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SENATE BILL 6368

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State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Senators Haugen and Winsley

Read first time 01/20/94. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to filing declarations and withdrawals of  
2 candidacy; amending RCW 29.15.020, 29.15.120, 29.15.160, 29.15.200, and  
3 29.27.020; and repealing RCW 29.18.150

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29.15.020 and 1990 c 59 s 81 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 Except where otherwise provided by this title, declarations of  
8 candidacy for the following offices shall be filed during regular  
9 business hours with the filing officer no earlier than the ((~~fourth~~))  
10 third Monday in July and no later than the ((~~following Friday~~)) tenth  
11 business day immediately after the first day for candidates to file for  
12 office in the year in which the office is scheduled to be voted upon:

13 (1) Offices that are scheduled to be voted upon for full terms or  
14 both full terms and short terms at, or in conjunction with, a state  
15 general election; and

16 (2) Offices where a vacancy, other than a short term, exists that  
17 has not been filled by election and for which an election to fill the  
18 vacancy is required in conjunction with the next state general  
19 election.

1 This section supersedes all other statutes that provide for a  
2 different filing period for these offices.

3 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29.15.120 and 1990 c 59 s 86 are each amended to read  
4 as follows:

5 A candidate may withdraw his or her declaration of candidacy at any  
6 time before the close of business on (~~the Thursday following~~) the  
7 last day for candidates to file under RCW 29.15.020 by filing, with the  
8 officer with whom the declaration of candidacy was filed, a signed  
9 request that his or her name not be printed on the ballot. There shall  
10 be no withdrawal period for declarations of candidacy filed during  
11 special filing periods held under this title. The filing officer may  
12 permit the withdrawal of a filing for the office of precinct committee  
13 officer at the request of the candidate at any time if no absentee  
14 ballots have been issued for that office and the general election  
15 ballots for that precinct have not been printed. No filing fee may be  
16 refunded to any candidate who withdraws under this section. Notice of  
17 the deadline for withdrawal of candidacy and that the filing fee is not  
18 refundable shall be given to each candidate at the time he or she  
19 files.

20 **Sec. 3.** RCW 29.15.160 and 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 120 s 9 are each  
21 amended to read as follows:

22 A void in candidacy for a nonpartisan office occurs when an  
23 election for such office, except for the short term, has been scheduled  
24 and (~~no valid declaration of candidacy has been filed for the position~~  
25 ~~or~~) all persons filing (~~such~~) valid declarations of candidacy have  
26 died or been disqualified.

27 **Sec. 4.** RCW 29.15.200 and 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 120 s 13 are each  
28 amended to read as follows:

29 If after (~~both~~) the normal filing period and any special three  
30 day filing period as provided by RCW 29.15.170 and 29.15.180(~~, as now~~  
31 ~~or hereafter amended,~~) have passed and still no candidate has filed  
32 for any single city, town, or district position to be filled, the  
33 election for such position shall be deemed lapsed, the office deemed  
34 stricken from the ballot and no write-in votes counted. In such  
35 instance, the incumbent occupying such position shall remain in office  
36 and continue to serve until his or her successor is elected at the next

1 election when such positions are voted upon as provided by RCW  
2 29.21.410(~~(, as now or hereafter amended)~~).

3       **Sec. 5.** RCW 29.27.020 and 1990 c 59 s 8 are each amended to read  
4 as follows:

5       On or before the day following the last day for (~~political parties~~  
6 ~~to fill vacancies in the ticket as provided by RCW 29.18.150~~) filing  
7 for office as provided by RCW 29.15.020, the secretary of state shall  
8 certify to each county auditor a list of the candidates who have filed  
9 declarations of candidacy in his or her office for the primary. For  
10 each office, the certificate shall include the name of each candidate,  
11 his or her address, and his or her party designation, if any.

12       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 6.** RCW 29.18.150 and 1990 c 59 s 102, 1977  
13 ex.s. c 329 s 12, & 1965 c 9 s 29.18.150 are each repealed.

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