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HOUSE BILL 2297

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State of Washington                      58th Legislature                      2003 3rd Special Session

By Representatives Haigh, Armstrong, Kagi, Nixon, Santos, Hinkle, Shabro, Tom, Fromhold, Delvin, Dickerson, Alexander, McCoy, Ahern, Simpson, Woods, Clibborn, McDonald, Kenney, Miloscia, Chase, Lantz, Bailey, Schual-Berke, Hudgins, Flannigan, Dunshee, Ruderman, Darneille, Upthegrove, Linville, Blake, Hunter, Quall, Hunt, Morris, Wallace, Kessler, Veloria, Hankins, Lovick, Eickmeyer, Berkey, Romero, Rockefeller, Morrell and Sullivan; by request of Governor Locke

Prefiled 12/3/2003. Read first time 12/05/2003. Referred to .

1            AN ACT Relating to the cancellation of the 2004 presidential  
2 primary; amending RCW 29.19.020 and 29A.56.020; providing an effective  
3 date; providing expiration dates; and declaring an emergency.

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

5            **Sec. 1.** RCW 29.19.020 and 1995 1st sp.s. c 20 s 1 are each amended  
6 to read as follows:

7            (1) On the fourth Tuesday in May of each year in which a president  
8 of the United States is to be nominated and elected, a presidential  
9 primary shall be held at which voters may vote for the nominee of a  
10 major political party for the office of president. The secretary of  
11 state may propose an alternative date for the primary no later than the  
12 first day of August of the year before the year in which a president is  
13 to be nominated and elected.

14            (2) No later than the first day of September of the year before the  
15 year in which a presidential nominee is selected, the state committee  
16 of any major political party that will use the primary results for  
17 candidates of that party may propose an alternative date for that  
18 primary.

1 (3) If an alternative date is proposed under subsection (1) or (2)  
2 of this section, a committee consisting of the chair and the vice-chair  
3 of the state committee of each major political party, the secretary of  
4 state, the majority leader and minority leader of the senate, and the  
5 speaker and the minority leader of the house of representatives shall  
6 meet and, if affirmed by a two-thirds vote of the members of the  
7 committee, the date of the primary shall be changed. The committee  
8 shall meet and decide on the proposed alternate date not later than the  
9 first day of October of the year before the year in which a  
10 presidential nominee is selected. The secretary of state shall convene  
11 and preside over the meeting of the committee. A committee member  
12 other than a legislator may appoint, in writing, a designee to serve on  
13 his or her behalf. A legislator who is a member of the committee may  
14 appoint, in writing, another legislator to serve on his or her behalf.

15 (4) If an alternate date is approved under this section, the  
16 secretary of state shall adopt rules under RCW 29.19.070 to adjust the  
17 deadlines in RCW 29.19.030 and related provisions of this chapter to  
18 correspond with the date that has been approved.

19 (5) No presidential primary may be held in 2004.

20 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29A.56.020 and 2003 c 111 s 1402 are each amended to  
21 read as follows:

22 (1) On the fourth Tuesday in May of each year in which a president  
23 of the United States is to be nominated and elected, a presidential  
24 primary shall be held at which voters may vote for the nominee of a  
25 major political party for the office of president. The secretary of  
26 state may propose an alternative date for the primary no later than the  
27 first day of August of the year before the year in which a president is  
28 to be nominated and elected.

29 (2) No later than the first day of September of the year before the  
30 year in which a presidential nominee is selected, the state committee  
31 of any major political party that will use the primary results for  
32 candidates of that party may propose an alternative date for that  
33 primary.

34 (3) If an alternative date is proposed under subsection (1) or (2)  
35 of this section, a committee consisting of the chair and the vice-chair  
36 of the state committee of each major political party, the secretary of  
37 state, the majority leader and minority leader of the senate, and the

1 speaker and the minority leader of the house of representatives shall  
2 meet and, if affirmed by a two-thirds vote of the members of the  
3 committee, the date of the primary shall be changed. The committee  
4 shall meet and decide on the proposed alternate date not later than the  
5 first day of October of the year before the year in which a  
6 presidential nominee is selected. The secretary of state shall convene  
7 and preside over the meeting of the committee. A committee member  
8 other than a legislator may appoint, in writing, a designee to serve on  
9 his or her behalf. A legislator who is a member of the committee may  
10 appoint, in writing, another legislator to serve on his or her behalf.

11 (4) If an alternate date is approved under this section, the  
12 secretary of state shall adopt rules under RCW 29A.04.620 to adjust the  
13 deadlines in RCW 29A.56.030 and related provisions of this chapter to  
14 correspond with the date that has been approved.

15 (5) No presidential primary may be held in 2004.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Section 1 of this act is necessary for the  
17 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or  
18 support of the state government and its existing public institutions,  
19 and takes effect immediately.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Section 1 of this act expires July 1, 2004.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Section 2 of this act takes effect July 1,  
22 2004.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Section 2 of this act expires January 1,  
24 2005.

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