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HOUSE BILL 1364

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State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Representatives Hunt, Armstrong, McCoy, and Kenney; by request of Secretary of State

Read first time 01/20/09. Referred to Committee on State Government & Tribal Affairs.

1 AN ACT Relating to technical corrections to election provisions;  
2 amending RCW 28A.343.300 and 35.02.086; adding a new section to chapter  
3 29A.20 RCW; creating a new section; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.343.300 and 1991 c 363 s 20 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 The governing board of a school district shall be known as the  
8 board of directors of the district.

9 Unless otherwise specifically provided, as in ((RCW 29.13.060))  
10 section 2 of this act, each member of a board of directors shall be  
11 elected by ballot by the registered voters of the school district and  
12 shall hold office for a term of four years and until a successor is  
13 elected and qualified. Terms of school directors shall be staggered,  
14 and insofar as possible, not more than a majority of one shall be  
15 elected to full terms at any regular election. In case a member or  
16 members of a board of directors are to be elected to fill an unexpired  
17 term or terms, the ballot shall specify the term for which each such  
18 member is to be elected.

1 Except for a school district of the first class having within its  
2 boundaries a city with a population of four hundred thousand people or  
3 more which shall have a board of directors of seven members, the board  
4 of directors of every school district of the first class or school  
5 district of the second class shall consist of five members.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.20 RCW  
7 to read as follows:

8 (1) In each county with a population of two hundred ten thousand or  
9 more, first-class school districts containing a city of the first-class  
10 shall hold their elections biennially as provided in RCW 29A.04.330.

11 (2) Except as provided in RCW 28A.343.610, the directors to be  
12 elected may be elected for terms of six years and until their  
13 successors are elected, qualified, and assume office in accordance with  
14 RCW 29A.20.040.

15 (3) If the board of directors of a school district pursuant to  
16 subsection (1) of this section reduces the length of the term of office  
17 for school directors in the district from six to four years, the  
18 reduction in the length of term must not affect the term of office of  
19 any incumbent director without his or her consent, and a provision must  
20 be made to appropriately stagger future elections of school directors.

21 **Sec. 3.** RCW 35.02.086 and 2006 c 344 s 20 are each amended to read  
22 as follows:

23 Each candidate for a city or town elective position shall file a  
24 declaration of candidacy with the county auditor of the county in which  
25 all or the major portion of the city or town is located not more than  
26 sixty days nor less than forty-five days prior to the primary election  
27 at which the initial elected officials are nominated(~~(, according to~~  
28 ~~RCW 29A.24.050)~~). The elective positions shall be as provided in law  
29 for the type of city or town and form or plan of government specified  
30 in the petition to incorporate, and for the population of the city or  
31 town as determined by the county legislative authority or boundary  
32 review board where applicable. Any candidate may withdraw his or her  
33 declaration (~~(according to RCW 29A.24.131)~~) at any time within five  
34 days after the last day allowed for filing a declaration of candidacy.  
35 All names of candidates to be voted upon shall be printed upon the

1 ballot alphabetically in groups under the designation of the respective  
2 titles of offices for which they are candidates. Names of candidates  
3 printed upon the ballot need not be rotated.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act apply  
5 retroactively to July 1, 2004, the effective date of chapter 111, Laws  
6 of 2003.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
8 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
9 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect  
10 immediately.

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