
HOUSE BILL 1942

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2015 Regular Session

By Representatives Tarleton, Moscoso, Ryu, and S. Hunt

Read first time 02/03/15. Referred to Committee on State Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to ballot measures regarding required information
2 and filing fees; amending RCW 29A.72.010 and 29A.72.020; adding a new
3 section to chapter 29A.72 RCW; and providing an effective date.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29A.72.010 and 2003 c 111 s 1802 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 ~~((If))~~ (1) Any legal voter of the state, either individually or
8 on behalf of an organization, ~~((desires to))~~ may petition the
9 legislature to enact a proposed measure, or submit a proposed
10 initiative measure to the people, or order that a referendum of all
11 or part of any act, bill, or law, passed by the legislature be
12 submitted to the people~~((, he or she shall))~~.

13 (2) The sponsor of the measure must file with the secretary of
14 state a legible copy of the measure proposed, in its entirety, or the
15 act or part of such act on which a referendum is desired, accompanied
16 by an affidavit that the sponsor is a legal voter and a filing fee
17 prescribed under ~~((RCW 43.07.120))~~ subsection (4) of this section.

18 (3) At the time the measure is filed, the sponsor must provide
19 the secretary of state with the following information:

20 (a) The sponsor's name, address, and telephone number;

1 (b) Whether or not paid signature gatherers will be used. If paid
2 signature gatherers will be used, the name and address of the entity
3 gathering signatures, along with the entity's current state unified
4 business identifier number, must be provided. The secretary of state
5 must verify the number with the department of revenue; and

6 (c) Any other information deemed necessary by the secretary of
7 state.

8 (4) The filing fee for any measure filed shall be as follows:

9 (a) Fifty dollars; or

10 (b) Five dollars and the signatures of five hundred registered
11 voters. The secretary of state must verify that the signatures are
12 from registered voters before giving the measure a serial number.
13 Verified signatures may be included in the count of petition
14 signatures required under RCW 29A.72.150.

15 (5) If an initiative sponsor or sponsors file multiple measures
16 of the same general topic, as determined by the secretary of state,
17 the fee for the first initiative shall be as provided in subsection
18 (4)(a) or (b) of this section, plus a fee of one hundred dollars for
19 each additional measure filed.

20 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29A.72.020 and 2003 c 111 s 1803 are each amended to
21 read as follows:

22 Upon receipt of a proposed initiative measure, and before giving
23 it a serial number, the secretary of state shall submit a copy
24 (~~thereof~~) to the office of the code reviser and give notice to the
25 sponsor of such transmittal. Upon receipt of the measure, the
26 assistant code reviser to whom it has been assigned may confer with
27 the sponsor and shall within seven working days from its receipt,
28 review the proposal and recommend to the sponsor such revision or
29 alteration of the measure as may be deemed necessary and appropriate.
30 The recommendations of the code reviser's office are advisory only,
31 and the sponsor may accept or reject them in whole or in part. The
32 code reviser shall issue a certificate of review certifying that he
33 or she has reviewed the measure and that any recommendations have
34 been communicated to the sponsor. The certificate must be issued
35 whether or not the sponsor accepts such recommendations. Within
36 fifteen working days after notification of submittal of the proposed
37 measure to the code reviser's office, the sponsor, if he or she
38 desires to proceed with sponsorship, shall file the measure together
39 with the certificate of review with the secretary of state for

1 assignment of a serial number, and the secretary of state shall then
2 submit to the code reviser's office a certified copy of the measure
3 filed. Upon submission of the proposal to the secretary of state for
4 assignment of a serial number, the secretary of state shall refuse to
5 make such assignment unless the proposal is accompanied by a
6 certificate of review, the filing fee has been paid, and the sponsor
7 has provided a current state unified business identifier number for
8 the entity gathering signatures, if required.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.72
10 RCW to read as follows:

11 The ballot measure account is created in the custody of the state
12 treasurer. All receipts from RCW 29A.72.010 must be deposited into
13 the account. Expenditures from the account may be used only for
14 offsetting the costs related to processing ballot measures. Only the
15 secretary of state, or the secretary's designee, may authorize
16 expenditures from the account. The account is subject to allotment
17 procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not
18 required for expenditures.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act takes effect January 1, 2016.

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