
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5271

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senate Government Operations & Elections (originally sponsored by Senators Oemig, McDermott, and Swecker; by request of Secretary of State)

READ FIRST TIME 02/10/09.

1 AN ACT Relating to candidate filing; and amending RCW 29A.24.070,
2 29A.24.091, and 29A.80.041.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29A.24.070 and 2006 c 263 s 614 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 Declarations of candidacy shall be filed with the following filing
7 officers:

8 (1) The secretary of state for declarations of candidacy for
9 statewide offices, United States senate, and United States house of
10 representatives;

11 (2) The secretary of state for declarations of candidacy for the
12 state legislature, the court of appeals, and the superior court when
13 the candidate is seeking office in a district comprised of voters from
14 two or more counties(~~(. The secretary of state and the county auditor
15 may accept declarations of candidacy for candidates for the state
16 legislature, the court of appeals, and the superior court when the
17 candidate is seeking office in a district comprised of voters from one
18 county))~~);

1 (3) The county auditor for all other offices. For any nonpartisan
2 office, other than judicial offices and school director in joint
3 districts, where voters from a district comprising more than one county
4 vote upon the candidates, a declaration of candidacy shall be filed
5 with the county auditor of the county in which a majority of the
6 registered voters of the district reside. For school directors in
7 joint school districts, the declaration of candidacy shall be filed
8 with the county auditor of the county designated by the superintendent
9 of public instruction as the county to which the joint school district
10 is considered as belonging under RCW 28A.323.040((+

11 ~~(4) For all other purposes of this title, a declaration of~~
12 ~~candidacy for the state legislature, the court of appeals, and the~~
13 ~~superior court filed with the secretary of state shall be deemed to~~
14 ~~have been filed with the county auditor when the candidate is seeking~~
15 ~~office in a district composed of voters from one county)).~~

16 Each official with whom declarations of candidacy are filed under
17 this section, within one business day following the closing of the
18 applicable filing period, shall transmit to the public disclosure
19 commission the information required in RCW 29A.24.031 (1) through (4)
20 for each declaration of candidacy filed in his or her office during
21 such filing period or a list containing the name of each candidate who
22 files such a declaration in his or her office during such filing period
23 together with a precise identification of the position sought by each
24 such candidate and the date on which each such declaration was filed.
25 Such official, within three days following his or her receipt of any
26 letter withdrawing a person's name as a candidate, shall also forward
27 a copy of such withdrawal letter to the public disclosure commission.

28 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29A.24.091 and 2006 c 206 s 3 are each amended to read
29 as follows:

30 A (~~((filing fee of one dollar shall accompany each declaration of~~
31 ~~candidacy for precinct committee officer; a))~~ filing fee of ten dollars
32 shall accompany the declaration of candidacy for any office with a
33 fixed annual salary of one thousand dollars or less; a filing fee equal
34 to one percent of the annual salary of the office at the time of filing
35 shall accompany the declaration of candidacy for any office with a
36 fixed annual salary of more than one thousand dollars per annum. No

1 filing fee need accompany a declaration of candidacy for precinct
2 committee officer or any office for which compensation is on a per diem
3 or per meeting attended basis.

4 A candidate who lacks sufficient assets or income at the time of
5 filing to pay the filing fee required by this section shall submit with
6 his or her declaration of candidacy a filing fee petition. The
7 petition shall contain not less than a number of signatures of
8 registered voters equal to the number of dollars of the filing fee.
9 The signatures shall be of voters registered to vote within the
10 jurisdiction of the office for which the candidate is filing.

11 When the candidacy is for:

12 (1) A statewide office, the United States senate, or the United
13 States house of representatives, the fee shall be paid to the secretary
14 of state;

15 (2) A legislative or judicial office that includes territory from
16 more than one county, the fee shall be paid to the secretary of state
17 for equal division between the treasuries of the counties comprising
18 the district(~~(-)~~);

19 ~~((+2))~~ (3) A legislative or judicial office that includes
20 territory from only one county(~~(+~~

21 ~~(a))~~, the fee shall be paid to the county auditor (~~(if the~~
22 ~~candidate filed his or her declaration of candidacy with the county~~
23 ~~auditor;~~

24 ~~(b) The fee shall be paid to the secretary of state if the~~
25 ~~candidate filed his or her declaration of candidacy with the secretary~~
26 ~~of state. The secretary of state shall then promptly transmit the fee~~
27 ~~to the county auditor of the county in which the legislative or~~
28 ~~judicial office is located.))~~;

29 ~~((+3))~~ (4) A city or town office, the fee shall be paid to the
30 county auditor who shall transmit it to the city or town clerk for
31 deposit in the city or town treasury.

32 **Sec. 3.** RCW 29A.80.041 and 2004 c 271 s 148 are each amended to
33 read as follows:

34 Any member of a major political party who is a registered voter in
35 the precinct may (~~upon payment of a fee of one dollar~~) file his or
36 her declaration of candidacy as prescribed under RCW 29A.24.031 with
37 the county auditor for the office of precinct committee officer of his

1 or her party in that precinct. When elected at the primary, the
2 precinct committee officer shall serve so long as the committee officer
3 remains an eligible voter in that precinct.

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