

JUDICIAL IMPACT FISCAL NOTE

Bill Number: 2938 ESHB PL	Title: Campaign Finance Enforcement	Agency: 055 – Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)
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Part I: Estimates

☐ **No Fiscal Impact**

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

	FY 2018	FY 2019	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23
Total:					

Estimated Expenditures from:

STATE	FY 2018	FY 2019	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23
FTE – Staff Years					
Account					
General Fund – State (001-1)					
State Subtotal					
COUNTY					
County FTE Staff Years					
Account					
Local - Counties					
Counties Subtotal					
CITY					
City FTE Staff Years					
Account					
Local – Cities					
Cities Subtotal					
Local Subtotal					
Total Estimated Expenditures:					

The revenue and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Responsibility for expenditures may be subject to the provisions of RCW 43.135.060.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

☐ If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form parts I-V

☒ If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).

☐ Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.

Legislative Contact:	Phone:	Date:
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Agency Approval: Ramsey Radwan	Phone: 360-357-2406	Date:
OFM Review:	Phone:	Date:

Part II: Narrative Explanation

This bill would modify and amend statutes related to campaign finance disclosure and the authority of the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC).

The bill would:

- Raise the PDC's penalty limit from \$10,000 to \$50,000;
- Change the procedures for filing a citizen's action to enforce the state campaign finance and disclosure laws;
- Change the penalties awarded in campaign finance and disclosure cases, including defendants paying costs in successful citizen's actions;
- Create an account for the administration of state campaign finance and disclosure law, and requires all penalties from enforcement actions under such law to be deposited in the account;
- Increase the reporting threshold for campaign debt from \$250 to \$500;
- Provide a \$250,000 General Fund State appropriation to the PDC; and
- Change the threshold for reporting an independent expenditure from \$800 to one-half the contribution limit per election.

The engrossed substitute bill differs from the substitute bill by changing the threshold for reporting an independent expenditure from \$800 to one-half the contribution limit per election. These do not change the judicial impact.

Part II.A – Brief Description of what the Measure does that has fiscal impact on the Courts

Section 2 – Would amend RCW 42.17A.005 to change the threshold for reporting an independent expenditure from \$800 to one-half the contribution limit per election.

Section 5(4) through 5(8) – Would amend RCW 42.17A.765 to provide direction to courts regarding process, imposition of costs and fees, and dismissal.

Section 6 – Would amend RCW 42.17A adding a new section to create a new two-year time-limited cause of action.

II.B - Cash Receipt Impact

None.

II.C – Expenditures

Indeterminate, but expected to be minimal. This bill could potentially decrease court actions as the bill provides for intermediate administrative process prior to legal action.