Tab	Action	Option	Version
135	1	Α	2

Budget Action Title: Pass CB 118569, creating an election vouchers fund.

Has CIP Amendment: No Has Budget Proviso: No

Councilmembers: Budget Committee

Staff Analyst: Ketil Freeman; Lish Whitson

Council Bill or Resolution: 118569

Date		Total	SB	ВН	JO	TR	NL	ТВ	JG	МО	KS
	Yes										
	No										
	Abstain										
	Absent										

Budget Action description:

This green sheet recommends passage of Council Bill (CB) 118569, which creates a fund into which property tax revenue authorized by passage of City of Seattle Initiative Measure 122 will be deposited. Revenue deposited into the fund will be used to administer the publicly financed election program authorized by the measure.

CBO will propose legislation in 2016 creating Budget Control Levels, providing appropriation authority, and establishing positions to administer the program.

Background

Beginning with Council and City Attorney campaigns in 2017, a "Democracy Voucher" program will provide public campaign funding to Seattle campaigns. This program will mail each registered voter four \$25 vouchers that the voters can assign to participating candidates for office in Seattle. Candidates can use money attained by redeeming the vouchers for campaign costs or debts but may not use those funds to pay the candidate, immediate family members or businesses owned by family members.

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The Initiative requires that the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission (SEEC), in coordination with other Departments, take the following steps in 2016:

- 1. Create the Democracy Vouchers program, providing for candidate registration on July 1, 2016.
- 2. Prepare to mail a set of four Democracy Vouchers worth \$25 each to all registered voters on January 3, 2017.
- 3. Translate of materials into at least 14 languages and design materials legible to people with visual or other disabilities.
- 4. Develop a system for identifying entities and persons that earn or receive more than \$250,000 under a contractual relationship with the City.
- 5. Develop a system for identifying entities and persons that have paid \$5,000 or more to a lobbyist or lobbying entity.
- 6. Determine whether it is possible to set up a system to create a system of reporting donations immediately upon deposit in campaign bank accounts, and if so set up that system in advance of 2017 elections.
- 7. Draft and adopt rules to implement the Initiative.
- 8. Project Program revenue, expenditures and Democracy Voucher Program fund balances for 2016 through at least 2021.