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SENATE BILL 6277

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Senators Roach and Fain

Read first time 01/13/16. Referred to Committee on Government Operations & Security.

1 AN ACT Relating to the presidential primary; and amending RCW  
2 29A.56.020.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29A.56.020 and 2003 c 111 s 1402 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) On the ((fourth)) second Tuesday in ((May)) March of each  
7 year in which a president of the United States is to be nominated and  
8 elected, a presidential primary shall be held at which voters may  
9 vote for the nominee of a major political party for the office of  
10 president. The secretary of state may propose an alternative date for  
11 the primary no later than the first day of August of the year before  
12 the year in which a president is to be nominated and elected.

13 (2) No later than the first day of September of the year before  
14 the year in which a presidential nominee is selected, the state  
15 committee of any major political party that will use the primary  
16 results for candidates of that party may propose an alternative date  
17 for that primary.

18 (3) If an alternative date is proposed under subsection (1) or  
19 (2) of this section, a committee consisting of the chair and the vice  
20 chair of the state committee of each major political party, the  
21 secretary of state, the majority leader and minority leader of the

1 senate, and the speaker and the minority leader of the house of  
2 representatives shall meet and, if affirmed by a two-thirds vote of  
3 the members of the committee, the date of the primary shall be  
4 changed. The committee shall meet and decide on the proposed  
5 alternate date not later than the first day of October of the year  
6 before the year in which a presidential nominee is selected. The  
7 secretary of state shall convene and preside over the meeting of the  
8 committee. A committee member other than a legislator may appoint, in  
9 writing, a designee to serve on his or her behalf. A legislator who  
10 is a member of the committee may appoint, in writing, another  
11 legislator to serve on his or her behalf.

12 (4) If an alternate date is approved under this section, the  
13 secretary of state shall adopt rules under RCW 29A.04.620 to adjust  
14 the deadlines in RCW 29A.56.030 and related provisions of this  
15 chapter to correspond with the date that has been approved.

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