PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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To: Members, Washington State Public Disclosure Commission
From: Lori Anderson, Communications & Training Officer
Date: October 17, 2013
Re: Rule Making – Status Report/Projected Schedule for F-1 Review

At the July 2013 meeting, the Commission was provided with a rule-making development agenda setting out rules the Commission may work on during July – December 2013. Commissioners have identified other potential rule making at subsequent meetings and suggested program reviews that may result in rule making. The following is a summary of the recent suggestions, rules currently under development, and other potential rule making from the Commission's July 2013 development agenda:

JULY DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

Executive Director's duties*
WAC 390-12-200

review informal settlement procedures
WAC 390-37-090

political advertising – incorporating recently adopted online advertising rules
Chapter 390-18 WAC

Underway –

updating C-4 expenditure codes
WAC 390-16-041

lobbying reports – improving instructions
WACs 390-20-0101 and 390-20-020

adjusting contribution limits
WAC 390-05-400

modifying out-of-state committee disclosure threshold WAC 390-16-050

RECENT ADDITIONS

mini reporting review
WACs 390-16-0105-115 and 390-16-125

lobbyist disclosure threshold adjustments*
Chapter 390-20 WAC

personal financial affairs review
Chapter 390-24 WAC

* Preliminary discussion scheduled for October 2013 meeting.

The staff plans to finish the rule making under way and then prioritize the rest of the list based on the Commission's discussion during the October meeting, keeping in mind that any rules related to campaign finance, political advertising, or related forms the Commission wants to have in force for the 2014 election must be in effect by June 30. Working back from that date, public hearings on proposed rules would need to be targeted for the May meeting.

PERSONAL FINANCIAL AFFAIRS REVIEW

The draft 2013-15 strategic plan identifies potential personal financial affairs review topics that might result in rule making, such as adjusting disclosure thresholds for investments. Other review topics, including abbreviated reporting for local officials and changing how business interests are disclosed, could result in potential statutory amendments that the Commission may choose to pursue with the legislature. The Commission has also asked for stakeholder input regarding whether any or all of the personal financial affairs information received should be made available online, which may involve changes to the forms that would need to be done by rule.

The staff plans to invite the associations that represent elected officials and other stakeholders to participate in a work group that will be convened soon after the November election. The work group will be tasked with developing a set of proposals or recommendations, some of which might become potential rule making or legislative proposals.

Tentative Timeline: The review will commence soon after the November election and conclude in time for the Commission to have agency-request legislation drafted and reviewed for the 2015 session, in the event there is a legislative proposal(s). Staff will report to the Commission on the work group's progress throughout the review process.