Written Testimony before House Elections Committee in Support of Senate Bill 57

by Carol Williams, Executive Director March 13, 2017

SB 57 is a recommendation made by the Governmental Ethics Commission in the agency's 2016 Annual Report and Recommendations. As originally drafted, this bill would have required a candidate to provide an email address for the candidate's treasurer and chairperson, if a chairperson is named. The bill would also require the Statement of Organization form filed by each political action and party committee to include the email address for the committee's chairperson and treasurer. As amended by the Senate Committee of the Whole, the listing of an email address on an appointment form or organizational form for a committee would be optional.

The Commission believes that having access to the email address for candidate treasurers as well as PAC and party officers would be an additional means for the Commission's staff to contact these individuals if questions arise concerning campaign reports or other matters concerning the campaign or committee.

The Governmental Ethics Commission stands in support of SB 57 and urges passage of the bill.