

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## HB 1639

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Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Adjusting presidential elector compensation.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Bergquist, Pike, Riccelli, Carlyle, Walsh, Ryu and Moscoso; by request of Secretary of State.

**House Committee on Government Operations & Elections**  
**Senate Committee on Governmental Operations**

**Background:**

Candidates for President and Vice President of the United States are not elected by direct popular vote. The candidates are elected by the United States Electoral College, whose delegates are chosen by the states. Each state has the same number of presidential electors as it has United States Representatives and Senators combined. In presidential election years, Washington's electors travel to Olympia in December to cast their votes.

The existing \$5 per diem and 10 cents per mile travel allowance for presidential electors were established by the Legislature in 1891.

When other state officials or employees are engaged on official business away from their designated posts of duty, they are eligible to receive a subsistence allowance, at rates established by the Director of the Office of Financial Management. As of January 1, 2013, in locations not designated as "high cost" locations, this allowance is \$77 per day for lodging, \$46 per day for food, and 56.5 cents per mile travelled by a privately-owned vehicle.

**Summary:**

Presidential electors are entitled to receive a subsistence allowance and travel expenses for each day's attendance at the electoral college meeting, at the same rates established by the Director of the Office of Financial Management for other state officials and employees.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

House	78	19
Senate	38	10

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*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.*

**Effective:** July 28, 2013