribution certification requirement

YES, I support fixing this requirement. It makes little sense that campaigns are expected to collect these forms from contributors. They should be filed directly with the agency and not with us. Accepting contributions from foreign entities has always been illegal under federal law. I am concerned where this might lead. If we're so concerned about businesses proving that they are not controlled by a foreign entity, why shouldn't we be concerned that INDIVIDUALS are not foreign entities? I've entered thousands of contributions from individuals with foreign-sounding names. Should each and every one of them have to prove that they are US citizens? And, it has been argued previously that we have no way of knowing if these businesses are just lying to us about their foreign status. There is no way for us to know the truth.

As it exists today, this certification requirement makes as much sense as stopping in at the police station on my way home and telling them, "I didn't speed on my way home today, Officer!" It is already illegal to speed. I shouldn't have to prove that I'm not breaking the law every day.

Thank you,
Tom Perry