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KEITH ESAU  
14TH DISTRICT

March 20, 2018

Chairwoman Bowers and members of the Senate Committee on Ethics, Elections, and Local Government,

I come before you today to give testimony in favor of HB 2642 which I sponsored in the House.

HB 2642 basically does two things. The first is to increase the length of a text message that does not need a "Paid for by" disclaimer from 200 to 280 characters. We added this exemption last year with a 200 character limit to provide for Twitter and basic mobile phone text messages. However, Twitter increased their limit to 280 characters, causing a gap that I thought needed to be addressed.

The second was an amendment in the House Elections Committee to shorten the "Paid for by" disclaimer by removing the requirement for the treasurer's name. The candidate or committee name must still be listed. One member of the House committee stated that his treasurer did not like being exposed in this manner. Information on who the treasurer is, like significant donors, is still available in the campaign finance reports.

I urge you to support HB 2642 and I will stand for questions at the appropriate time.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith Esau".

Keith Esau  
House Elections Committee Chair  
State Representative, District 14