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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1417**

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**State of Washington**

**64th Legislature**

**2015 Regular Session**

**By** House Local Government (originally sponsored by Representatives Takko, Kochmar, and Pike)

READ FIRST TIME 02/09/15.

1 AN ACT Relating to the referendum of assumptions of water-sewer  
2 districts by cities and towns; and adding new sections to chapter  
3 35.13A RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 35.13A  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) A resolution or ordinance adopted by the legislative body of  
8 a city to assume jurisdiction of all or part of a water-sewer  
9 district under this chapter is subject to a referendum. Any  
10 referendum petition to repeal the assumption resolution or ordinance  
11 must be filed with the county auditor within ten days of passage of  
12 the resolution or ordinance. Within ten days of the filing of a  
13 petition, the county auditor must confer with the petitioner  
14 concerning the form and style of the petition, issue an  
15 identification number for the petition, and write a ballot title for  
16 the measure. The ballot title must be posed as a question so that an  
17 affirmative answer to the question and a majority affirmative vote on  
18 the measure results in approval of the proposed assumption, and a  
19 negative answer to the question and a majority negative vote on the  
20 measure results in the assumption being barred. The petitioner must  
21 be notified of the identification number and ballot title within this

1 ten-day period. After this notification, the petitioner has thirty  
2 days in which to secure on petition forms the signatures of at least  
3 fifteen percent of the registered voters of the district as of the  
4 day before the most recent general election, and file the signed  
5 petitions with the county auditor. Each petition form must contain  
6 the ballot title and full text of the measure to be referred. The  
7 county auditor must verify the sufficiency of the signatures on the  
8 petitions.

9 (2) If sufficient valid signatures on the petitions are properly  
10 submitted, the county auditor must submit the referendum measure to  
11 the registered voters residing in the water-sewer district in a  
12 general or special election no later than one hundred twenty days  
13 after the signed petition has been filed with the county auditor.  
14 Elections must be conducted in accordance with general election law,  
15 and the cost of the election must be borne by the city seeking  
16 approval to assume jurisdiction of the water-sewer district.

17 (3) When a referendum petition is filed with the county auditor,  
18 the assumption resolution or ordinance sought to be referred to the  
19 voters, and any proceedings before a boundary review board under  
20 chapter 36.93 RCW, are suspended from taking effect. Such suspension  
21 terminates when: (a) There is a final determination of insufficiency  
22 or untimeliness of the referendum petition; or (b) the assumption  
23 resolution or ordinance so referred is approved by the voters at a  
24 referendum election.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 35.13A  
26 RCW to read as follows:

27 A resolution or ordinance adopted by a city in accordance with  
28 this chapter to assume jurisdiction of all or part of a district may  
29 not take effect until thirty or more days after its adoption.

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