

Comments for August 25 1:00 PDC meeting

[Deborah Pedersen](#)

reported via email

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External Email

To the Commission:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments from a deputy treasurer to a county party and to occasional local campaigns.

Regarding legislative priorities:

Making the Transparency Account a non-appropriated fund. [RCW 42.17A.785](#) Having observed how strapped the PDC was, not so long ago, and having seen recent improvements and initiatives, I heartily endorse this priority.

Adjusting the campaign expenditure reporting schedules and last-minute contribution reporting. [RCW 42.17A.235](#) & [RCW 42.17A.265](#) I agree that the time has come to adjust procedures to our three-week voting period. The two odd-shaped pre-election C4 periods are a source of confusion, especially for novice volunteer treasurers. Regularizing and rationalizing the periods will be helpful, as will allowing more than one day to report the week before election day.

Regarding another issue not on your agenda:

I understand that some treasurers are advocating for a change in the regulations regarding the **Foreign Contribution Certification Requirement**. I agree with them that a reasonably high threshold should be set and that the certifications should be provided to the PDC by the contributor and posted for public review. Surely, there must be an efficient way to prompt contributors to submit the certification; payment portals could be set up to screen for contributors who are not individuals and provide them with a statement about their responsibility and a link to the PDC site where they could make the submission. Websites could include wording for contributors who contribute by check so that they are aware of the responsibility and are given the path toward complying. (Pattern language would be helpful.) I think that the public and most businesses--and many treasurers-- are unaware of the need for the certification. Proactive communication will work better than requiring treasurers to chase after contributors.

Deborah Pedersen