

B

**Written Testimony before Senate Elections Committee
in Support of Senate Bill 27
by Carol Williams, Executive Director
January 21, 2015**

Section 5 of SB 27, found on page 4 has and remains a legislative recommendation made by the Commission over the past three years.

Under current law, for any calendar year in which a lobbyist expects to expend less than \$100 for lobbying in each of the six reporting periods, a lobbyist can file an Affidavit of Exemption from filing lobbyist employment and expenditures reports. Although a lobbyist who files an affidavit of exemption is not required to file the six yearly lobbyist employment and expenditures reports, the lobbyist is required to file a year-end summary report on or before January 10 of the following year restating the past year's expenditures. Since any lobbyist who has an affidavit on file has already stated he or she has no reportable lobbying expenditures in excess of \$100 in any calendar month, the Commission believes this report to be redundant.

On January 10, 2015, 468 year-end summary reports were required to be filed by lobbyists who had filed an affidavit of exemption in 2014. The Commission believes this year-end summary report should be eliminated. Staff resources and agency funds would be saved by eliminating this report, not to mention the time and resources of the lobbyist to comply with this requirement.

The Commission urges your support and passage of SB 27.