



September 27, 2012

Ms. Sheila Leslie
864 Daniel Dr.
Reno, NV 89509

Dear Ms. Leslie, 

It has been quite some time since it was brought to light that former Assembly Speaker and registered lobbyist Barbara Buckley has maintained her campaign account for two election cycles without running for office. As was noted, this was made possible by you contributing \$200 to her account, which allows her to retain her status as a "candidate" under state law. This loophole in the law is big enough to drive a campaign bus through, and you and Ms. Buckley did just that.

While I believe that maintaining this account is clearly a violation of legislative intent of campaign finance laws (see the fact that there's no indication anyone else has ever done it), it's apparently legal. What bothers me is your return on investment in this scheme. In return for the \$200 you contributed to Ms. Buckley's campaign, she has donated back to you nearly \$10,000. That's quite a windfall.

During the 2011 Legislative Session I was happy to support Senate Bill 206, which you sponsored to create more transparency regarding lobbying efforts between legislative sessions. This was a "good government" bill. I find it ironic that while you would sponsor such a good bill, you would also be part of this scheme to allow the former Speaker to maintain what amounts to a political slush fund while lobbying the legislature as the head of a government-funded, non-profit organization that isn't allowed to dole out campaign contributions. This was not good government.

As such, I'd ask you to rise above the fray on this and return the nearly \$10,000 in contributions your campaign received from Ms. Buckley's account.

Sincerely,



Ben Kieckhefer