

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5168

As of February 9, 2009

Title: An act relating to school board elections in certain first-class school districts.

Brief Description: Reinstating election procedures for certain first-class school districts.

Sponsors: Senator Regala.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Government Operations & Elections: 2/09/09.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & ELECTIONS

Staff: Edward Redmond (786-7471)

Background: The laws establishing procedures for the conduct of elections in Title 29 RCW were reorganized and recodified into a new title, Title 29A RCW, in 2004. RCW 29.13.060 was inadvertently repealed during this process. That statute permits school board directors, in a county with a population of 200,000 or more and a first-class school district containing a city of the first class, to be elected for terms of six years. The school districts of Everett, Spokane, and Tacoma each permit its board of directors to serve six-year terms as authorized under the inadvertently repealed statute.

Summary of Bill: The provisions of RCW 29.13.060 are reenacted and recodified within chapter 29A.04 RCW. The act is retroactive and must be applied from July 1, 2004.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony: PRO: This bill is a technical correction to fix a small legislative error made a few years ago when the entire election laws were recodified and reorganized. Six-year terms for school board directors are referenced in quite a few statutes and board members continue to be elected based on this repealed statute. Correcting this

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

inadvertent repeal will help to clear up any confusion that exists regarding the office terms for school board directors.

Persons Testifying: PRO: Katie Blinn, Office of the Secretary of State; Art Jarvis, Tacoma Public Schools; Dan Steele, Washington State School Directors' Association.