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## Washington State Senate

**Senator Mike Padden**  
4th Legislative District

**Committees:**  
Law & Justice, Chair  
Accountability & Reform, Vice Chair  
Human Services, Mental  
Health & Housing  
Ways & Means

**District Office:**  
11707 E. Sprague Ave., Suite 305  
Spokane Valley, WA 99206  
Phone: (509) 921-2460

September 30, 2016

Washington State Attorney General's Office  
Attn: Bob Ferguson, Attorney General  
1125 Washington Street SE  
PO BOX 40100  
Olympia, WA 98504-0100

Re: 45-Day Letter Regarding PAC Contributions in Washington

Dear General Ferguson,

It has come to my attention that outside sources may be unlawfully influencing Washington's upcoming elections. In a Washington Public Disclosure Commission document<sup>1</sup> dated September 6, 2016, Planned Parenthood Votes Washington PAC reported a donation in the amount of \$75,000.00 from "Planned Parenthood" based in New York City.

A September 26<sup>th</sup> video<sup>2</sup> released by Washington State-based Family Policy Institute of Washington (FPIW), asks whether the donation in question may have been made by Planned Parenthood's national 501(c)(3) organization, which is prohibited<sup>3</sup> by federal law from making contributions to a Political Action Committee (PAC). It was not until *after* FPIW released this video reporting the potentially unlawful contribution that Planned Parenthood Votes Washington PAC submitted two separate, revised C3 reports, stating that the donation came, in fact, from Planned Parenthood's 501(c)(4) entity.

The first revised C3 report<sup>4</sup> mistakenly identified the donating entity as "Planned Parenthood Votes" before settling on the name of "Planned Parenthood Action Fund" – the correct name for Planned Parenthood's 501(c)(4) in the second revised C3 report<sup>5</sup>.

Due to Washington Public Disclosure Commission reporting requirements that the name of the donating entity must be reported *exactly* when received, therefore this donation may have been illegally contributed by a 501(c)(3) non-profit, and may contain taxpayer funds that are now being used to influence November's elections.

Additionally, at the present time, **it does not appear that Planned Parenthood Votes Washington PAC has filed a C5 form<sup>6</sup>** with the Washington Public Disclosure Commission, as required by state law

<sup>1</sup> Appendix A, First PDC Report 9/6/16

<sup>2</sup> Video Link: <https://youtu.be/AWhupi7bbE4>

<sup>3</sup> Appendix B, IRS Rules

<sup>4</sup> Appendix C, Second PDC Report 9/26/16

<sup>5</sup> Appendix D, Third PDC Report 9/26/16

<sup>6</sup> See WAC 390-16-050

under RCW 42.17A.250, disclosing the contribution in question, as a contribution from a political committee located outside Washington State.

So far in 2016, the Planned Parenthood Votes Washington PAC has made reported expenditures to your re-election campaign, as well as the campaigns of Governor Jay Inslee, Jeff Sprung, a candidate for State Auditor, and ten other candidates seeking legislative office in our state.

If the Attorney General refuses to take investigatory action within 45 days, I reserve the right under RCW 42.17A.765 to use whatever remedies necessary, as allowed in that chapter, to preserve the integrity of elections in Washington State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mike Padden".

Senator Mike Padden  
4<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

Cc: Jay Inslee, Governor  
Kim Wyman, Secretary of State  
Jon Tunheim, Thurston County Prosecutor