
SENATE BILL 5340

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2021 Regular Session

By Senators Salomon, Das, Dhingra, Hunt, Lovelett, Nguyen, and Saldaña

Read first time 01/25/21. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to qualifications for school board directors; and
2 amending RCW 28A.343.340, 29A.24.031, and 29A.24.075.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.343.340 and 1969 ex.s. c 223 s 28A.57.318 are
5 each amended to read as follows:

6 Directors of school districts shall be elected at regular school
7 elections. No person shall be eligible to the office of school
8 director who is not at least 18 years of age, a citizen of the United
9 States or lawful permanent resident, and a resident of the state of
10 Washington and (~~a registered voter of~~) either the school district
11 or director district, as the case may be.

12 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29A.24.031 and 2013 c 11 s 31 are each amended to
13 read as follows:

14 A candidate who desires to have his or her name printed on the
15 ballot for election to an office other than president of the United
16 States, vice president of the United States, or an office for which
17 ownership of property is a prerequisite to voting shall complete and
18 file a declaration of candidacy. The secretary of state shall adopt,
19 by rule, a declaration of candidacy form for the office of precinct
20 committee officer and a separate standard form for candidates for all

1 other offices filing under this chapter. Included on the standard
2 form shall be:

3 (1) ((A)) (a) Except for candidates for school district director,
4 a place for the candidate to declare that he or she is a registered
5 voter within the jurisdiction of the office for which he or she is
6 filing, and the address at which he or she is registered;

7 (b) For candidates for school district director, a place for the
8 candidate to declare that he or she is at least 18 years of age and a
9 citizen of the United States or lawful permanent resident, and
10 provide proof of residency in either the school district or director
11 district, as the case may be, using one of the forms of alternate
12 identification listed in RCW 29A.08.107(2);

13 (2) A place for the candidate to indicate the position for which
14 he or she is filing;

15 (3) A place for the candidate to state a party preference, if the
16 office is a partisan office;

17 (4) A place for the candidate to indicate the amount of the
18 filing fee accompanying the declaration of candidacy or for the
19 candidate to indicate that he or she is filing a filing fee petition
20 in lieu of the filing fee under RCW 29A.24.091;

21 (5) A place for the candidate to sign the declaration of
22 candidacy, stating that the information provided on the form is true
23 and swearing or affirming that he or she will support the
24 Constitution and laws of the United States and the Constitution and
25 laws of the state of Washington.

26 In the case of a declaration of candidacy filed electronically,
27 submission of the form constitutes agreement that the information
28 provided with the filing is true, that he or she will support the
29 Constitutions and laws of the United States and the state of
30 Washington, and that he or she agrees to electronic payment of the
31 filing fee established in RCW 29A.24.091.

32 The secretary of state may require any other information on the
33 form he or she deems appropriate to facilitate the filing process.

34 **Sec. 3.** RCW 29A.24.075 and 2013 c 11 s 25 are each amended to
35 read as follows:

36 (1) A person filing a declaration of candidacy for an office
37 shall, at the time of filing, be a registered voter and possess the
38 qualifications specified by law for persons who may be elected to the
39 office.

1 (2) Excluding the office of precinct committee officer or a
2 temporary elected position such as a charter review board member or
3 freeholder, no person may file for more than one office.

4 (3) The name of a candidate for an office shall not appear on a
5 ballot for that office unless, except for judge of the superior court
6 and as provided in RCW 3.50.057, the candidate is, at the time the
7 candidate's declaration of candidacy is filed, properly registered to
8 vote in the geographic area represented by the office. For the
9 purposes of this section, each geographic area in which registered
10 voters may cast ballots for an office is represented by that office.
11 If a person elected to an office must be nominated from a district or
12 similar division of the geographic area represented by the office,
13 the name of a candidate for the office shall not appear on a primary
14 ballot for that office unless the candidate is, at the time the
15 candidate's declaration of candidacy is filed, properly registered to
16 vote in that district or division. The officer with whom declarations
17 of candidacy must be filed under this title shall review each such
18 declaration filed regarding compliance with this subsection.

19 (4) The requirements of voter registration and residence within
20 the geographic area of a district do not apply to candidates for
21 congressional office. Qualifications for the United States congress
22 are specified in the United States Constitution.

23 (5) The requirement of being a registered voter does not apply to
24 candidates for school district director. Qualifications for school
25 district director are specified in RCW 28A.343.340.

--- END ---