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SENATE BILL 6309

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1992 Regular Session

By Senators McCaslin and Madsen

Read first time 01/24/92. Referred to Committee on Governmental Operations.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to elections for nonpartisan offices; amending RCW
- 2 29.30.085; adding a new section to chapter 29.30 RCW; and providing an
- 3 effective date.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 5 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 29.30 RCW
- 6 to read as follows:
- 7 This section applies if a candidate for an elective office of a
- 8 city, town, or special purpose district would, under this chapter,
- 9 otherwise qualify to have his or her name printed on the general
- 10 election ballot for the office, but the candidate has been declared to
- 11 be unqualified to hold the office by a court of competent jurisdiction.
- 12 (1) In a case in which a primary is conducted for the office:
- 13 (a) If ballots for the general election for the office have not
- 14 been ordered by the county auditor, the candidate who received the

- 1 third greatest number of votes for the office at the primary shall
- 2 qualify as a candidate for general election, if the candidate received
- 3 at least one percent of the total votes cast for the office at the
- 4 preceding primary, and that candidate's name shall be printed on the
- 5 ballot for the office in lieu of the name of the disqualified
- 6 candidate. If the candidate with the third greatest number of votes
- 7 did not receive at least one percent of the total votes cast for the
- 8 office at the preceding primary, then only the name of the qualified
- 9 candidate with the greatest number of votes for the office at the
- 10 primary shall be printed on the ballot for the office.
- 11 (b) If general election ballots for the office have been so
- 12 ordered, votes cast for the disqualified candidate at the general
- 13 election for the office shall not be counted for that office.
- 14 (2) In a case in which a primary is not conducted for the office:
- 15 (a) If ballots for the general election for the office have not
- 16 been ordered by the county auditor, the name of the disqualified
- 17 candidate shall not appear on the general election ballot for the
- 18 office.
- 19 (b) If general election ballots for the office have been so
- 20 ordered, votes cast for the disqualified candidate at the general
- 21 election for the office shall not be counted for that office.
- 22 (3) If the disqualified candidate is the only candidate to have
- 23 filed for the office during a regular or special filing period for the
- 24 office, a void in candidacy for the office exists.
- 25 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29.30.085 and 1990 c 59 s 95 are each amended to read
- 26 as follows:
- 27 (1) Except as provided ((under)) in section 1 of this act and in
- 28 subsection (2) of this section, on the ballot at the general election
- 29 for a nonpartisan office for which a primary was held, only the names

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- 1 of the candidate who received the greatest number of votes and the
- 2 candidate who received the next greatest number of votes for that
- 3 office shall appear under the title of that office, and the names shall
- 4 appear in that order. If a primary was conducted, no candidate's name
- 5 may be printed on the subsequent general election ballot unless he or
- 6 she receives at least one percent of the total votes cast for that
- 7 office at the preceding primary. On the ballot at the general election
- 8 for any other nonpartisan office for which no primary was held, the
- 9 names of the candidates shall be listed in the order determined under
- 10 RCW 29.30.025.
- 11 (2) On the ballot at the general election for the office of justice
- 12 of the supreme court, judge of the court of appeals, judge of the
- 13 superior court, or state superintendent of public instruction, if a
- 14 candidate in a contested primary receives a majority of all the votes
- 15 cast for that office or position, only the name of that candidate may
- 16 be printed under the title of the office for that position.
- 17 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 1992.