

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5910

As of February 19, 1999

Title: An act relating to use of public resources for political campaigns.

Brief Description: Authorizing state legislatures to send a letter to constituents to explain positions taken on ballot measures.

Sponsors: Senators McCaslin and Rasmussen.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: State & Local Government: 2/25/99.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Staff: Diane Smith (786-7410)

Background: The ethics law prohibits elected officials from using state facilities to oppose or promote a ballot proposition. There are statutory exceptions to this general rule.

Summary of Bill: A state senator or representative may use state facilities to initiate one individualized letter to his or her constituents explaining his or her position on a ballot proposition.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.