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HOUSE BILL 2715

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State of Washington                      61st Legislature                      2010 Regular Session

By Representatives Shea, Armstrong, McCune, Anderson, Kristiansen, Crouse, Short, Pearson, Angel, Dammeier, and Condotta

Read first time 01/12/10. Referred to Committee on State Government & Tribal Affairs.

1            AN ACT Relating to presidential electors; amending RCW 29A.56.310,  
2 29A.56.320, and 29A.56.340; repealing RCW 29A.56.300; and repealing  
3 2009 c 264 s 1 (uncodified).

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

5            **Sec. 1.** RCW 29A.56.310 and 2003 c 111 s 1424 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7            On the Tuesday after the first Monday of November in the year in  
8 which a president of the United States is to be elected, there shall be  
9 elected (~~as many electors of president and vice president of the~~  
10 ~~United States as there are senators and representatives in Congress~~  
11 ~~allotted to this state~~) one presidential elector from each  
12 congressional district and two electors from the state at-large. Each  
13 elector may have an alternate to stand in for the elector in case of  
14 death, refusal to act, or neglect to attend the electors meeting.

15            **Sec. 2.** RCW 29A.56.320 and 2009 c 264 s 3 are each amended to read  
16 as follows:

17            In the year in which a presidential election is held, each major  
18 political party and each minor political party or independent candidate

1 convention held under chapter 29A.20 RCW that nominates candidates for  
2 president and vice president of the United States shall nominate  
3 presidential electors and alternates for this state. The party or  
4 convention shall file with the secretary of state a certificate signed  
5 by the presiding officer of the convention at which the presidential  
6 electors were chosen, listing the names and addresses of the  
7 presidential electors. Each presidential elector and alternate shall  
8 execute and file with the secretary of state a pledge that, as an  
9 elector, he or she will vote for the candidates nominated by that  
10 party. The names of presidential electors shall not appear on the  
11 ballots. The votes cast for candidates for president and vice  
12 president of each political party shall be counted for the candidates  
13 for presidential electors of that political party(~~(; however, if the~~  
14 ~~interstate compact entitled the "agreement among the states to elect~~  
15 ~~the president by national popular vote," as set forth in RCW~~  
16 ~~29A.56.300, governs the appointment of the presidential electors for a~~  
17 ~~presidential election as provided in clause 9 of Article III of that~~  
18 ~~compact, then the final appointment of presidential electors for that~~  
19 ~~presidential election shall be in accordance with that compact)). The  
20 congressional district presidential elector shall be the elector from  
21 the political party whose presidential and vice presidential candidates  
22 received the most number of votes in the congressional district. The  
23 at-large presidential electors shall be electors from the political  
24 party for the presidential and vice presidential candidates who  
25 received the most number of votes in the state.~~

26 **Sec. 3.** RCW 29A.56.340 and 2003 c 111 s 1427 are each amended to  
27 read as follows:

28 The electors of the president and vice president shall convene at  
29 the seat of government on the day fixed by federal statute, at the hour  
30 of twelve o'clock noon of that day. If there is any vacancy in the  
31 office of an elector (~~(occasioned by death, refusal to act, neglect to~~  
32 ~~attend, or otherwise, the electors present shall immediately proceed to~~  
33 ~~fill it by voice vote, and plurality of votes)), the elector's  
34 designated alternate shall be recognized as the elector. When all of  
35 the electors have appeared and the vacancies have been filled they  
36 shall constitute the college of electors of the state of Washington,  
37 and shall proceed to perform the duties required of them by the~~

1 Constitution and laws of the United States. Any elector who votes for  
2 a person or persons not nominated by the party of which he or she is an  
3 elector is subject to a civil penalty of up to one thousand dollars.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The following acts or parts of acts are each  
5 repealed:

6 (1) RCW 29A.56.300 (States' agreement--Presidential election--  
7 National popular vote) and 2009 c 264 s 2; and

8 (2) 2009 c 264 s 1 (uncodified).

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