
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2196

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By House Committee on Government Operations (originally sponsored by Representatives Foreman, Pennington, Hymes, Carrell, Campbell, Fuhrman, Hickel and McMahan)

Read first time 01/30/96.

1 AN ACT Relating to term limits for state-wide elected officials;
2 amending RCW 29.51.173, 29.15.240, and 7.16.370; and adding a new
3 section to chapter 43.01 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.01 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) No person is eligible to appear on the ballot or file a
8 declaration of candidacy for secretary of state who, by the end of the
9 then current term of office will have served, or but for resignation
10 would have served, as secretary of state during eight of the previous
11 fourteen years.

12 (2) No person is eligible to appear on the ballot or file a
13 declaration of candidacy for treasurer who, by the end of the then
14 current term of office will have served, or but for resignation would
15 have served, as treasurer during eight of the previous fourteen years.

16 (3) No person is eligible to appear on the ballot or file a
17 declaration of candidacy for auditor who, by the end of the then
18 current term of office will have served, or but for resignation would
19 have served, as auditor during eight of the previous fourteen years.

1 (4) No person is eligible to appear on the ballot or file a
2 declaration of candidacy for attorney general who, by the end of the
3 then current term of office will have served, or but for resignation
4 would have served, as attorney general during eight of the previous
5 fourteen years.

6 (5) No person is eligible to appear on the ballot or file a
7 declaration of candidacy for superintendent of public instruction who,
8 by the end of the then current term of office will have served, or but
9 for resignation would have served, as superintendent of public
10 instruction during eight of the previous fourteen years.

11 (6) No person is eligible to appear on the ballot or file a
12 declaration of candidacy for commissioner of public lands who, by the
13 end of the then current term of office will have served, or but for
14 resignation would have served, as commissioner of public lands during
15 eight of the previous fourteen years.

16 (7) No person is eligible to appear on the ballot or file a
17 declaration of candidacy for insurance commissioner who, by the end of
18 the then current term of office will have served, or but for
19 resignation would have served, as insurance commissioner during eight
20 of the previous fourteen years.

21
22 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29.51.173 and 1993 c 1 s 6 are each amended to read as
23 follows:

24 Nothing in RCW 43.01.015, section 1 of this act, 44.04.015,
25 29.68.015, or 29.68.016 prohibits a qualified voter of this state from
26 casting a ballot for any person by writing the name of that person on
27 the ballot in accordance with RCW (~~29.51.170~~) 29.62.180 or from
28 having such a ballot counted or tabulated, nor does anything in RCW
29 43.01.015, 44.04.015, 29.68.015, or 29.68.016 prohibit a person from
30 standing or campaigning for an elective office by means of a write-in
31 campaign.

32 **Sec. 3.** RCW 29.15.240 and 1993 c 1 s 7 are each amended to read as
33 follows:

34 (1) The secretary of state or other election official authorized by
35 law shall not accept or verify the signatures, nor accept a declaration
36 of candidacy or a nomination paper, from or on behalf of a person who,
37 by reason of RCW 43.01.015, section 1 of this act, 44.04.015,

1 29.68.015, or 29.68.016, is ineligible for the office, nor allow the
2 person's name to appear on the ballot.

3 (2) No terms or years served in office before November 3, 1992, may
4 be used to determine eligibility to appear on the ballot for the
5 offices listed in RCW 43.01.015, 44.04.015, 29.68.015, or 29.68.016.

6 (3) No terms or years served in office on or before the second
7 Monday in January 1997, may be used to determine eligibility to appear
8 on the ballot for the offices listed in section 1 of this act.

9 **Sec. 4.** RCW 7.16.370 and 1993 c 1 s 9 are each amended to read as
10 follows:

11 Any resident of this state may bring suit to enforce RCW 43.01.015,
12 section 1 of this act, 44.04.015, 29.68.015, 29.68.016, 29.51.173, and
13 29.15.240 and section 8, chapter 1, Laws of 1993. If the person
14 prevails, the court shall award the person reasonable attorney's fees
15 and costs of suit.

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