

**Written Testimony before House Elections Committee
in Support of Senate Bill 56**

**by Carol Williams, Executive Director
March 13, 2017**

SB 56 is a recommendation made by the Governmental Ethics Commission in the agency's 2016 Annual Report and Recommendations. This bill eliminates the requirement that a candidate for state office file a copy of his or her pre-primary and pre-general election last minute contribution reports with the candidate's county election office.

Until 2011, candidates for state office were required to file a copy of any campaign finance report with both the office of the Secretary of State as well as their county election office. Senate Substitute for HB 2080 which passed in 2011 eliminated the dual filing for state candidate receipts and expenditure reports. Staff believes it was an oversight the dual filing requirement for last minute contribution reports filed by state candidates was not addressed in the bill.

The Governmental Ethics Commission stands in support of SB 56 and urges passage of the bill.