
HOUSE BILL 1497

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Representative Pettigrew

Read first time 01/21/15. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to appointments of the board of directors of a
2 school district of the first class having within its boundaries a
3 city with a population of four hundred thousand people or more;
4 amending RCW 28A.343.300 and 28A.343.600; reenacting and amending RCW
5 28A.343.660; adding a new section to chapter 28A.343 RCW; providing
6 an effective date; and providing an expiration date.

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

8 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.343.300 and 2009 c 107 s 1 are each amended to
9 read as follows:

10 (1) The governing board of a school district shall be known as
11 the board of directors of the district.

12 Unless otherwise specifically provided, as in RCW 29A.04.340,
13 each member of a board of directors shall be elected by ballot by the
14 registered voters of the school district and shall hold office for a
15 term of four years and until a successor is elected and qualified.
16 Terms of school directors shall be staggered, and insofar as
17 possible, not more than a majority of one shall be elected to full
18 terms at any regular election. In case a member or members of a board
19 of directors are to be elected to fill an unexpired term or terms,
20 the ballot shall specify the term for which each such member is to be
21 elected.

1 (~~Except for~~) (2) A school district of the first class having
2 within its boundaries a city with a population of four hundred
3 thousand people or more (~~which~~) shall have a board of directors of
4 seven members, five of whom are elected and two of whom are appointed
5 by the mayor of that city. A vacancy by an appointed member under
6 this subsection shall be appointed by the mayor for the unexpired
7 term.

8 (3) The board of directors of every school district of the first
9 class that does not have within its boundaries a city with a
10 population of four hundred thousand people or more or school district
11 of the second class shall (~~consist~~) have a board of directors of
12 five members all of whom are elected.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.343.600 and 2009 c 107 s 2 are each amended to
14 read as follows:

15 (1) Any first-class school district having a board of directors
16 of five members as provided in RCW 28A.343.300 and which elects
17 directors for a term of six years under the provisions of RCW
18 29A.04.340 shall cause the office of at least one director and no
19 more than two directors to be up for election at each regular school
20 district election held hereafter (~~and~~).

21 (2) Except as provided in RCW 28A.343.670, any first-class school
22 district having within its boundaries a city with a population of
23 four hundred thousand people or more having a board of directors of
24 (~~seven~~) five elected members and two appointed members as provided
25 in RCW 28A.343.300 shall cause the office of two directors and no
26 more than three directors to be up for election at each regular
27 school district election held hereafter. Appointed members shall
28 serve staggered terms and be appointed pursuant to section 4 of this
29 act.

30 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.343.660 and 1991 c 363 s 28 and 1991 c 288 ss 5
31 and 6 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

32 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any school district
33 of the first class having within its boundaries a city with a
34 population of four hundred thousand people or more shall be divided
35 into (~~seven~~) five director districts. The boundaries of such
36 director districts shall be established by the members of the school
37 board, such boundaries to be established so that each such district
38 shall comply, as nearly as practicable, with the criteria established

1 in RCW (~~(29.70.100)~~) 29A.76.010. Boundaries of such director
2 districts shall be adjusted by the school board following the
3 procedure established in RCW (~~(29.70.100)~~) 29A.76.010 after each
4 federal decennial census if population change shows the need thereof
5 to comply with the criteria of RCW (~~(29.70.100)~~) 29A.76.010. No
6 person shall be eligible for the position of school director in any
7 (~~such~~) director district unless (~~such~~) the person resides in the
8 particular director district. Residents in the particular director
9 district desiring to be a candidate for school director shall file
10 their declarations of candidacy for (~~such~~) the appropriate director
11 district and for the position of director in that district and shall
12 be voted upon, in any primary required to be held for the position
13 under Title 29A RCW, by the registered voters of that particular
14 director district. In the general election, each position shall be
15 voted upon by all the registered voters in the school district. The
16 order of the names of candidates shall appear on the primary and
17 general election ballots as required for nonpartisan positions under
18 Title 29A RCW. Except as provided in RCW (~~(28A.315.680)~~) 29A.343.670,
19 every such director so elected in school districts divided into
20 (~~seven~~) five director districts shall serve for a term of four
21 years as otherwise provided in RCW (~~(28A.315.460)~~) 28A.343.610.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.343
23 RCW to read as follows:

24 (1) As of the effective date of this section, each school
25 district of a first class having within its boundaries a city with a
26 population of four hundred thousand people or more must redraw its
27 boundaries to encompass five districts. Districts must be drawn
28 pursuant to the requirements of chapter 29A.76 RCW. The new districts
29 must be submitted to the county auditor no later than January 15,
30 2017. Position numbers for the elected positions must correspond to
31 the district numbers.

32 (2) Member appointments for the two appointed directors shall
33 commence as follows: One member shall be appointed effective January
34 1, 2018, and one member shall be appointed effective January 1, 2020.
35 Appointed members shall serve four-year terms.

36 (3) The five elected members for the new districts shall commence
37 at the end of the terms of the current board members as follows: Two
38 members shall be elected in 2017 and the remaining three members
39 shall be elected in 2019.

1 (4) Nothing in chapter ..., Laws of 2015 (this act) affects the
2 term of office of any incumbent director of any such first-class
3 school district.

4 (5) This section expires January 1, 2021.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 1, 2, and 3 of this act take
6 effect January 1, 2017.

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